

2020 Joint State Safety Oversight (SSO) and Rail Transit Agency (RTA) Virtual Workshop

October 6-8, 2020

Speakers

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

All Speakers Are Listed in A-Z Order by Last Name



Brian Alberts

Director of Safety, American Public Transportation Association (APTA)

Brian Alberts is the Director of Safety at the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) where he leads all safety policy and standards work for the association. He is the staff advisor for the Rail Safety, Bus Safety and Safety Coordinating Committees as well as the Commuter Rail Safety and Security Subcommittee. He also provides industry leadership and expertise on panels and working groups, including the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)-Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) Safety Standards working group and the Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS) subcommittee on Employee Safety Reporting. Further, Brian plans and executes all APTA committee meetings, conference panels and working groups that deal with safety. Additionally, Brian is the manager of APTA's Safety Management Audit and Peer Review Programs and organizes and executes numerous yearly safety audits and peer reviews at properties throughout the United States, Canada and internationally.

Prior to APTA, Brian was a Senior Program Analyst and Policy Lead in the Federal Transit Administration's Office of System Safety. During his three years in this role, Brian authored the State Safety Oversight (SSO) Program Final Rule and the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. Brian also served as program manager of the Safety Management Systems Pilot program and received numerous awards for his efforts in safety by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation. In addition, at the FTA, Brian worked in FTA's Office of Budget and Policy for over three years on MAP-21 implementation, climate change adaptation and legislative analysis.

Prior to joining FTA, Brian worked as a program manager and policy analyst at the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and for various members of the U.S. Congress on Capitol Hill. Brian has over 15 years of experience in the transportation, safety and environmental policy fields and received his Master of Public Policy (MPP) degree from the George Washington University and his Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Communications from Boston University. Brian is a graduate of the 2018 Leadership APTA Class and the 2020 Eno Transit Senior Executive Program. In addition, Brian has completed all requirements for FTA's Transit Safety and Security Program (TSSP) Certificate.

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Brian Brinkley

State Safety & Security Oversight Program Manager, Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)

Brian Brinkley is currently one of two State Safety and Security Oversight Program Managers (other position vacant) for the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT). Brian joined the ADOT SSO Office in February of 2017. Prior to ADOT, Brian was with Valley Metro Rail, where he held numerous positions within the agency. From 2008-2017, he served in several roles in the Operations/Maintenance and Safety/Security Departments throughout the greater Phoenix area. Throughout his career with Valley Metro rail, he specialized in Training, Safety, Train Control and Signaling.

In addition, he has played crucial roles in the opening on the original 2008 Central Phoenix, East Valley (CPEV), the 2015 Central Mesa Extension (CME) and the 2016 Northwest Extension (NWE). Brian Continues to be involved in the opening of several other major projects from the SSO perspective. In addition to the Capitol Project involvements from the SSO Perspective, Brian oversees all other oversight activities as required by the ADOT program standard and per Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requirements for both Valley Metro Rail and Tucson Sun Link Streetcar.

Brian graduated from Northern Arizona University with a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration. In addition to his Bachelor's degree, Brian holds a Certification in Safety Management from Gateway College. He has also completed all requirements for the Bus/Rail Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program (PTSCTP) Certificates, as well as the Bus/Rail Transit Safety and Security Program (TSSP) Certificates.



Henrika Buchanan

Associate Administrator and Chief Safety Officer, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Henrika Buchanan serves as the Associate Administrator and Chief Safety Officer for FTA's Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, administering a national transit safety program and monitoring program compliance to ensure safe, reliable and equitable transit service in accordance with FTA policy and regulatory requirements. The office implements and oversees safety standards for all modes of public transit in the United States. Additionally, the office provides programmatic oversight to more than \$11 billion of transit investment each year.

Ms. Buchanan previously worked as the associate administrator for FTA's Office of Program Management, heading an office administering over \$12 billion in funding for fixed guideway capital investments, bus and bus facilities, state of good repair, transit asset management, public transportation emergency relief, enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities, and urban and rural formula assistance.

Prior to that, she was director of the Office of Transit Programs, where she was responsible for developing FTA's implementation strategy and procedures for distributing more than \$8.4 billion in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) program funds and more than \$1.5 billion in annual discretionary program funds. Prior to this, she managed the Job Access and Reverse Commute and New Freedom programs and served as a community planner in FTA's Region IV office.

Ms. Buchanan began her career in transportation in FTA's Office of Communications and Congressional Affairs as a Presidential Management Fellow. A native of Hillsboro, Alabama, Henrika received her B.A. in Political Science and Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from Alabama A&M University. She received her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center.

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Kimberly Burtch

Director, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

As the Director of the Office of Safety Review, Ms. Burtch manages the FTA Drug & Alcohol, Accident Investigation, Emergency Management and Transit Safety Oversight requirements under the current transit safety program as well as new requirements under MAP-21. Ms. Burtch returned to this position after the conclusion of a one-year detail as Acting Deputy Associate Administrator in FTA's Office of Transit Safety and Oversight (TSO).

As TSO's Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, Ms. Burtch led the development and implementation of FTA's transit safety programs, new safety regulations and grant compliance oversight. Ms. Burtch previously served as the Chief of the Safety Assurance and Risk Management Division in the FTA Office of System Safety. In this role, she oversaw the development of new safety procedures including FTA's new Accident Investigation function, national policy and safety advisories, FTA's Safety Risk Management Framework procedures, and a strategic data collection requirements project.

Prior to joining FTA, Ms. Burtch served for 15 years as a senior safety program analyst in the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Office of Accident Investigation and Prevention, where she managed the FAA's Accident Investigation Quality Assurance program and led the office's transition to ISO 9001 certification.



