

NTSB ADVOCACY SPOTLIGHT

HIGHLIGHTING NTSB ADVOCACY IN ACTION

VOL 4 ISSUE 2 (May-Aug 2018)

THE BIG STORIES

Two New Members Join NTSB Board

The NTSB added two new Board Members in August, Bruce Landsberg and Jennifer Homendy. All five Board Member positions are now filled. The Board operated with four members from April 2014 to December 2017, and with just three members since January 2018. On August 7, Landsberg was appointed Vice Chairman and also started his appointment as a member. Landsberg, a well-known general aviation safety advocate for decades, is past president of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association Air Safety Institute. Read about Landsberg's [background](#). Homendy, appointed a Board Member on August 20, previously served as the Democratic Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, which is under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives. Read about Homendy's [background](#).



GENERAL ADVOCACY & OUTREACH

EAA AirVenture Focuses on Lessons Learned & LOC Prevention

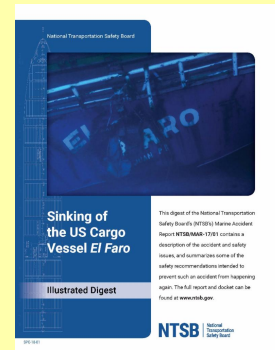
In July, Chairman Robert Sumwalt, Board Member Earl Weener, and NTSB investigators, advocates, and communications professionals joined more than 600,000 general aviation



enthusiasts and pilots from 87 nations at the Experimental Aircraft Association's AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. NTSB staff delivered numerous presentations and shared NTSB safety information at an exhibit. The NTSB also hosted an NTSB "Road Show" special safety presentation focused on loss of control (LOC) in flight—an NTSB Most Wanted List (MWL) issue. Patty Wagstaff, a champion aerobatic pilot, keynoted the event. Industry experts, including Member Weener, participated in the panel discussion on how training and technologies can prevent LOC. Following the panel, investigators Mike Folkerts and Pam Sullivan and Medical Officer Nick Webster presented case studies illustrating how professionalism deficits, medical conditions, impairment, and carbon monoxide can contribute to LOC accidents. Throughout the week-long Oshkosh conference, investigators also briefed attendees on topics ranging from the NTSB's use of drones to current accident data and accident case studies. Member Weener briefed attendees on general aviation accident data and LOC. Attendees also had the opportunity to chat one-on-one with the Chairman during a special meet-and-greet session.

Marine Safety Issues New Illustrated Digest, Various Accident Reports/Briefs

Since May, the Marine Safety Office has produced 13 accident reports for mariners and operators, including 10 accident briefs, one major accident report, one safety alert, and one special report. A particular highlight was the release of the *Sinking of the US Cargo Vessel El Faro: Illustrated Digest*—a visually rich, 16-page summary of the critical events and decisions that led to the October 1, 2015, sinking. The easy-to-digest report garnered significant media/trade publication interest and was shared with hundreds of industry stakeholders. In a Board Meeting held in June, marine investigators also presented the findings of their investigation of an accident involving the passenger vessel *Caribbean Fantasy* in the Atlantic Ocean near San Juan, Puerto Rico. The recommendations addressed several occupant protection issues, including fire protection, crew training on and familiarity with emergency systems and procedures, and safety management systems, among other recommendations. To see the full listing of marine reports released recently, visit the NTSB reports [webpage](#).



Making Skies Safer in Africa

In early August, as part of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Skies for Africa program, Managing Director Dennis Jones and a team of NTSB investigators and communications specialists traveled to South Africa to share lessons learned from NTSB accident investigations. The [Safe Skies for Africa program](#), created 20 years ago, aims to improve the safety and security of aviation on the African continent. Safety Advocacy Chief Nicholas Worrell talked about the NTSB's approach to advocacy and our MWL, and other NTSB staff shared investigative best practices and encouraged their African investigative counterparts to focus more on safety measures that prevent general aviation accidents, a significant problem in Africa. Read the [blog](#).



