

NTSB MOST WANTED LIST ROUNDTABLE SERIES

The Safe System Approach

Post-Crash Care

THURSDAY
February 17, 2022
2:00PM-3:30PM ET



Biographies



Jennifer Homendy

Chair
National Transportation Safety Board

Jennifer L. Homendy was sworn in as the 15th Chair of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) on August 13, 2021, after being nominated by President Joe Biden on May 19, 2021, and unanimously confirmed by the Senate.

Homendy began her tenure at the NTSB when President Donald J. Trump appointed her to the board as the 44th Member of the NTSB in August 2018. She was unanimously reconfirmed by the Senate on August 1, 2019, for a five-year term expiring December 31, 2024.

Chair Homendy is a tireless advocate for safety and brings to the Board expertise in the safety of railroads, pipelines, and hazardous materials (on all modes of transportation). From 2004 to 2018, she 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 (T&I Committee) of the United States House of Representatives. She previously held positions with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the Transportation Trades Department of the AFL-CIO, and the American Iron and Steel Institute.

During her tenure as Subcommittee Staff Director, Chair Homendy guided major pieces of rail, pipeline, and hazardous materials safety legislation through the legislative process, including: the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU); the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-432, Division A); the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-432, Division B); the Pipeline, Inspection, Protection, Enforcement, and Safety Act of 2006; the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011; the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015; the Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines Enhancing Safety (PIPES) Act of 2016; and the Norman Y. Mineta Research and Special Programs Improvement Act of 2004, which created the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), an agency charged with overseeing the safety of our nation's pipelines and hazardous materials transportation within the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). Throughout her tenure on the T&I Committee, she was an unwavering defender of transportation safety and worked to implement numerous safety recommendations proposed by the NTSB, including the installation of excess flow valves in distribution pipelines and implementation of positive train control (PTC).

In 2010, she spearheaded the T&I Committee's extensive oversight investigations of the Enbridge pipeline rupture in Marshall, Michigan,

and PHMSA, which led to major safety improvements in pipeline and hazardous materials safety. In 2017 and 2018, she led a multimodal review of DOT's drug and alcohol testing program that identified significant safety gaps in the program.

Chair Homendy is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University and has been certified by the National Board of Fire Service Professional Qualifications (Pro Board) on Core HazMat Operations and Missions Specific PPE and Product Control (hazmat operations level training). She completed Private Pilot Ground School and holds a motorcycle (M2) endorsement. She is also an avid runner and cyclist, which fuels her advocacy work for strengthening safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorcyclists.



Thomas Barth, PhD

Chief, Special Investigations Branch
Survival Factors Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board

Tom Barth serves as the Chief, NTSB Special Investigations Branch, in the Office of Highway Safety. Barth is an investigator and biomechanics engineer. Barth has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Colorado State University and a Ph.D. in Applied Science from Cranfield University. Barth worked in private industry for 20 years on crash safety and regulatory compliance for a variety of vehicles, including military, highway, and aircraft. Barth's more than 10 years at the NTSB has focused on crash survivability, emergency response, and emerging technology.



Norris W. Croom III

Fire Chief, Castle Rock Fire and Rescue
Department (Colo.)
Director, EMS Section
International Association of Fire Chiefs

Chief Croom currently serves as the Fire Chief and Emergency Manager for the Town of Castle Rock (CO) Fire and Rescue Department, an internationally accredited agency through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. He has been with the Department for over thirty-two years as both a volunteer and career firefighter, has experience working for private EMS agencies as an EMT, Paramedic, and a Communications Technician, and has served as an instructor at local, state, and national conferences.



Chief Croom is a 2011 graduate of the Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and holds the Chief Fire Officer and Chief EMS Officer designations from the Center for Public Safety Excellence Commission on Professional Credentialing.


Dia Gainor, MPA, QAS

Executive Director
National Association of State EMS
Officials

Dia Gainor is the Executive Director of the National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials; "NASEMSO" members are state agencies that regulate and support EMS and trauma systems through the Safe Systems Approach element of post-crash care.

Idaho was her responsibility for nineteen years as the state EMS Bureau Chief where she fostered a very close working relationship with the Idaho Transportation Department. She presently serves on the Road to Zero Steering Group, the FHWA Traffic Incident Management Executive Leadership Group representing EMS and was the primary contributor to the EMS chapter in the Toward Zero Deaths National Strategy.

Dia is a 2009 EMS 10 Innovators alum, the 2010 James O. Page award recipient, and in 2011 was conferred with the Idaho Distinguished Service Medal by the Idaho Military Division Brigadier General. In 2016, EMS1.com named Dia as one of the 14 most influential women in EMS. She is also a recipient of the NHTSA Administrator's Public Service Award for "outstanding national leadership in enhancing the collaboration among highway safety, public health, transportation, and emergency medical services".


