Richard W. Parker, Facilitator
Entry-Level Driver Training Advisory Committee
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June 15, 2015

By Email

Department of Transportation
Federal Carrier Safety Administration
Attn: Mr. Sean Gallagher
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

SUBJECT: Transmission of ELDTAC Written Statement

Dear Mr. Gallagher:

I am pleased to report that the Entry-Level Driver Training Advisory Committee (ELDTAC) has reached a consensus recommendation on key terms of a proposed new rule setting forth minimum training requirements for entry-level commercial motor vehicle operators. The ELDTAC recommendation is contained in the attached Written Statement as called for by the ELDTAC's Rules of Procedure (see Written Statement Appendix B).

As you know, the ELDTAC met 6 times in Washington DC over the period Feb. 26 – May 29, 2015, each session lasting two full days. The ELDTAC also formed 8 working groups that met either in person or by teleconference on a nearly weekly basis over this period. After extensive discussion and analysis of a wide-range of issues, the ELDTAC unanimously agreed to recommend the package set forth in the Written Statement.

ELDTAC members were also unanimous in support of all components of the regulatory package set forth herein, with the exception of one issue on which 3 of the 25 members disagreed with the consensus. That issue involved the question of whether, in addition to requiring that entry-level drivers pass a test of their driving performance, the federal government also should require that new drivers spend a minimum number of 30 hours in behind-the-wheel training (for tractor-trailer driver trainees) or 15 hours (for straight truck driver trainees) before taking their Commercial Driver Licence (CDL) exam. The positions and supporting rationales of those stakeholders who wished to file statements on this issue are set forth in Appendix A to the Written Statement.

It has been my pleasure working with you on this negotiated rulemaking exercise. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Best wishes,

Richard W. Parker

Richard Parker
Facilitator