Human Factors and Airline Safety

Chairman Robert Sumwalt addressed members of the [Air Line Pilots Association](#) about the importance of developing policies and practices that consider the potential for human error, which is the cause of the majority of transportation-related crashes. During his [presentation](#) at the ALPA Human Factors Conference in Washington, DC, in late May, he discussed the critical link between human factors and safety and encouraged a comprehensive approach to system safety that involves design, process, safety, and warning devices.



Public Transportation's Role in Improving Safety

Board Member Bella Dinh-Zarr addressed members of the [American Public Transportation Association](#) in August about the role of public transportation—including both bus and rail—in improving safety. She said public transportation was “an important safety tool that allows high-risk drivers, such as those who are impaired or fatigued or distracted, as well as those who are simply inexperienced or unable to drive for medical reasons, to be able to get around without endangering themselves and others.” Member Dinh-Zarr discussed our MWL of transportation safety priorities, many of which focus on high-risk drivers and address issues such as impairment, medical fitness, fatigue, and distraction.

HIGHWAY SAFETY

NTSB's View of Automated Vehicles

Highway Safety Investigator Ensar Becic was one of the featured speakers at the Transportation Research Board's [Automated Vehicles \(AV\) Symposium](#) 2018, held in San Francisco, California, in July. The symposium brought together thought leaders on vehicle automation, who discussed how AV is affecting, and will affect, the transportation industry. Becic highlighted the NTSB's latest investigations of AVs involved in crashes—including the [Williston, Florida](#), and [Tempe, Arizona](#), crashes—and our MWL focus on collision avoidance technologies, the baseline technologies of AV.

Thoughts About the #InMyFeelingsChallenge

NTSB weighed in on the #InMyFeelingsChallenge, in which fans of rap artist Drake's song “In My Feelings” post videos on social media of themselves dancing to the song. The NTSB became concerned when people began dancing alongside moving vehicles and were getting injured. Safety Advocacy Division Chief Nicholas Worrell warned against participating in the dangerous social media challenge in our blog, which garnered national media interest. *Good Morning America* interviewed Safety Advocate Stephanie Shaw about our perspectives on this topic. Read the [blog](#).



Using Science, Stories to Advance Road Safety

As part of her [keynote speech](#) before road safety professionals attending the [Canadian Association of Road Safety Professionals Conference](#) in June, Board Member Bella Dinh-Zarr described how the NTSB uses real-world accident case studies to advance transportation safety. In her presentation, “What’s Old is New Again: Using Science and Story to Advance Road Safety,” she highlighted examples from the field and described the science, stories, and other tools the NTSB uses to advance its road safety recommendations, such as automated speed enforcement and .05 BAC limits.



Ending Distraction: A Capitol Discussion

Safety Advocacy Chief Nicholas Worrell joined a panel of experts in April on Capitol Hill to address the dangers of distracted driving. The event, “[Every Second Matters](#),”

was organized by the Travelers Institute and co-hosted by the [National Safety Council](#) and the [Road to Zero Coalition](#). Travelers established the institute as a means of participating in the public policy dialogue on matters of interest to the property casualty insurance sector, as well as to the broader financial services industry. During the event, legislative staff and other attendees received new data on distraction from TrueMotion.

Field Sobriety Test Training Activity

In July, Board Member Bella Dinh-Zarr and other NTSB staff observed a standardized field sobriety test training activity for police academy cadets in Prince George’s County, Maryland. Cadets learned the protocol and cues to determine if a driver is alcohol impaired. Look for the upcoming blog detailing Member Dinh-Zarr’s experience.



