

## NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD Investigative Hearing



Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Metrorail train 302 that encountered heavy smoke in the tunnel between the L'Enfant Plaza Station and the Potomac River Bridge on January 12, 2015

Agency / Organization

Title

## Robert C. Lauby, P.E.

## Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety Chief Safety Officer Federal Railroad Administration

Mr. Lauby has 35 years of railroad and rail transit experience involving safety, security, accident investigation, project management, project engineering, manufacturing, and vehicle maintenance. His current position is Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety/Chief Safety Officer with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). In this role, he provides regulatory oversight for rail safety in the United States and oversees the development and enforcement of safety regulations and programs related to the rail industry.

Prior to his promotion to Associate Administrator in September 2013, he served as Deputy Associate Administrator for Regulatory and Legislative Operations. In that role, Mr. Lauby was responsible for FRA's safety rulemaking activities including the Rail Safety Advisory Committee (RSAC). He also served as Chairman of the FRA Safety Board that makes determinations on petitions for waivers from FRA regulations and served as the program manager for the technical portion of FRA's High Speed Rail safety program.

Prior to that, Mr. Lauby served as Staff Director of the FRA Passenger Rail Division which was established in 2009 within FRA Office of Safety to address passenger rail issues. Mr. Lauby's primary responsibilities were to develop and implement passenger rail safety programs and initiatives and coordinate and maintain FRA safety policies, regulations, and guidance for all safety matters related to commuter rail, intercity rail, and high speed rail.

Before joining FRA in October, 2005, Mr. Lauby was employed by Booz Allen Hamilton where he performed safety and security work for the Federal Government and the railway and transit industry. During his tenure at Booz Allen, Mr. Lauby was assigned lead investigator by the Special Commission of Inquiry into the 2003 Waterfall, NSW accident near Sydney, Australia. He was later assigned to lead recovery efforts to modify and reopen the Las Vegas Monorail.

Prior to joining Booz Allen, Mr. Lauby served as the Director of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Office of Railroad Safety where he managed hundreds of railroad and rail transit accident investigations. He led the US fact finding contingent to the 1998 Eschede, Germany ICE accident investigation and represented the NTSB on the Federal Railroad Administration's Rail Safety Advisory Committee (RSAC) and the American Public Transit Associations Passenger Rail Equipment Safety Standards (PRESS) committee.

Mr. Lauby also served as a project manager for Knorr Brake Corporation, a major rail car brake manufacturer on numerous light rail vehicle new car procurements and as a maintenance supervisor at a Conrail locomotive running repair shop.

He has testified numerous times before congressional and senate sub-committees on railroad safety and is a licensed Professional Engineer.