Stephanie Matonek, MSW, LGSW, CT

Coordinator, Victim Services
Transportation Disaster Assistance
Division
National Transportation Safety Board

Stephanie serves as the victim services coordinator for the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB's) Transportation Disaster Assistance Division (TDA) which is responsible for the agency's family assistance program. She has responded to several major transportation events to support family assistance operations including Asiana Airlines 214 (San Francisco, CA), the Conception small passenger vessel fire (Santa Barbara, CA), and Amtrak 7 (Joplin, MT). Stephanie is also responsible for serving as a primary contact and resource to survivors and families during on-going NTSB investigations. As the NTSB liaison for the American Red Cross, Stephanie coordinates the provision of disaster mental health assistance to those affected by accidents investigated by the NTSB. She also supports the NTSB's employee assistance and stress awareness programs for agency staff and

investigators. Stephanie began her federal government career 18 years ago at the NTSB and holds Master's degrees in Social Work and Public Administration. Stephanie has also served her community as a hospice bereavement volunteer for the past 14 years.


Chief Daniel G. Sharp (Ret.)

Chair, Highway Safety Committee
International Association of Chiefs of
Police

Daniel G. Sharp served as Chief of Police for the Town of Oro Valley from January 2000 until his retirement in February 2020. Prior to his appointment as Chief in Oro Valley, Chief Sharp spent over 21 years with the Tucson Police Department, working in virtually every area of the department. Chief Sharp served as Oro Valley's Interim Town Manager, from June 2016 to September 2017.

Chief Sharp has served as an adjunct faculty member for Law Enforcement Programs at Pima Community College and as an adjunct lecturer at the University of Arizona. He was routinely requested to lecture on public policy related to Community Policing and Ethics.

Chief Sharp holds a Masters in Educational Leadership and is a graduate of the 190th Session of the FBI National Academy.

In 2014, he was awarded the J. Stannard Baker Award for 'outstanding lifetime contributions to highway safety' and was the 2013 Greater Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce Legacy Award recipient.

He is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (appointed by the President of the IACP as Chair of the Highway Safety Committee), the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association, and the FBI National Academy Associates. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees for the Oro Valley Hospital. Sharp currently serves on the Executive Leadership Group for the Federal Highway Administration and the Law Enforcement Executives Advisory Committee for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) National Board.

During his tenure at Oro Valley, Sharp chaired the Pima County Wireless Integrated Network (PCWIN) Executive Management Committee which was responsible for the architecture, procurement, logistics and governance of the countywide radio system. Once operational, Sharp was the Chair of the Board of Directors for two 2 year terms. He was a founding member of Pima Regional SWAT and EOD and served on its Board of Directors. Also, he was appointed to the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission by three different Governors and served as Chair for two years. He served on the Arizona Automobile Theft Authority for nearly twenty years and was chair or vice-chair for most of that time.

Daniel is married to Lynn, a retired sergeant from the Tucson Police Department.



Megan Wier, MPH

Safe Streets Division Manager
City of Oakland Department of Transportation

Megan Wier, MPH, is the Safe Streets Division Manager for the City of Oakland's Department of Transportation and oversees the bike and pedestrian programs, traffic engineering, traffic maintenance, crossing guard, and signal operations teams to strategically advance a safe, equitable transportation system for the Oakland community. Prior to starting at OakDOT in early 2020, Megan was the Director of the Program on Health, Equity and Sustainability at the San Francisco Department of Public Health where she worked for over a decade at the intersection of health, equity and transportation in partnership with city agencies and community stakeholders, and co-chaired San Francisco's Vision Zero Task Force to eliminate traffic deaths. Megan has been actively engaged in work to prioritize safety, health, and equity in transportation decision making at local, regional, state and national levels. Ms. Wier has a Master of Public Health from UC Berkeley and a Bachelor's in Sociology and Women's Studies from the University of Michigan.



Gamunu Wijetunge

Director, Office of Emergency Medical Services
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Gamunu "Gam" Wijetunge brings a focus on people-centered EMS and 911 systems improvement to his role as Director of the Office of EMS. An OEMS team member for more than 20 years, Gam led collaborative projects related to improving post-crash care, the EMS workforce and EMS system emergency preparedness, including the development of the EMS Workforce Agenda for the Future and EMS Agenda 2050. When not applying his energy towards improving EMS systems nationwide, Gam volunteers as a paramedic and fire captain at a rescue squad in Wheaton, Maryland where he also serves as president.