Kimbrali Davis

Principal Engineer, New Jersey Department of Transportation

Kim is the manager of Bureau of Aeronautics and Multimodal Safety Programs at the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT). She began her engineering career at NJDOT in 2002, as an assistant engineer in the bureau of materials, working in the chemical lab evaluating the roadway materials and certifying their compliance before use on construction projects.

Prior to coming to NJDOT, Kim worked for Alcoa: Howmet Castings as a process engineer and team leader overseeing the multi-layer ceramic slurry and silica sand mold building technology for producing super-alloy castings. Howmet Castings is a world-class producer of aero engine and industrial gas turbine components, specializing in producing internal components for jet aircrafts, both military and commercial, and industrial gas turbines.

She holds a BS degree, Ceramic (Material Science) Engineering, from Rutgers University-School of Engineering. She currently serves as a panel member on the Project Panel 20-68A: U.S. Domestic Scan Program and Project Panel 104-10D: Evaluating Use of Unconventional Fly Ash Sources in Highway Concrete for the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP).

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Pamela Fischhaber, Ph.D., P.E., WSO-CSS

Deputy Director and Public Safety Section Chief, Rail and Transit Safety, Colorado Public Utilities Commission

Pamela M. Fischhaber, Ph.D., P.E., WSO-CSS is the Deputy Director for Public Safety and Chief of the Rail/Transit Safety Section for the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (CoPUC). She has served in the Deputy Director position for 2 years where, in addition to her section chief duties, she oversees the gas pipeline safety program and the transportation section. She has served in the Section Chief position since 2005 and is the Colorado State authority responsible for all public highway-rail grade crossing safety matters. She is also the SSO program manager and was responsible for certifying the SSO Program under both 49 CFR Part 659 and Part 674 rules.

Dr. Fischhaber began her career at the CoPUC as a Fixed Utilities project engineer working from 2000-2005 on electric, gas, steam and telecommunications issues.

Dr. Fischhaber earned a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering and has multiple works published by the Transportation Research Board (TRB) covering analysis of light rail crashes and light rail crossing safety performance functions. She has presented her works at multiple TRB Annual Conferences.

Dr. Fischhaber serves on several TRB committees and subcommittees including currently serving as Secretary of the TRB Light Rail Transit Committee, serving as a member on the TRB Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Committee, and serving as a member of the TRB Transit Safety and Security Committee in addition to reviewing research papers as a friend of additional TRB committees. She is a member of and serves as Secretary of the Colorado Operation Lifesaver Board.



Dave Fullerton

Director, Safety Services, Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA)

Dave Fullerton is the Safety Director for the Delaware River Port Authority, which owns and operates the major toll bridge crossing between southern New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania. In that role he and his staff support the safety programs for bridge operations as well as for the PATCO High Speed Line. Dave has been with PATCO since 2003 and in the Safety role since 2007. Prior to that he worked in various safety roles for PECO Energy, Philadelphia's electric and gas utility.

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Lt. Gregory Gamble

Emergency Preparedness Unit Commander, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA)

Lt. Gregory Gamble has over a decade of service with the MARTA Police Department and currently serves as the Emergency Preparedness Unit Commander for the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA). In his role, he is responsible for providing preparedness planning and training. He oversees the National Commission of Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies and Accreditation for the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police. He is also a state-certified assessor.

He earned his Master of Public Administration from Valdosta State University and his Bachelor's degree in communications from Robert Morris University. He currently holds a certification in Homeland Security and Exercise Evaluation Program Training. He is also certified as an Associate Emergency Manager from the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) and as an Accreditation Manager from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). He is also a certified crisis negotiator and police officer. Some of his most accomplished roles include service on the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police (GACP) Standard Review Interpretation Committee and as a project manager for MARTA's "Ride with Respect" program.

He was born in Boston and is a long-term member of the greater Atlanta community, which he serves with honor. His service includes his volunteer and advocacy work in the community as an All Pro Dad through the fatherhood program of the non-profit organization Family First.



Shima Hamidi

Bloomberg Assistant Professor of American Health Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Dr. Shima Hamidi is Bloomberg Assistant Professor of American Health in Environmental Challenges. She has expertise in built environment, housing, transportation and social determinants of health, particularly through the lens of equity. Dr. Hamidi is the founder and former director of the Center for Transportation Equity, Decisions and Dollars (CTEDD), a \$7.5 million center funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation at the University of Texas at Arlington. She has written over 42 books and articles on urban form, public transit and their impacts on individuals' economic mobility, public health, safety, emergence of food deserts, housing and transportation affordability and location efficiency. She has been invited for expert testimonies to policy makers and city council members in several occasions. The results of her research have been featured in more than 110 national and regional newspapers and magazines such as Wall Street Journal, Washington Post and CNN Money.

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Leslie Hubble, MPH, CHMM

Manager, Environmental Health & Safety, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA)

Ms. Hubble is the Manager of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) at MARTA. She manages the Environmental Compliance, Remediation, Environmental Management System, Hazardous Materials and Industrial Hygiene programs for the Authority. She has assisted with MARTA's COVID response efforts since the beginning of the pandemic.

She has 18 years of experience in EHS program development, implementation and management. Beyond her current responsibilities, Ms. Hubble also has experience in Industrial Safety, Laboratory Safety, Radiation Safety and Public Health. Prior to her time at MARTA, Ms. Hubble held positions at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Emory University and AECOM. During her time at Emory, she was a member of the Ebola response team.

Ms. Hubble has presented at numerous conferences on topics such as Environmental Management, Sustainability and Risk Assessment. She was a contributing author to the 3rd edition "Environmental Compliance Assistance Guide" which is a joint publication between the Association of Physical Plant Administrators (APPA) and the Campus Safety Health and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA). She was also published in 2018 in Applied Biosafety: Journal of the American Biological Safety Association (ABSA) International on "Chemical Use in Animal Models."

