

MIT students must turn in CharlieCard data today

By Marie Szaniszlo | Friday, August 15, 2008 | <http://www.bostonherald.com> | Local Coverage

The lawyer for three MIT students, who say the CharlieCard - the MBTA's automated fare collection system - is vulnerable to hackers, has until this afternoon to hand over documents detailing their claim.

U.S. District Court Judge George O'Toole Jr. gave lawyer Jennifer Stisa Granick until 4 p.m. to turn over a paper the students wrote on the topic for a class, as well as any materials they had been planning to distribute last Sunday at a hackers conference and any communication they had with conference organizers.

Stisa Granick said she had already submitted a sealed document - open only to the students, the MBTA, MIT, their lawyers and O'Toole - containing everything the students know about the CharlieCard.

Last Saturday, MBTA lawyers obtained a 10-day restraining order barring undergraduates Zack Anderson, R.J. Ryan and Alessandro Chiesa from speaking at the Las Vegas conference.

The MBTA argued their presentation could jeopardize the CharlieCard's security.



Photo by Herald (file)

But Stisa Granick said, "The question of whether the system works is a critical part of the public debate."

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