



Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen

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Christopher N. Hand
Director of Research

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Kristen Nunnally, Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No.2)
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee

This notice serves as my application for the Surface Transportation Board's (STB) on its Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC), as a representative of labor or member At-Large. I understand the STB has one vacancy on RETAC for a three-year term ending September 30, 2026.

The interest I will represent is labor.

I possess 15 years of experience in the railroad industry, with 12 of those years working directly in the field for Union Pacific Railroad. My experience includes leadership roles in the Signal craft as a Foreman and an Electronic Technician.

My current position is Director of Research at the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, where I am responsible for regulatory affairs conducting research and analysis pertaining to issues related to our membership. I have served as a member on the advisory board Rail Workers Hazardous Material Training Program, IBT and National Advisory Council for Operation Lifesaver. I currently serve as a voting member of the Federal Railroad Administration's Rail Safety Advisory Committee (RSAC). Please see more detailed experience in my attached resume.

I am willing to serve in the capacity as a representative member for RETAC for at least a three-year term.

Sincerely,

Christopher N. Hand
Director of Research

Christopher N. Hand

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Educated, personable, and detail-oriented career professional, with 15 years of experience contributing to the general safety principles and practices within the Signal craft. Advanced knowledge of federal laws and regulations pertaining to railroad signaling and train control systems. Problem-solving skills and the ability to make independent decisions.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen Front Royal, Virginia (10/2022 – Present)

Director of Research

- Regulatory affairs designee, conducting research and analysis on issues related to the membership, as well as understanding and responding to challenges and developing effective strategies to protect and advance the interest of the members.
- Designated voting member of the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Rail Safety Advisory Committee (RSAC).

Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen Front Royal, Virginia (04/2019 – 10/2022)

Grand Lodge Representative

- Arbitration submission writer involving rule violations and grievances including multiple Carrier contracts throughout the United States under the National Mediation Board and National Labor Relations Board.
- Designated member of the FRA's Railroad Hazmat Committee.
- Designated member of Operation Lifesaver.

Union Pacific Railroad Denver, Colorado (06/2018 – 04/2019)

Electronic Technician/Signal Inspector

- Advanced knowledge of installation, maintenance, and testing of Grade Crossing Warning System equipment, i.e. HXPs, GCPs, PMDs and Train Control Systems, i.e. VHLCS, VPIs, Electro Logics, Microloks according to Federal Rail Administration standards.
- Performed field checks and corrections to circuit drawings as necessary validating design of signal system.
- Administered software and safety bulletin upgrades on signal equipment.

Union Pacific Railroad Denver, Colorado (05/2017- 06/2018)

Signal Maintenance Foreman

- Experience leading, motivating, and supervising a work group to promote a collaborative environment supporting operational needs.
- Competent in making informed decisions within a high-pressure environment to achieve desired organizational outcomes.
- Monitored compliance within work group to align with Federal law and regulations.

Union Pacific Railroad Denver, Colorado (04/2012 – 05/2017)

Signal Maintainer

- Troubleshoot, repair, and maintenance of various railroad signals and grade crossings.
- Inspect and test signal circuitry, equipment, and systems for problems and defects.
- Call-outs to various types of trouble including derailments, false activations, and unusual signal occurrences.
- Recognized for being a part of the 2013 Colorado Flood Team, rehabbing sections of the railroad that was encompassed with flooding which eliminated a vital route.
- Recognized for having the courage to care in preventing a potential incident at a Grade Crossing in Aurora, Colorado.

Union Pacific Railroad Various Locations (04/2008 – 05/2012)

Assistant Signalman/Signalman

- Construct, install, maintain, repair, and replace signal communication circuitry, systems, and components.
- Build and dismantle signal crossing warning device equipment, troubleshoot and fix malfunctions..
- Inspect and test signal circuitry, equipment, and systems for problems and defects.

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

Federal Communications Commission (09/2018)

General Radiotelephone Operator License

National Transportation Safety Board (05/2019)

Accident Investigation Orientation for Rail Professionals