Ms. Hubble earned her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health from the University of Georgia and her Master of Public Health from Emory University. She is also a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM).



Scott Kreher

Chief of Police, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA)

As MARTA's Chief of Police and Emergency Management, Chief M. Scott Kreher leads one of the top law enforcement agencies in the country with MPD having received consecutive Gold Standard Awards from both the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Baseline Assessment for Security Enhancement. Chief Kreher was appointed Chief of Police of the MARTA Police Department in March 2020 after retiring from the Atlanta Police Department with over 27 years of law enforcement experience.

Chief Kreher earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Georgia State University and a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Cincinnati. He also served in the United States Navy. Additionally, he is a graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command, The Police Executive Research Forum's Senior Management Institute for Police and the Atlanta Police Department's Leadership Institute Tier 5 program.

Chief Kreher is dedicated to keeping the system safe and protecting the 500,000 people that ride MARTA every day. He is committed to working in partnership with the community and providing well-trained officers to carry out the mission of the department. With his technical expertise and extensive leadership experience, Chief Kreher looks forward to guiding the MARTA Police Department into the future.

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Ruth Lyons

Senior Program Manager, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Ms. Lyons currently holds the position as Senior Program Manager in the Office of Safety Review at the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). In this role, Ms. Lyons supports, oversees and maintains transit safety policy compliance and monitoring compliance of technical assistance to transit industry stakeholders, she has been in this position since 2018. Prior to that position, Ms. Lyons served as a Transit Safety and Security Training specialist in the Office of Transit Safety and Oversight and held that position at FTA since entering Federal service in 2005.

Ms. Lyons has over 20 years of safety experience in mass transit. Ms. Lyons received her Bachelor of Science in Education at Northeastern University in Boston, MA (1992) and her Master of Science in Safety Management from West Virginia University (1996).

Ms. Lyons began her career in Safety as a Safety Representative for a government contractor in Vienna, VA. Through the years, she has worked as a Safety/Loss Control Specialist for an Environmental Trade Association in Washington, DC, and as a Safety Specialist for Fairfax County VA Local Government. Her career in mass transit began in 1992 as a Safety Officer at WMATA in Washington, DC. After three years, Ms. Lyons was assigned to be the Acting Manager of Safety and Training where she developed and established the WMATA Safety Training Program. Ms. Lyons was promoted to Executive Safety Officer to the Assistant General Manager of System Safety in September 2002. Ms. Lyons has also served as a TSI Instructor from 2001-2005 teaching Transit Industrial Safety Management.

Ms. Lyons began her professional career as a Teacher in Jersey City, NJ (1992) and then later served as an Adjunct Professor at the West Virginia University's (WVU) Graduate School - School of Engineering and Mineral Resources. She taught Safety Compliance and Legislation (1998).



Gena Major

Assistant General Manager of Safety & Quality Assurance, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA)

Gena Major is a native of Flint, Michigan and grew up in the automotive industry. Ms. Major began working for General Motors at the age of 16 as a high school co-op. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Kettering University (formerly General Motors Institute) and an MBA from the University of Michigan, with a concentration in Operations Management and Organizational Behavior. Ms. Major is a Certified Statistical Engineering Master, Six Sigma Black Belt, and Project Management Professional. She also holds Transit Safety and Security (TSSP) Program Certification.

Ms. Major's engineering experience is rooted in quality and continuous improvement principles. Outside of automotive Ms. Major continued a career in transportation which now includes tolling and transit. She served as the Director of Continuous Improvement for the Georgia State Road & Tollway Authority before joining the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), where she was recently promoted to Assistant General Manager of Safety and Quality Assurance. In this role she is also designated as MARTA's Chief Safety Officer.

She recently led the Department of Safety and Quality Assurance in obtaining ISO 9001:2015 certification for its Quality Management System creating a foundation for implementation of SMS and establishing MARTA as the only transit authority in North America to have ISO certifications of its Quality, Environmental and Asset Management Systems.

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Advocating for the community in which she lives, Ms. Major served as a volunteer member of the Audit Oversight Committee of DeKalb County, Georgia for three years. She was appointed to this inaugural committee established by the Governor in 2016 and elected as its first Vice-Chair, and then Chair during her final year. The committee has brought greater fiscal accountability to the county and now serves as a model throughout the state. Ms. Major is also an avid runner with membership in Atlanta Track Club and she is a past Run Lead for Black Girls Run.



Brian Mason

Construction and Utilities, Valley Metro Rail (Valley Metro)

Brian Mason is the Construction and Utilities Manager for the Capital and Service Development Division of Valley Metro in Phoenix, Arizona. His group is responsible for administering all functions relating to construction management oversight major transit capital improvement projects. Brian has over 25 years of construction related experience and is a licensed Civil Engineer in the state of Arizona.



Eric Muntan

Chief, Office of Safety and Security, Miami-Dade Transit

Mr. Eric Muntan was appointed to the position of Chief, Office of Safety and Security, for Miami-Dade Transit in June 2008. Prior to holding this position, he was hired by Miami-Dade Transit in November 2000, as the System Safety Manager for Miami-Dade Transit.

Mr. Muntan has nearly 30 years of experience in the safety and security profession, specifically, transit safety and security oversight for large, multi-modal transit agencies.

As his current role dictates, Mr. Muntan is responsible for the oversight of all transit safety and security practices for Miami-Dade Transit's four-mode system, which includes Metrobus, Metrorail, Metromover and Paratransit Operations. Along with being responsible for the safety oversight, certification and federal/state oversight compliance of these four modes of transportation, Mr. Muntan also oversees the \$100+ million-dollar, private, armed security contract which is in place to provide security for the system.

