

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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## All Aboard!

### AMTRAK Director of Safety Investigations

### Elected to Board of Delaware Safety Council

### and Chair of Rail Safety Committee

Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, Wilmington, DE..... Delaware Safety Council announces the election of a new Board Member, Crystal Blasius. Crystal is the Director of Safety Investigations for AMTRAK based here in Wilmington, Delaware. She came to this position nine months ago, after nine years with Genesee & Wyoming Inc. freight rail, most recently as their Director of Safety & Compliance. Crystal is an FRA Certified Locomotive Engineer and Conductor. She spent five years with the Canadian Pacific Railway based in South Dakota.

Crystal is an authorized instructor, or OLAV with Operation Lifesaver, Inc. (OLI); a non-profit organization nationally recognized as a leader in rail safety education. Since 1972, OLI has been committed to preventing collisions, injuries, and fatalities on and around railroad tracks and highway-rail grade crossings, with the support of public education programs in states across the country. Delaware Safety Council oversees Delaware's rail safety programs for Operation Lifesaver. In addition to Delaware, Crystal is a member of the OLI Board of Directors for New York, Vermont, and Massachusetts.

As an Operation Lifesaver Authorized Volunteer (OLAV), Crystal has been a top presenter for over three years, presenting in nine states. Crystal's largest audience was 1,200 at the Norwich Military University in Vermont.

Crystal was also named Chair of Delaware Safety Council's newly formed *Rail Safety Committee*. The committee will meet bi-monthly to review our state's needs at grade crossings and efforts pertaining to trespass. Additional members of the newly established DSC's Rail Safety Committee are Doug Jolley, Inspector for the Federal Railroad Administration, and Jason Bishop, CSX Regional Manager of Community Affairs & Safety. The committee has also extended invitations to representatives of East Penn Railroad, Delaware Central Railroad, Norfolk Southern and Wilmington and Western Railroad and will grow from there.

**About the Delaware Safety Council:** Delaware Safety Council (DSC) was established in 1919 by DuPont Company President, Irénée du Pont. It was the first state safety council in the country. Delaware Safety Council is a private, nongovernmental, non-profit 501(c)(3) safety resource and training organization. Our mission is to promote safety in the workplace, in the home, on the

highway, and the railways by actively providing safety education/training resources and services. Additional information about Delaware Safety Council and its programs is available at [delawaresafety.org](http://delawaresafety.org) or by calling (302) 276-0660.

