

Chuck Baker, President, American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association

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LINKS

[LinkedIn](#), [ASLRRA](#)

PROFILE

Chuck Baker has more than 20 years of experience in the rail, transportation, public policy, and association management industries. He joined the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) as President in February 2019 and has led that organization through a successful 5+ year tenure.

Previously he was a Partner at the lobbying and association management firm of Chambers, Conlon & Hartwell (CC&H), where, in addition to the ASLRRA, he represented clients such as the National Railroad Construction & Maintenance Association (NRC, where he also served as President), the OneRail Coalition, the American Railway Development Association, Norfolk Southern, Canadian National, McHugh Construction, and the Transbay Joint Powers Authority.

He has significant experience in freight rail, passenger rail, rail transit, and rail industry contractor and supplier legislative and regulatory issues, in addition to rail coalition and association management.

He currently serves as a Board Member of the Short Line Safety Institute and Chairman of the Board of the OneRail Coalition.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Feb 2019 — Present

President, American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association

Washington, D.C.

Leads the organization representing the owners and operators of the 600+ short line and regional freight railroads throughout North America. These small businesses play a vital role in nation's supply chain and freight transportation network, providing the first-mile/last-mile connection for thousands of agricultural, energy, manufacturing, and industrial shippers.

The association has approximately 1,000 member companies, including hundreds of industry suppliers and service providers. The association hosts multiple in-person gatherings, including an 1,800+ person annual conference and exhibition, multiple regional meetings, and an annual DC fly-in day.

Including employees and contractors, manages a team of approximately 20 high-level professionals. The association's work is conducted through more than a dozen active committees which benefit from the work of hundreds of dedicated industry volunteers.

Responsible for Board and Executive Committee management and oversight of all key functions, including budget and financial goals, human resources, data and technology efforts, and legal, legislative, and regulatory activity.

Track record of successful public presentations on behalf of the rail industry at dozens of industry meeting and events – ASLRRA Annual Conferences/Regional Meetings/Committee Meetings, RailTrends, NRC Conferences, NARS/NEARS/MARS Annual Conferences, NS/CSX/BNSF/UP/CN short line conferences and caucuses, OneRail meetings, ARDA Executive Forums and Annual Conferences, FRA RSAC meetings, etc. Testified successfully to Congress on behalf of ASLRRA to both the House T&I Committee and Senate Commerce Committee multiple times.

2004 — 2019

President, National Railroad Construction & Maintenance Association (NRC)

Washington, D.C.

Led federal lobbying efforts, managed daily activities of the association, planned and organized annual conference, directed budget of the country's only trade association focused on the needs of railroad contractors and independent rail construction/maintenance companies. The association has more than 350 member companies and hosts a 1,000+ person annual conference.

Progressed through various roles at NRC, including Manager, Vice President, Executive Vice President, Executive Director, and President. As President, oversaw a consistent 15-year record of membership growth, conference attendance growth, and revenue growth while maintaining a tight focus on core competencies. Managed a Board of 20 high-level industry executives. At both NRC and CC&H, responsible for hiring and training of numerous high-quality employees and the development of multiple cohesive, high-functioning teams.

2004 — 2019

Partner, Chambers, Conlon & Hartwell

Washington, D.C.

Lobbyist representing transportation clients before the Federal Government, including Congress and Administrative Agencies (DOT/FRA/FTA/BAB, STB, DHS/TSA, etc). Clients included the American High Speed Rail Alliance (AHSRA), the American Railway Development Association (ARDA), the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA), Genesee & Wyoming, Herzog Contracting Corp, McHugh

Construction, the National Railroad Construction & Maintenance Association (NRCMA), the OneRail Coalition, RailAmerica, Transbay Joint Powers Authority, and Union Switch & Signal.

2001 — 2003

Financial Analyst, Global Corporate Finance (Technology Investment Banking), Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.

San Francisco

Performed corporate finance (equity issues, debt issues, convertible bonds, financial instruments) and mergers and acquisitions for technology-focused clients.

INDUSTRY SERVICE AND HONORS

Current Chairman of the Board: OneRail Coalition

Current Board Member: Short Line Safety Institute

Current Member: Eno Center for Transportation Freight Working Group

Past Board Member: Coalition of America's Gateways and Corridors;

Past Board Member: Industry Advisory Board for the Rail Transportation Engineering program at Penn State Altoona

Honoree, Progressive Railroad Rising Stars Award Program

Honoree, Anne Canby Award from the OneRail Coalition

Inductee, NRC Hall of Fame, Class of 2022

EDUCATION

1997 — 2001

Bachelor of Arts, Rice University

Houston