Prior to joining Miami-Dade Transit, Mr. Muntan served as a System Safety Specialist for over seven years in New York City Transit's Office of System Safety.

Among his industry accomplishments, Mr. Muntan has recently been re-elected to serve on a second, 2-year term on the Federal Transportation Administration's (FTA) Transit Advisory Committee on Safety (TRACS) and he has also received the World Safety Organization's (WSO) accreditation as a Certified Safety and Security Director (CSSD).

While at Miami-Dade Transit, the agency has been awarded the 2019 American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Rail Safety & Security GOLD Award for Safety and the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Gold Standard Award for security and emergency preparedness.

Mr. Muntan holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Clarion University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Science Degree in Safety and Environmental Management from West Virginia University.

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Paulina Orchard

Division Chief, Office of System Safety Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Paulina Orchard is the Division Chief for Safety Policy and Promotion in the Office of System Safety, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, at the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Ms. Orchard manages FTA's safety policy development and implementation, including efforts to support transit industry adoption of Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan regulation requirements. Ms. Orchard also oversees FTA's safety training development and delivery activities. Ms. Orchard holds a Bachelor of Arts from the George Washington University and a Juris Doctor and a Master of Laws from Duke University School of Law.



Joyce Rose

Principal Consultant, Transit and Rail Safety, WSP-Parsons Brinckerhoff

Joyce Rose, WSO-CSSD, is a transit and rail safety consultant for WSP USA based in Baltimore, MD. She is a national transportation policy expert with over 30 years of experience in the areas of federal transit and rail funding, program management and safety. Joyce is the project manager for a systems safety services on-call contract with Maryland Transit Administration, providing technical safety expertise and policy support in the areas of federal compliance, implementing Safety Management Systems, hazard analysis, safety training and safety certification. Joyce assists other transit agencies around the country in developing and implementing agency safety plans, shaping safe operations and sound financial management practices during the COVID-19 pandemic and preparing documents and plans

to meet various FTA regulatory requirements.

Joyce was a member of FTA's 2018-2020 TRACS Charter and team lead for the Trespass and Suicide Prevention subcommittee. Joyce is a member of the Transportation Research Board Committee on Highway/Railroad Crossings and chairs the Trespass and Suicide Prevention subcommittee. She serves on several APTA committees, including Rail Safety and the Operating Practices Working Group.

Before joining WSP, Joyce served a term as president of Operation Lifesaver, Inc., a national nonprofit rail safety education organization focused on preventing rail trespassing, highway-rail crossing collisions and rail suicide. Joyce was a committee staffer for 25 years on Capitol Hill, writing and helping to pass transportation-related legislation in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. Joyce was instrumental in writing the transit and rail titles of several major transportation laws, including SAFETEA-LU, the Rail Safety Improvement Act, and MAP-21.



Adrian Ruiz

Director, Safety, Security and Quality Assurance, Valley Metro Rail (Valley Metro)

Adrian Ruiz retired from the Phoenix Police Department in October 2014 after proudly serving 23 years. She served as a lieutenant in various details including Court Services and Judicial Process, Office of Administration, Central City Precinct, Transit Enforcement Unit and the Violent Crimes Bureau/Assaults and Gun Unit. Adrian attributes her time as the Phoenix Police Department Transit Enforcement Unit Lieutenant, to her success in being selected as the Director of Safety and Security for Valley Metro in 2014. As the Director assigned to Safety Security and Quality Assurance, Adrian manages a Division serving all light rail in three cities as well as the east valley bus service.

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Adrian holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arizona and a Master's Degree in Organizational Security Management from Webster University. Adrian is a graduate of Valley Leadership Institute Class 35 and is a Certified Public Manager from Arizona State University; Bob Ramsey Executive Education. Adrian has been involved in the security planning of various special events in the Metropolitan area and recently received her WSO-CSSD certification. The Safety Security and Quality Assurance Division continues to focus on the continued successful safety certification of numerous Valley Metro projects.



Dr. Alfonz Ruth

Director and Chief Learning Officer, Office of Administration, Federal Transit Administration

Dr. Alfonz Ruth is the Director and Chief Learning Officer for the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration. Prior to his current position, he was appointed as the first Chief Learning Officer and Acting Deputy Associate Director of Administration for the District of Columbia's Department of Transportation (DDOT). During this time at DDOT, he overhauled all human capital planning and training programs across the agency to include the launch of d.University, the first and only corporate university in the District of Columbia Government.

Dr. Ruth formerly served as a Senior Fellow of the National Defense University and Education Advisor to the Naval District of Washington, to include the Pentagon and White House. In 2014, he was awarded the Leader of Change Award by the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials, and he was the cover feature of the national Chief Learning Officer Magazine, March 2014 edition.

Dr. Ruth obtained a Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from Howard University, and in 2014, received a prestigious post-doc award to study and teach at the Southeast University of Nanjing- School of Transportation, one of the top 20 research universities in China. He completed his post-doctoral studies at Harvard University and holds a Master's degree from the Louisiana Tech University and a Bachelor's degree from Grambling State University.



Laynie Weaver

Senior Consultant, Boyd Caton Group

Laynie Weaver is a Senior Consultant with Boyd Caton Group and supports Federal Transit Administration initiatives such as the State Safety Oversight program, training development and bus and rail transit safety initiatives. She has worked in the areas of transit safety, security and emergency management since 2003. Ms. Weaver also has experience with technical writing—developing transit policy, plans, and procedures. Prior to working with Boyd Caton Group, she was employed with North County Transit District in Oceanside, California, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority in Washington, D.C. and at the National Transit Institute. Laynie graduated from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey with a Masters in City and Regional Planning where she had the opportunity to work as a Graduate Assistant for New York City Transit. She also has a B.S. in Geography from Texas A&M University.

