



**The National Mediation Board**  
in cooperation with  
**Passenger Railroad Management and Labor**

is pleased to announce a

Conference on Labor/Management Relations  
at the Passenger Railroads.

Thursday, September 25 and Friday, September 26, 2008  
Hilton Washington  
1919 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
Telephone 202-483-3000  
**888-DC-HILTON**

The NMB is working with a committee comprised of Labor and Management and has developed an exciting agenda. The conference is scheduled for a full day on Thursday and will conclude by noon on Friday. Additional information, including the agenda, registration information, registration forms and conference fees will be distributed to interested parties. Please make your reservations early by calling the Hilton Washington and ask for the special rate on the Conference for Labor Management Relations in Passenger Rail.

We hope to see you there.  
Please mark your calendars.

*For further information, contact NMB Senior Mediator,  
Zachery M. Jones, at 202-692-5059 or [jones@nmb.gov](mailto:jones@nmb.gov).*



## Conference Registration

Conference on Labor/Management Relations  
at the Passenger Railroads

This conference will present speakers with views on issues important to passenger railroad labor/management relations such as collective bargaining, mediation and arbitration under the Railway Labor Act, with discussion opportunities for practical approaches to problem-solving approaches including interest based bargaining and grievance handling.

In cooperation with the Labor Relations Association of Passenger Railroads (LRAPR) and Railroad Labor Organizations, the National Mediation Board (NMB) is pleased to present this conference. This will also provide an opportunity for you to meet and interact with NMB Board Members, NMB mediators and attorneys from our Office of Legal Affairs.

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

#### Registration Fee

\$175.00 per person

#### What's Included ?

Your registration fee includes attendance at all conference sessions, any course materials, lunch on the first day of the conference, beverage breaks and a reception (cash bar) at the hotel.

#### Hilton Washington, Washington, D.C.

The Conference on Labor/Management Relations at the Passenger Railroads will be held at the Hilton Washington, which is located at 1919 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. The hotel boasts a magnificent garden setting that overlooks the capital city's impressive skyline. The Hilton Washington is conveniently located on fashionable upper Connecticut Avenue and only a quarter of a mile from the Dupont Circle Metro station. It sits just minutes from Georgetown, National Zoo, Embassy Row, Adams Morgan and Washington Business District.

Conference attendees will receive a room rate of \$219 single or \$239 double (plus applicable taxes of 14.5%), which is available on September 24 and September 25, 2008. Please call **1-202-483-3000 or 1-888-DC-HILTON** to make your reservations. Be sure to identify your attendance at the "Conference on Labor Management Relations in the Passenger Railroad." **Reservations at the conference rate are available through August 25, 2008. After this date, the hotel will release all unreserved rooms and the conference rate may no longer be available.**

### Transportation

**Amtrak** – offers frequent service in and out of Washington's Penn Station. (PHONE: 800/872-7245, [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com)). The cost of taxi service from the train station to the hotel is approximately \$15.00

**National Airport** - offers daily flights from LaGuardia, JFK, Newark and Philadelphia airports. The cost of taxi service from National Airport to the hotel is approximately \$20.00.

**METRO** – the DuPont Circle Metro station is located on the Red Line and is closest to the hotel. Exit at the north end of the Station to Q Street and walk four blocks north on Connecticut Avenue to the hotel.

## REGISTRATION FORM

### **Registration fees must accompany this registration form.**

The Labor Relations Association of Passenger Railroads (LRAPR) agreed to process the registration forms for the Conference on Labor/Management Relations at the Passenger Railroads.

Please mail the registration form below and a check for your registration fee of \$175 per person to:

Passenger Railroad Conference  
c/o F&H Solutions Group  
Attn: Michelle Castelveter  
1300 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 719-2028

Checks must be issued to: Passenger Railroad Conference

**Registration forms and fees must be received by September 13, 2008. Refunds will not be made after that date.**

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### **Conference on Labor/Management Relations at the Passenger Railroads**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Company/union \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Name preference on conference badge \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total number of attendees for company/union: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee(s) in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ are enclosed.

