

**FRA Position on the Reportability of COVID-19 Vaccine Side Effects
Under 49 CFR Part 225
November 10, 2021**

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has been asked by railroads whether, in the event one of their employees suffers COVID-19 vaccine side effects that otherwise meet the current FRA reporting requirements under 49 CFR Part 225, FRA would require the case to be reported if the railroad had mandated that its employees receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

FRA strongly encourages all eligible individuals receive one of the authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccines. FRA does not wish to disincentivize the vaccination efforts of railroads. Thus, FRA will not enforce 49 CFR Part 225's reporting or record keeping requirements for any side effects railroad employees experience due to the COVID-19 vaccine. Consistent with the statements of the U.S. Department of Labor and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration,¹ FRA will maintain this position through May 31, 2022. At that time, FRA will reevaluate the agency's position to determine the best course of action moving forward.

¹ <https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus/faqs#reporting>.