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K. Jane Williams

Deputy Administrator, Federal Transit Administration

K. Jane Williams is currently the Deputy Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Ms. Williams brings over 20 years of executive experience to her role, having served previously at the Department of Energy and Department of Labor under President Reagan and the Department of Interior under President George H.W. Bush.

Ms. Williams leads an agency of more than 500 people located in Washington D.C. and 10 regional offices across the country. She is responsible for managing an annual budget of over \$13 billion that assists over 3,000 transit providers in all U.S. states and territories. The FTA is one of the U.S. Department of Transportation's nine operating administrations and

provides financial and technical assistance to local public transit systems, including buses, subways, light rail, commuter rail, trolleys and ferries.

Since joining FTA in August 2017, Ms. Williams has focused on implementing Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao's three priorities of safety, infrastructure investment and innovation in all of FTA's programs and initiatives. Under her tenure, FTA certified all 31 states with rail transit for safety oversight responsibilities – including the certification of the Washington Metrorail Safety Commission (WMSC), allowing FTA to transfer direct safety oversight of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's Metrorail system to the WMSC.

In addition to annual formula programs totaling approximately \$10 billion supporting transit nationwide, she has provided approximately \$7.63 billion for 25 new projects under the Capital Investment Grants program. She also has overseen the agency's programs to advance innovation throughout the transportation industry, including an initiative that focuses on new public transportation service models, integrated payment systems and automation to improve mobility for all Americans.



Bridget Zamperini

Safety and Security Specialist, Office of Safety System, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Bridget Zamperini has been with the FTA for 14 years. She currently works in the Office of Transit Safety and Oversight. Bridget manages the Transit Advisory Committee for Safety (TRACS) and is FTA's DHS Liaison, collaborating with TSA on safety and security issues and initiatives. Prior to her work with the FTA, Bridget was the Deputy Director of TSA's Mass Transit Security Program Office. She started her Federal career with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Inspector General.

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Wednesday, October 7, 2020

All Speakers Are Listed in A-Z Order by Last Name



Annabelle Boyd

Senior Consultant, Boyd Caton Group

Annabelle Boyd is a founder and senior consultant at Boyd Caton Group. She has worked in transportation safety for almost 30 years, spending much of that time supporting FTA's safety programs, including the State Safety Oversight program, and, more recently, FTA's temporary oversight of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and FTA's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Technical Assistance Center.



George Good

Senior Accident Investigator, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

George is currently serving as the FTA's Senior Accident Investigator and started with the FTA in 2015 as their first Accident Investigator. He also represents FTA on the One DOT Grade Crossing Safety Committee and the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) and Railroad and Light Rail Transit Highway Grade Crossing Technical Committee. His professional background and experience include 34 years in operations safety and security for transit bus, heavy rail, light rail and commuter rail.

Prior to joining FTA, George held positions at the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Secretary's Office as the Program Director for Rail Safety and Security Oversight and the Vice Chair of the former Tri-State Oversight Committee and 25 years with the Maryland Transit Administration serving as an MTA Transit Police Officer, Light Rail Operations Supervisor for the light rail control room and field operations and in the MTA Safety Office as a system safety officer and internal safety audit program manager.

He has received certifications and completed courses in the U.S. Department of Transportation's Transit Safety and Security Program (TSSP), Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program, NTSB Transportation Disaster Response, FEMA National Incident Management System, the National Transit Institute, the National Safety Council Advanced Safety Certificate in occupational safety and health, Occupational Safety and Health Management System Auditing, ISO 9001:2001 Quality Auditing, U.S. Air Force Ground Safety and Operational Risk Management and other specialized Occupational Safety and Health Administration training.

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Candace Key

Director, Office of System Safety, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Candace (kan-DAY-see) Key is the Director of the Office of System Safety in FTA's Office of Transit Safety and Oversight. As Director, Ms. Key oversees the development of policies, strategies, technical assistance and promotion activities to ensure the safety of transit employees and passengers through the implementation of Safety Management System methods and principles.

Ms. Key previously served as an attorney in FTA's Office of Chief Counsel. In this capacity, Ms. Key was instrumental in conceptualizing FTA's policies and approaches for implementing new safety authorities and FTA's National Transit Asset Management Program. In addition, Ms. Key served as legal counsel to FTA's temporary office of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Safety Oversight.

Ms. Key received her B.A. and J.D. degrees from Howard University in Washington, D.C. She is a member of the Maryland Bar and the Transportation Research Board's Transit and Intermodal Law Committee.



Andrew Lofton

Senior Consultant, Boyd Caton Group

Andy Lofton is a Senior Consultant and COO for Boyd Caton Group (BCG). Andy has supported FTA's State Safety Oversight (SSO) program for over 18 years. During that time, he has served as lead auditor for the SSO Audit Program, supported FTA's transition to new SSO regulations (a revised Part 659 in 2005 and the new Part 674 in 2016), supported FTA's administration of the SSO apportionment and helped support FTA's SSO annual reporting process, including a transition to the current online State Safety Oversight Reporting (SSOR) tool.

Andy has supported FTA's development of a wide range of guidance and technical assistance materials to help States and transit agencies meet SMS-related requirements established in Part 673 and Part 674. Andy currently serves as the Project Manager for FTA's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Technical Assistance Center (TAC). Andy has developed and numerous SMS training sessions and webinars and has delivered them to the transit industry on behalf of FTA.