Road to Zero Coalition Comes to NTSB

Chairman Robert Sumwalt delivered the welcoming remarks at the Road to Zero Coalition meeting in June at the NTSB Board Room and Conference Center in Washington, DC. He highlighted the

MWL and safety recommendations aimed at addressing the leading factors in crashes, deaths, and injuries on the nation’s roadways—most notably, alcohol and other drug impairment, speed, distraction, and nonuse of seat belts and child car seats. Chairman Sumwalt also highlighted the findings of recently released investigative reports, such as a [special investigation report](#) identifying recurring safety issues in school bus transportation safety. A topic of discussion was the coalition’s [comprehensive report](#) laying out strategies for ending roadway deaths in the United States by 2050, which was released in April.

NTSB Investigator Featured on Reddit

The NTSB held its first @Reddit AMA in early August, giving participants access to a one-on-one chat with Highway Safety Investigator Dennis Collins, an expert in Human Factors.

[Reddit](#), a popular social Internet news site, hosts AMA (“Ask Me Anything”) interviews between certain users and those who want to ask them questions. The NTSB AMA received more than 130 comments, 133 upvotes (with 86% of responders upvoting), and 12,600 views. View the [discussion](#).



Ongoing Hispanic Outreach Efforts

NTSB safety advocates and investigators continued to work with organizations representing the interests of the Hispanic community, such as the [League of United Latin American Citizens](#), [UnidosUS](#), and the [American Bus Association's Hispanic Motorcoach Council](#), to find better ways to promote highway safety messages to the Spanish-speaking community. To work with the NTSB on this initiative, reach out to SafetyAdvocacy@ntsb.gov.

YOUTH AND TEEN OUTREACH

Teaming Up with Delaware Highway Officials & Ford Driving Skills for Life

The Delaware Office of Highway Safety and [Ford Driving Skills for Life](#), in collaboration with the NTSB, put on an interactive one-day Global Youth Traffic Safety Month Summit in May. The summit topics were aimed at informing teens about safe driving practices and empowering them to share critical safety messages with their peers. Deputy Managing Director Sharon Bryson, NTSB safety advocates, Delaware police officers, families of victims, and youth activists spoke at the event, which occurred in Woodside. More than 100 teens from Delaware high schools participated. The Ford Driving Skills for Life program provides teens with the opportunity to participate in an interactive in-vehicle defensive driving course. Read our [news release](#) about the event.



Advocates at FCCLA & SADD Conferences

In July, Safety Advocacy Chief Nicholas Worrell, along with Safety Advocates Stephanie Shaw and Leah Walton, joined thousands of students from across the country to promote teen driving safety topics and discuss crash investigation lessons at two teen leadership conferences: the [2018 FCCLA National Leadership Conference](#) in Atlanta, Georgia, and the [2018 Students Against Destructive Decisions Conference](#) in Tysons, Virginia. At FCCLA, the advocates led a workshop discussing safety recommendations

from recent NTSB crash investigations. They also talked with students and advisors about ways to prevent drowsy, impaired, and speed-related crashes and to increase seat belt use in their schools and communities. At SADD, they met one-on-one with students at our booth and facilitated meetings at HQ for their organization's student leadership.



Keeping Students Safe En Route to School

In August, the NTSB kicked off its blog series focused on preparing communities for the back-to-school season. The goal was to help families, caregivers, and students choose safe transportation practices as students commute to and from school, and to provide all community members tips and resources for safely navigating areas around schools. NTSB Safety Advocate Stephanie Shaw and student intern Keely Green also participated in community fairs in Fairfax County, Virginia, to share back-to-school safety tips. Read our [blog](#).

Addressing Fatigue with Future Business Leaders

Safety Advocate Amy Terrone and student intern Carlos Harris attended the [Future Business Leaders of America](#) conference in June to educate teens about fatigued driving.

About 120 students, parents, and advisors stopped by the NTSB table to learn about our fatigue recommendations—in particular, how improving sleeping habits can combat teen driver fatigue. Advocates encouraged teens and their advisors to develop safety campaigns at their schools that focus on combating fatigued driving and urged them to share our [Safety Alert](#).



