

Biography



Honorable Christopher A. Hart

Christopher A. Hart was appointed Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board on March 17, 2015. He became a Member of the Board in August 2009, and was subsequently designated Vice Chairman by President Barack Obama. Hart was nominated for a second term as Board Member in August 2013, and his nomination for a third term as Vice Chairman was confirmed by the Senate in October 2013. He served as Acting Chairman from April 26, 2014, until he was appointed as Chairman.

From 1973 until 1990, Chairman Hart held a series of legal positions, mostly in the private sector. He joined the Board for the first time in 1990 and served until 1993. From 1993 until 1995, he was Deputy Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, then went on to serve as Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Assistant Administrator for System Safety and FAA Deputy Director for Air Traffic Safety Oversight before returning to the Board in 2009.

Chairman Hart holds a law degree from Harvard University and master's and bachelor's degrees in aerospace engineering from Princeton University. He is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and the Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association, and is a licensed pilot with commercial, multi engine, and instrument ratings.

Chairman Hart's family has a tradition of accomplishment in transportation. In 1926, his great uncle, James Herman Banning, was the first African-American to receive a pilot's license issued by the US government.

Hart's 2-year appointment as Chairman will end March 17, 2017. His 5-year term as Member will end December 31, 2017.