Andy has served as the Project Manager for the National Transit Database (NTD), overseeing all NTD data validation and data product development, including the generation of FTA apportionment datasets. Andy is recognized as an industry expert on Federal transit safety data reporting requirements.

Andy graduated from the University of Virginia in 2002 with a Bachelor's degree in Economics and lives with his wife and three children in Charlottesville, Virginia.

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Dain Pankratz

Senior Consultant, Boyd Caton Group

Dain Pankratz is a Program Manager and Senior Safety Consultant for Boyd Caton Group, with over 15 years' experience specializing state safety oversight program, safety and security certification, project management, hazard management and highway-rail grade crossing safety. Mr. Pankratz is a registered Mechanical Professional Engineer (P.E.) and Certified Safety Professional (CSP), and consults for the Federal Transit Administration, Federal Railroad Administration, among other agencies. Mr. Pankratz supports the Program Management Oversight program currently overseeing the construction and startup for the Honolulu rail and Washington DC Dulles Airport Silverline extension, among other projects. Mr. Pankratz is also a lead auditor for FTA's State Safety Oversight program and has supported on-site safety reviews for over 50 rail transit systems and conducted on-site readiness reviews for over 20 major capital projects. Mr. Pankratz supports startups of major projects with developing various technical materials such as hazard analysis, traffic and grade crossing assessments and certification checklists.



Joseph W. Powell

Program Manager, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Joseph has spent the last 12 years improving the safety and viability of America's critical transportation networks and infrastructure as an employee of the U.S. Department of Transportation. At present, he is an SSO Program Manager in FTA's Office of Transit Safety and Oversight. This role aligns well with his desire to make the world around him a better place. He is also a proud husband and father, amateur gardener, shade-tree mechanic, fairly decent cook and general handyman. In the past, he has been an athlete, a scholar, an outdoorsman, a soldier, a teacher, a bus driver and a thespian.



Rhoderick Ramsey

Program Analyst, Office of System Safety, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Rhoderick Ramsey is a Program Analyst on the Safety Promotion Team within FTA's Office of Transit Safety and Oversight with over 12 years of experience in the learning and development industry. In his current role, Rhoderick is responsible for overseeing the development and evaluation of FTA's safety training resources. Prior to joining FTA, Rhoderick has worked in the public and private sectors as an on-the-job trainer, adjunct professor, corporate trainer, content developer, instructional designer, and project manager. Rhoderick strives to develop and deliver highly engaging workshops that will serve to increase the knowledge of transit industry personnel and increase the effectiveness of FTA's training products. Rhoderick's core area of expertise is employing adult learning principles into virtual-live training events. To do this, Rhoderick recognizes the importance of adult learners' prior experience and strives to present participants with real-world situations that encourage active problem-solving. Through this approach, Rhoderick hopes to enable transit agency personnel with the skills necessary to improve safety within the transit industry.

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Lauren Tuzikow

Program Manager, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Lauren Tuzikow is a State Safety Oversight Program Manager in the Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight at FTA in Washington, D.C.

Lauren previously served as the CAP Program Manager for the Office of FTA WMATA Safety Oversight (FWSO) and worked in the Office of Program Oversight, where she was the single audit liaison. Prior to her work with TSO, Lauren began her career in FTA in the Office of Budget and Policy, Office of Strategic Planning and Analysis, in the areas of the National Transit Database, special analyses, and as the FTA Audit Liaison.

Before joining FTA, Lauren worked for Nortel as a data analyst supporting the US-VISIT project for the Department of Homeland Security and for Technology Solution Providers as a senior validation analyst supporting the NTD at various capacities. Lauren has over 15 years of experience in transportation, analysis, and public outreach.

A native of the greater Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area, Lauren received a Bachelor of Science in Applied Math with a concentration in Actuarial Science and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Pittsburgh.



Rachael Wenger

Senior Consultant, Boyd Caton Group

Rachael is a consultant supporting several groups within FTA's Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, including safety training, State Safety Oversight and the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Technical Assistance Center. She previously supported FTA's Federal Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Safety Oversight as a CAP specialist.

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Thursday, October 8, 2020

All Speakers Are Listed in A-Z Order by Last Name



Timothy Braxton

Program Manager, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Tim Braxton, TSSP previously worked as a Program Analyst in the Office of System Safety for over 10 years focusing on data management projects, rulemaking and most recently, safety certification efforts. As a State Safety Oversight (SSO) Program Manager, he is responsible for providing oversight direction to regulatory-based safety oversight programs, providing technical assistance, research and development and implementation of transit safety programs designed to strengthen the capacity of state safety oversight agencies.

Prior to FTA he worked at the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) for over 14 years. As a Senior Transportation Engineer for the Office of Traffic and Safety - Traffic Safety Analysis Division (TSAD) he was responsible for developing impact studies for five major metropolitan areas within central and southern Maryland. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems Management and is currently pursuing an MBA from the University of Maryland. He enjoys developing apps and listening to classic R&B music. Tim and his wife Tyniesha live in Upper Marlboro, Maryland and have three daughters, Ashley, Amber and Alexis.



Angela Dluger

Deputy Associate Administrator Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Angela Dluger is a seasoned transportation professional with over 15 years of federal, public transportation provider and consulting experience in federal safety programs, transportation workforce development, transit service planning, transit operations, high-profile special project implementation and change management. She joined FTA in 2010 as FTA's Audit Liaison with the U.S. Department of Transportation Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO).