Kids in Motion & NTSB's Seat Belt Recs

Safety Advocate Stephanie Shaw attended the [Kids in Motion](#) National Child Passenger Safety Conference in Colorado in August. She served as moderator for the "What's New in School Bus Transportation" workshop. Shaw shared NTSB's perspective on child passenger restraints on school buses and aircraft, and our recommendations and safety video related to [seat belts on school buses](#) with child passenger safety technicians and instructors.

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHT

Most Popular SM Image: 4th of July Twitter

Impairment Reminder



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

NJ Testimony on Occupant Protection Issues

Office of Highway Safety Director Rob Molloy testified before a joint hearing of the New Jersey Senate and Assembly Transportation Committees about the NTSB's recently adopted school bus recommendations.

Molloy's testimony addressed driver oversight, our three-point seat belt recommendation, and the value of technologies such as crash avoidance and automatic emergency braking. The hearing was prompted by the recent fatal bus crash in Mt. Olive, New Jersey. Shortly after Molloy gave his testimony, the state passed a law requiring three-point seat belts. (See the below "Progress Report.")



SELECT REPORTS, ALERTS & STUDIES

- **Highway Special Investigative Report:** [Selective Issues in School Bus Transportation Safety](#) (MWL issues: fatigue, impairment, medical fitness)
- **Highway Accident Report:** [Collision Between Freight Train and Charter Motorcoach at High-Profile Highway–Railroad Grade Crossing Biloxi, Mississippi March 7, 2017](#) (MWL issue: occupant protection)

MWL PROGRESS REPORT

Eliminate Distractions

Four states have strengthened their laws regarding driver use of personal electronic devices. [Georgia](#) banned drivers from holding or touching wireless communications devices; they are only permitted to use hands-free devices. Georgia already had a texting and driving law. [In Arizona](#), drivers younger than 18 can no longer text while driving with a learner's permit and during the first half year of their driver's licenses. [Oregon](#) issued tough new distracted-driver penalties, which carry the possibility of jail time for serial offenders. Three convictions within a decade can result in a Class B misdemeanor with a fine of at least \$2,500 and up to 6 months in jail. [In Virginia](#), drivers caught texting while passing through a

work zone can now receive a mandatory \$250 fine.

[Improve Rail Transit Safety Oversight](#)

Four states—Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and Wisconsin—have obtained federal certification of their rail transit state safety oversight programs ahead of the April 15, 2019, federal deadline. Federal law will not allow for the deadline to be waived or extended. With this certification, states will continue to receive federal funding.

[Ensure the Safe Shipment of Hazardous Materials](#)

According to a [July 2018 report](#) from the Railway Supply Institute, 100 percent of the rail tank cars used to transport crude oil were built to the newer CPC-1232 specification (63 percent), or were built to the new and more robust DOT 117 standard (37 percent). Under FAST Act prescribed deadlines, DOT-111 tank cars (jacked and no-jacketed) were to be phased out for transporting crude oil by March 1, 2018.

[Reduce Fatigue-Related Accidents](#)

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announced on August 21 that it has begun a rulemaking process to allow for more exceptions to current hours-of-service (HOS) regulations, which limit the operating hours of commercial truck drivers. The soon-to-be published [Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) calls for public comment on four specific areas “under consideration for revision” by the agency. The NTSB supports the implementation and use of electronic logging devices and, for more than 20 years, has advocated their use as a means to foster compliance with HOS regulations and reduce fatigue-related crashes. The NTSB does not support any modifications to the HOS regulations that have the potential to reduce drivers’ daily sleep, extend their time awake or driving, or foster inverted or unpredictable schedules.

[End Alcohol and Other Drug Impairment in Transportation](#)

In June, the Road To Zero Coalition published a set of safety priority statements, including on [Alcohol-Impaired Driving](#). Coalition members are invited to “sign on” to strategies in the priority statements that their organization can support and are encouraged to work with other coalition members on advancing those selected strategies. Strategies for combating alcohol-impaired driving include all-offender ignition interlocks, sobriety checkpoints, lowering the legal BAC to 0.05 percent g/dL, and DWI courts—all NTSB recommendations connected with this MWL item.