### **Checks only**

*Please list separate phone number and E-mail address for each attendee (if applicable).*

**Conference on Labor/Management Relations  
at the Passenger Railroads  
Thursday, September 25 and Friday, September 26, 2008**

**Hilton Washington  
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Washington, D.C. 20009  
Telephone: 202-483-3000**

**Thursday, September 25**

**8:30 – 9:30** Registration

**9:30 – 9:45** Welcome/Opening Remarks - NMB Chairman

**9:45 – 10:00** NMB Initiatives – Linda Puchala, Senior Mediator – ADR, NMB

**10:00 – 10:15** Morning Break

**10:15 – 12:00** Bargaining Update I

- Pattern Bargaining/Settlements- What defines whether a “pattern” has been established in the eyes of labor and management?
- Pace of Negotiations
- What is a reasonable time to complete negotiations?
- Role of the NMB

**Moderator: Ernie DuBester, Mediator, NMB**

**Panel Members: Thomas Roth, President, Labor Bureau, Inc.; Don Griffin, Director of Strategic Coordination & Research, BMWED; Josh Javits, Arbitrator; Michael Nielson, Senior Director – Corporate Administration, METRA; Charles Woodcock, Assistant Vice President - Labor Relations, AMTRAK.**

**12:00 – 1:30** Luncheon Keynote Speaker – Congressman James L. Oberstar (pending confirmation)

**1:30 – 3:15** Bargaining Update II

PEB Awards – Since the last Labor/Management Passenger Rail Conference, there have been PEBs at Metro North, Amtrak, SEPTA . Representatives from these carriers, both labor and management will express their viewpoints on what happened leading up to the PEB; what the end results were; and any implications or impact from the decision that was not expected?

**Moderator: John Livingood, Mediator, NMB**

**Panel Members: Ray Burney, Director - Labor Relations, Metro North, Dan Pickett, International President, BRS; Joseph Bress, Vice President – Labor Relations, AMTRAK; Roland Wilder, Esq., Baptiste & Wilder; Harry Rissetto, Esq., Morgan Lewis; Jeff Sheridan, Manager – Labor Relations, SEPTA.**

**3:15 – 3:30** Afternoon Break

**3:30 – 5:00 Collaborative Processes/Team Building**

- How to Improve Labor – Management Relations
- What are the stumbling blocks to a better relationship?
- Areas to Focus On for Improvement
- Facilitated Problem Solving Techniques
- What common goals exist that can help forge a better relationship (e.g., settling or minimizing claims filed; reaching settlements more quickly)

**Moderator: Linda Puchala, Senior Mediator – ADR, NMB**

**Panel Members: Cynthia Bacon, Chief Negotiator, PATH; Tony Iannone, Vice President, UTU; Dennis Boston, Vice President - Commuter, BRS; Steve Drayzen, Vice President - Labor Relations, LIRR; Christa Phillips, Manager - Labor Relations, MBCR; Arthur Davidson, Secretary-Treasurer, IBEW System Council No. 7.**

**6:00 – 8:30 Cocktail Reception at the Hilton Washington (Cash Bar)**

**Friday, September 26**

**9:00 – 10:00 Section 3 - Arbitration**

- Backlog of grievances
- Methods to more efficiently handle grievances
- Expedited processes

**Moderator: Roland Watkins, Director - Arbitration Services, NMB**

**Panel Members: Marcus Ruef, Vice President, BLET; Andy Paul, Deputy Director - Labor Relations, Metro North; David Vaughn, Arbitrator; Steve Powers, Assistant to President, BMWED; Barry Simon, Arbitrator; Mike Chirillo, Director - Labor Relations, LIRR.**

**10:00 – 10:15 Morning Break**

**10:15 – 12:00 Coalition Bargaining**

- Viewpoints from labor, management, and legal sides –Likes/dislikes, pros/cons, and legal aspects
- What is or isn't a coalition-can it be defined?
- How does the NMB view coalitions?

**Moderator: Terri Brown, Mediator, NMB**

**Panel Members: William Murphy, Vice President, New Jersey Transit; Jack Kane, Mediator, NMB; Rick Radek, Vice President, BLET; Doug Hall, Esq., Ford & Harrison; Joel Parker, Vice President, TCU; George Francisco, President, NCFO.**

**12:00 Closing Remarks**

**NMB Board Member**