In 2012, she joined the MAP-21 Safety Programs transition team and is now the Deputy Associate Administrator in FTA's Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, where she oversees federal transit safety programs and grant compliance oversight. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Urban and Regional Studies from Cornell University and a Master of Science in Transportation from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Scott C. Gorton

Executive Director, Surface Division Policy, Plans, and Engagement, Transportation Security Administration

Scott Gorton is the Executive Director for Surface Policy in TSA Policy, Plans and Engagement. In this role he guides the activities of the Industry Engagement and Policy and Planning branches of the division. He is responsible for the development and sustainment of policies and guidance for the surface modes of transportation including freight rail, mass transit, highway motor carrier, pipeline and maritime. He leads TSA's engagement with surface industry trade associations and national working groups.

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Since joining TSA in 2005, he has served in a number of roles where he focused on freight rail and hazardous materials security. He was the principal author of the Security Action Items for TIH transportation that have served as the basis for TSA's freight rail risk reduction programs. He was the Freight Rail Policy Branch manager and principal subject matter expert for TSA's first regulation for surface transportation in 2008. Prior to his appointment to the Transportation Senior Executive Service in 2019, he was the acting branch manager for Surface Industry Engagement in the Office of Security Policy and Industry Engagement.

Prior to joining TSA in June of 2005, Mr. Gorton was Director of Hazardous Material Field Services for CSX Transportation. Assigned to Baltimore, MD, he had responsibility for operations in the Northern Region of the CSXT System. In this capacity he was responsible for emergency response, training and regulatory compliance for hazardous materials transportation on CSXT.

Before joining the rail industry in 1994, Mr. Gorton served with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management as its Hazardous Materials Field Manager where he was responsible for managing the Commonwealth's hazardous emergency response program.

He began his emergency services career as a Firefighter with the Washington, D.C. Fire Department, his final assignment was as a hazardous materials technician with the department's hazardous materials response unit. He attended the University of the District of Columbia in the Fire Science Technology program and has served as an adjunct faculty member of the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD.



John J. Mardente

Program Manager Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance, Federal Railroad Administration

John is a native of South Ozone Park, Queens, New York City, NY, and has been an avid fan and rider of NYC transit since his high school days (Brooklyn Technical '87) and The City College of New York [CCNY (1993 Bachelors' Degree in Engineering, Civil Engineering, '93)].

John is currently a Civil Engineer at the Federal Railroad Administration- HQ Office, Washington DC, Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance, since 2003. John has been the program manager for the FRA/FTA Joint Use Policy since 2003. Also, John led the highly successful Vehicle Track Interaction Task Force (as designated by the Railroad Safety Advisory Committee) to write the current Code of Federal Regulations Title 49 (CFR) Part 213 G Train Operations at Class 6 and Higher.

John began his professional career in 1994 with New York City Transit, Department of Subways-Track Division, selected for the superintendent intern training program. John participated in all aspects of subway track renewal and maintenance, including performing the duties of a third-rail maintainer etc.

John has a diverse rail transit background, and has also performed the functions of Track Engineer at Dallas Area Rapid Transit, Hudson Bergen Light Rail and Parsons Brinckerhoff (now WSP).

John resides in Arlington, VA, and Queens, and loves to eat, travel, fish and repair automobiles.

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Cyrell McLemore

Regional Safety Officer, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Cyrell R McLemore has 21 years of experience managing grant programs, program oversight and project management on the State and Federal level. He currently serves as a Regional Safety Officer for Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Office of Transit Safety and Oversight (TSO). TSO administers a national transit safety program and monitors program compliance to ensure safe, reliable and equitable transit service in accordance with FTA policy and regulatory requirements. His responsibilities include working as a liaison to FTA's SSO Program Managers and the State Safety Oversight Reporting tool.

Previously, Mr. McLemore served as a General Engineer in FTA's Region V Chicago office. As an Engineer, he was responsible for several major capital investment projects throughout the Region. His responsibilities also included the management and oversight of various transit programs delivered to Transit agencies and State Department of Transportation's in the Region. These programs included bus and bus facilities, job access and reverse commute, new freedom, elderly and disabled assistance and rural assistance. Together, these programs provided capital and operating assistance to maintain, improve, expand and rehabilitate public transportation infrastructure. Previously he served as a Project Manager for the Illinois Department of Transportation managing and overseeing transit projects throughout Northeast Illinois.

Mr. McLemore joined the Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration Region V- Chicago Office in 2003. He is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP), Contracting Officers Representative (COR II), holds a Transit Safety and Security Program (TSSP) certificate and Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering Technology from Purdue University.



Patrick D. Nemons

Division Chief, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Patrick D. Nemons serves as the Division Chief for the Program Management Division within the Office of Safety Review. Prior to assuming the Division Chief position, Mr. Nemons served as Special Assistant to the Associate Administrator/Chief Safety Officer for the Office of Transit Safety and Oversight where he advised on strategic planning, operations, and safety-related initiatives. Mr. Nemons also served as the Acting Director for the Office of Safety Review, where he developed the State Safety Oversight (SSO) Program certification process for 30 states' oversight of approximately 65 rail transit systems, managed FTA Drug & Alcohol Compliance, Emergency Management, and Transit Safety Oversight requirements.

Mr. Nemons started with the FTA when he was assigned by the Secretary and Deputy Secretary to serve as governance liaison to work with the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia on their efforts to reassume State Safety Oversight responsibility of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). Mr. Nemons began his U.S. Department of Transportation career in 1999 as a Presidential Management Fellow.

Prior to joining FTA, Mr. Nemons served in the Office of the Secretary, as the Deputy Director and Acting Director of the Department's Office of Audit Relations where he managed and advised senior executives and political officials on all Office of Inspector General (OIG), General Accountability Office (GAO), and other external audits. He also served as a Senior Aviation Industry Analyst in the Aviation Consumer Protection Division ensuring compliance of customer service commitments and civil rights in air travel (Air Carrier Access Act). Mr. Nemons' first position in the Department was as

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an Evaluator in the Department's Office of the Inspector General conducting aviation and safety audits. Prior to joining the Department, he worked for the State of Maryland in the Department of Corrections and Department of Parole and Probations as a Counselor and Sr. Drug and Alcohol Counselor.

