

## Biographies

### MODERATOR



#### **Nicholas Worrell**

Chief, Safety Advocacy Division  
National Transportation Safety Board

Nicholas Worrell has served as the Director of the Office of Safety Advocacy for the NTSB since June 2015. Over his 25-year career with the NTSB, he has held positions as a Public Affairs Officer and safety advocate. Prior to joining the NTSB, Mr. Worrell proudly served for eight years in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Recognized as an expert on transportation safety issues and advisory strategies, Mr. Worrell regularly addresses local, state, and international governments; private industry; various organizations; youth safety leaders; and educators instructing on NTSB safety investigations and the adoption of safety regulations throughout the private and government sectors.

In 2019, Mr. Worrell spoke before the Nigerian, Kenyan and South African government on Effective Safety Advocacy, and Creating Positive Change in Transportation Safety in Kenya as part of the Safer Skies Program, and coordinated safety efforts throughout the Caribbean region, including in Jamaica, Guyana, Trinidad, and Barbados. In 2017, 2018 and 2019, he also addressed the International Road Federation's Caribbean Regional Congress and offered a U.S. perspective at the U.K.'s National Safer Roads Partnerships Conference.

Among other key accomplishments, Mr. Worrell coordinated the development of the agency's Core Values and its Most Wanted List, which provides the top safety recommendations for the transportation industry. Additionally, he assembled a coalition of transportation safety experts from multiple interagency partners, which has become the premier platform from which transportation communicators can plan and speak with a single, credible voice.

Mr. Worrell was born in Bridgetown, Barbados, where he attended the school formerly known as St. James Secondary School. He graduated from The Master's University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. He also has earned two Masters degrees: one from Howard University in Public Policy/Public Administration, and the other from George Washington University in Strategic Public Relations. He has also attended the John C. Maxwell Leadership Center and became a certified speaker/coach/trainer in 2018. Mr. Worrell recently completed his Leadership Coaching for Organizational Performance at American University. In 2022 he received NTSB's highest award, which is granted in recognition of long-term and substantial contributions to the mission of the NTSB or to the improved efficiency/effectiveness of NTSB operations.

### PANELISTS



#### **Mighty Fine**

Associate Executive Director  
American Public Health Association

Mighty Fine is the interim Associate Executive Director at the American Public Health Association (APHA). His portfolio focuses on enhancing health science, policy, public health practice and public health leadership. He designs, develops, and evaluates public health programs and provides programmatic technical assistance, consultation and research translation support to local, state and national partners.

His efforts aim to not only prevent disease and infirmity but to also bolster opportunities for growth, development and self-actualization, at the individual and community level. Trained as a Social Epidemiologist, his work has stemmed across various aspects of public health, including injury and violence prevention, maternal and family health, HIV/AIDS, HCV, social policy and chronic disease prevention.

Having lived and worked in rural and urban environments, Mighty credits this empirical insight with anchoring his understanding of systematic levers of oppression. Thus, a core part of his work has focused on addressing the structures that serve as pillars of disadvantage. He has built expertise in the social determinants of health and brings a social justice perspective to the assessment and prevention of public health issues. Mighty earned a Bachelor of Science in Public Health from Rutgers University and a Master of Public Health from Yale University, with a concentration in Social and Behavioral Sciences and Chronic Disease Epidemiology. He is also certified by the National Commission for Health Education as a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES).



#### **Christine Watson**

Research Psychologist  
National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration

Christine Watson is a Research Psychologist in the Office of Behavioral Safety Research at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Her primary research focus is young and novice driver safety. Dr. Watson received a B.A. from Georgetown University in Linguistics and a Ph.D. in Psychology from Carnegie Mellon University. Prior to coming to NHTSA, Dr. Watson conducted research on the way that language and memory are represented in the brain.



**Alondra Jimenez**  
Education Outreach Coordinator  
Impact Teen Drivers

Alondra Jimenez is an Education Outreach Coordinator (EOC) with Impact Teen Drivers (ITD) based in Los Angeles, California. ITD is a nationally recognized nonprofit organization dedicated to changing the culture of driving to one that is distraction-free.

As an EOC, Alondra works directly with teen safe driving champions and community members to address the 100% preventable public health crisis of reckless and distracted driving. From educators and public health professionals to first responders, she builds relationships with organizations and individuals who have trusted relationships with teens and parents in underserved communities.

Alondra holds a degree in English Education from California State University Long Beach and California Teaching Credentials in English and Spanish. She began her career with *Teach For America* where she was selected from over 44,000 applicants nationwide to join a national teacher corps to teach in under-resourced public schools. While with *Teach for America*, she taught high school English and Spanish, providing multilingual communication skills to foster meaningful relationships with students, parents, and staff. She also taught journalism to help students find their voice on matters important to them. In 2016, she led a year-long fellowship for Arkansas teachers entitled, "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusiveness." Alondra has dedicated her career to serving our most under resourced populations and ensuring equity in messaging from rural Arkansas to South Central LA, Compton, and the Watts community of South Los Angeles.

Having immigrant parents, growing up in a Spanish speaking home, and being a first generation college-graduate, Alondra is committed to providing evidence-based education to BIPOC students and empowering them with the resources they need to serve their local communities. Most recently, Alondra co-lead one of ITD's first *Be The Change Fellowship* initiatives in partnership with Safe Kids Worldwide. The initiative connects students at HBCUs and MSIs, and high school leaders from historically underserved communities to engage, educate, and empower the Fellows to implement community service projects; leverage social media messaging to speak in a meaningful language to their age group; and employ Impact Teen Drivers' evidence-based programming and resources to address high school, middle school, and elementary school populations.

Alondra is passionate about empowering young Latinx and other marginalized people to make safe and healthy decisions while giving back to their communities. She is committed to the Impact Teen Drivers' vision of creating a widespread culture shift among teens and their influencers, where reckless and distracted driving are recognized as unacceptable behaviors and outside of the social norm.



**Nadji Kirby**  
Chief of Staff  
Conference of Minority Transportation  
Officials

As Chief of Staff, Nadji Kirby provides high-level support to COMTO's President and CEO, ensuring the efficient and effective execution of organizational strategies, programs, and initiatives. With over 15 years of experience in the transportation and nonprofit sector, Nadji also leads COMTO's advisory services which support State DOT's and Industry Partners with actualizing their DEI-related goals.

Before assuming the role of Chief of Staff, Nadji served in various leadership positions where she worked on local and national initiatives focused on the safety of vulnerable populations. Nadji has a wealth of experience establishing and maintaining key stakeholder relationships including: community, government (federal, state, local), public and private partnerships.

Beyond her professional endeavors, Nadji is an avid supporter of various charitable causes, including hunger and poverty, education, social and public welfare, and youth development. Nadji earned a Master's degree in City and Regional Planning from Morgan State University and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Eckerd College.



**Jacob Smith**  
Executive Director  
National Organizations for Youth Safety

Jacob Smith is a proud mobility safety leader, community organizer, and activist. He is the Executive Director of National Organizations for Youth Safety, a national youth-powered organization positioning youth to address health inequities related to road safety, mental health, substance abuse, and gun violence. As a strong car crash survivor, Jacob has his own consultancy, delivering high-impact youth-centered campaigns across the country and is a Regional Leader of the Global Youth Coalition for Road Safety.

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