



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Investigative Hearing

Norfolk Southern Railway general merchandise freight train 32N derailment with subsequent hazardous material release and fires, in East Palestine, Ohio, on February 3, 2023

GROUP	A
EXHIBIT	
12	

Agency / Organization

Division of Emergency Medical Services Ohio Department
of Public Safety

Title

Biography of Daniel Swords

Bio for Daniel Swords

Daniel (Dan) Swords is currently the Chief of Education and Testing for the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Medical Services, and he has held this position since May, 2022.

Chief Swords has been actively involved in fire and EMS since the early 1980s. He has held positions as a volunteer firefighter, EMT, fulltime firefighter II, paramedic, fire instructor, fire inspector, fire investigator, EMS instructor, and live fire instructor.

After retiring as the Training Captain with Clearcreek Fire District in Warren County, Ohio in May, 2016, he accepted the position of Fire Education Coordinator with the Ohio Division of EMS. He held that position for approx. 2 years before accepting a Fire Training supervisor position with the State Fire Marshal, Ohio Fire Academy.

While at the Ohio Fire Academy, Chief Swords oversaw State of Ohio Certification training programs including Emergency Medical Technician, Fire Safety Inspector, and four levels of Instructor (Fire, EMS, Fire Inspector, Live Fire). In addition, he was also responsible for Professional Development training programs including Fire Officer series and Leadership series, as well as Rescue Technician, Hazardous Materials, and all other non-Ohio certified training programs. He held that position for approx. 6 years before accepting his current position with the Ohio Division of EMS.

His current responsibilities include, but are not limited to, overseeing Ohio EMS and fire training program accreditation, approval, and chartering processes; overseeing audits of EMS and fire service certificate holders; travel around state, as needed, to conduct sight visits to ensure program compliance; formulate and implement policies and procedures; oversee course/course objective development by education coordinators; develop practical skills examinations required for fire service certifications; assist testing section with certification written examination development; represent and make decisions on behalf of Executive Director at meetings and conferences with state, federal, and community agencies regarding EMS & fire education & policy matters; identify short & long-term goals for the training and education section that are consistent with those of the Division, the EMFTS Board, & the agency mission; and ensure timely processing of applications in accordance with laws & rules.