Mr. Nemons is an U.S. Air Force veteran where he held positions as a Human Resources Chief, Public Affairs/Spokesman and a Law Enforcement/Police Academy Instructor. Mr. Nemons has a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and an MBA in International Management from Southeastern University, in Washington, DC, as well as Ph. D. studies in Political Science from Howard University. Mr. Nemons has an adult son in Houston, Texas. Outside work, Mr. Nemons is a Dallas Cowboys super fan and enjoys travelling, classic movies, and music of all genres.



Sonya T. Proctor

Assistant Administrator (Invited), Surface Operations, Transportation Security Administration

Sonya Proctor is the Assistant Administrator for Surface Operations, which aligns surface transportation security operations under direct executive leadership to provide the most effective and efficient security solutions for the four modes of land-based transportation: mass transit, freight rail, highway motor carrier and pipeline.

She brings to TSA an extensive operational background in law enforcement and transportation security, developed in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Police Department and in the national Amtrak train system, where she introduced innovative programs to enhance security in communities and in transportation. Serving in TSA, Ms. Proctor's executive accomplishments have spanned the policy, law enforcement and security operations areas.

A graduate of the 130th session of the FBI National Academy and a life member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, she remains active in the national and international law enforcement community. Ms. Proctor earned her Bachelor's and master's degrees from the John Hopkins University.



Dakisha Spratling

Program Analyst for Safety Promotions Program, Safety Policy and Promotion, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Dakisha Spratling serves as a Program Analyst for the Safety Policy and Promotion division of the Office of Transit Safety and Oversight (TSO) at the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Dakisha assists with managing TSO's safety promotion division, which focuses on transit safety training. Prior to joining the FTA in 2015, Dakisha worked as a contractor for the U.S. Navy on ship modernization projects and the development of Navy Training System Plans. Dakisha also served on Active Duty in the U.S. Navy prior to becoming a contractor and a federal employee.

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Myesha Stephney

Program Analyst, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Myesha Stephney is originally from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma where she earned Bachelor of Science degree from Langston University.

She began her Federal career in 2014 at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in the Food Distribution Division. There she helped distribute USDA Foods and other nutrition assistance to children, low-income families, emergency feeding programs, Indian reservations and the elderly throughout the United States.

She joined the Department of Transportation in 2017, and now works with Transit Safety and Oversight team as a State Safety Oversight Specialist. In her role, she helps develop digital resources that streamline the States data collection process including the State Safety Oversight Reporting tool and the Oversight Tracking System. These new systems help to modernize FTA's database workflow and improve the way data is collected throughout the Agency.

Myesha is a military spouse to her college sweetheart, and in her free time enjoys traveling, trying out new recipes and hanging out with her rambunctious yellow Labrador Retriever named Diggy.



Joanne Waszczak

Division Chief, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

In September 2019, Ms. Waszczak began her current role as Division Chief in FTA's Office of Safety Review. Previously, Ms. Waszczak served as the Transition Manager on FTA's WMATA Safety Oversight team that included Inspectors, Investigators and Corrective Action Plan Managers. Ms. Waszczak led an award-winning team that developed a process to transition direct safety oversight responsibilities from FTA to the new State Safety Oversight (SSO) Agency — the Washington Metrorail Safety Commission (WMSC) — and a structure to validate the WMSC's organizational capacity to conduct safety oversight of WMATA Metrorail. In this role, Ms. Waszczak collaborated with FTA's Office of Safety Review and

Chief Counsel and jurisdictional leaders from DC, Maryland and Virginia to transfer knowledge and coordinate shadowing activities that prepared the WMSC for implementation of its SSO Program.

Ms. Waszczak's involvement in FTA safety oversight began when she worked in TOA as Special Assistant to the Administrator during two key events: the passage of MAP-21, which expanded FTA's safety regulatory authority, and Hurricane Sandy. She also served six months as Acting Division Chief in FTA's Office of Program Oversight where she managed the teams responsible for FTA's compliance review programs and performance analysis. Ms. Waszczak's oversight expertise was also strengthened by her role as Special Assistant to FTA's Chief Financial Officer, and her support of FTA-FHWA Planning Certification Reviews and Title VI technical assistance to nontraditional grantees.

During the past 12 years, Ms. Waszczak has developed and leveraged a strong understanding of FTA's programs, policies and processes and a wide network of FTA Headquarters and Regional contacts through assignments multiple FTA offices. Ms. Waszczak has also gained wide experience in and perspective on the transit industry through details to the Senate Appropriations Committee and WMATA's Office of Real Estate and Joint Development, and through her roles as a TRB Committee Member and TCRP Panelist.

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Ms. Waszczak earned a Bachelor of Psychology from Sonoma State University, a Master of Social Work (Social Policy and Evaluation) from the University of Michigan and a Graduate Certificate in Metropolitan Studies from Virginia Tech. Prior to her federal career, she interned for former Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm and worked as a hiring manager for the City of Mountain View, California, where she also supported the mayor.



Maria Wright

Senior Program Manager, Office of Safety Review, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration

Maria Wright is the Senior Program Manager for the State Safety Oversight Program. She has been a government employee for over 26 years all within the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Since 1994, she has worked in several safety positions, one being a FMCSA Safety Investigator for over 6 years. She now enjoys working with the State Safety Oversight Program and seeing how the Program has evolved.

Maria enjoyed her career within the U.S. Department of Transportation so much that she decided to further her education and earn a Master's degree from Morgan State University in Transportation. She also holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Bowie State University.