[Increase Implementation of Collision Avoidance Technologies](#)

In August, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) [announced](#) it had begun developing a consumer rating program for advanced driver assistance systems. The program would use on-road and track tests to assess adaptive cruise control, lane-keeping systems, and other advanced driver assistance systems. The new ratings program would extend the institute’s work toward developing objective tools for evaluating specific automotive technologies beyond its existing crashworthiness safety ratings.

In July, a major original equipment manufacturer of truck tractors, Kenworth, [announced](#) it was now offering fleet owners an advanced driver assistance system, which includes a forward collision avoidance system, as standard equipment on its T680 on-highway flagship. The NTSB has recommended all auto and truck vehicle manufacturers make collision avoidance systems standard in all new vehicles and not require them to be purchased as part of a luxury package add-on.

In August, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) released the [2018 Quarter 2 status](#) update on railroads' self-reported progress toward implementing positive train control (PTC) systems. According to the self-reported data, 66 percent of freight railroad route miles and 24 percent of passenger railroad route miles are operating with PTC protection.

[Strengthen Occupant Protection](#)

On August 25, New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy signed legislation requiring all newly built large school buses to be equipped with passenger lap/shoulder belts at all seating positions—a long-time NTSB recommendation.

[Prevent Loss of Control in Flight in General Aviation](#)

In August, the NTSB released video highlights of its April 24 LOC prevention roundtable. The 19-minute video was produced for flight schools and certified flight instructors to use in training. To view it, go to our [YouTube page](#).

[Require Medical Fitness](#)

In July, the European Aviation Safety Agency published [new safety rules](#) that aim to better support air crew mental fitness. The new rules mandate that all pilots working for European airlines will have access to support programs to help them recognize, cope with, and overcome problems that might degrade their ability to safely do their jobs. Pilots for European airlines also are now required to complete a psychological assessment before the start of employment.

[Expand Recorder Use to Enhance Safety](#)

An increasing number of truck fleet owners are adopting video telematics to improve safety and cut down on litigation costs. Several trucking operations (All Truck Transportation, Knight Transportation, Walmart, US Xpress, Mack Granite, Nine Energy Service, and many others) began installing and analyzing video recorders in their trucks. The NTSB has recommended the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration require cameras be installed in commercial vehicles, and urges industry operators to voluntarily install cameras focused on the driver. The NTSB held a webinar on the benefits of camera use on September 13, which was attended by more than 300 fleet operators, drivers, technology suppliers, government personnel, and others.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Look for us here!)

Sept 19-20
Conference:
[DRIVE SMART](#)
[Virginia Annual](#)
[Distracted Driving](#)
[Summit](#)
(Richmond, VA)

Sept 22
Conference:
[Flight Safety](#)
[International Meeting](#)
(Dallas, TX)

Oct 2
Conference:
[American Pilots'](#)
[Association's](#)
[2018 Biennial](#)
[Convention](#)
(Savannah, GA)

Oct 4
Meeting:
NTSB's
Communicators
Breakfast for
Transportation
Safety Professionals
- hosted by
Transportation
Research Board
(Washington, DC)

Oct 27-30
Conference:
[National Association](#)
[for Pupil](#)
[Transportation](#)

Oct 27-31
Meeting:
[National Association](#)
[of State Directors of](#)
[Pupil Transportation](#)

Oct 29-31
Conference:
[Fleet Safety](#)
[Conference](#)
(Las Vegas, NV)

Nov 12
Conference:
[American Trucking](#)
[Association's SMC](#)
[and TSC's 2018](#)

[Annual Conference
& Trade Show](#)
(Kansas City, MO)

[Services Annual
Conference](#)
(Kansas City, MO)

[Safety, Security &
Human Resources
National Conference
& Exhibition](#)
(Long Beach, CA)

**Nov 12-14
Conference:**
[71st International Air
Safety Summit,
Flight Safety
Foundation](#)
(Seattle, WA)

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