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ASLRRRA Fall Regional Meetings Focus on Preparedness
Three meetings provide best-practice education, networking and add-on training opportunities

WASHINGTON – July 17, 2019 – The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRRA) has opened registration for its regional meetings today. “Being prepared” is the theme of ASLRRRA’s series of regional meetings to be held in San Antonio, Texas (Central/Pacific Region, September 11-13), Columbus, Ohio (Eastern Region, October 7-9), and Charlotte, North Carolina (Southern Regional, November 11-13).

The meetings will feature an effort to educate and train short line railroaders on cyber security, technology developments, crisis management, and the challenges associated with natural disasters. The meetings will feature subject matter experts with considerable time set aside for sharing best practices among short line companies, and for discussing and debating how the industry can become better prepared for these types of events.

“Some of these events are new and require a lot more thinking on our part. Some are not new but the tools to deal with them are new and we need to be willing and able to work with those tools,” said Chuck Baker, President, ASLRRRA. “The challenge is particularly difficult because the technologies and
the associated threats to them are constantly evolving in what can feel like dramatic fashion. It is imperative that we understand the technologies and keep pace with the changes.”

All regional meetings will have adequate opportunity to network with railroad peers and industry suppliers, and each has an additional opportunity for training running concurrently with the meetings, including workshops led by the Federal Railroad Administration on Drug & Alcohol Training and Part 225, and ASLRRAs’s new Leadership Development - Compliance Module. The Short Line Safety Institute will also lead Safety Training Seminars and provide a tour of the Safety Train the day prior or the day following the beginning of each of the regional meetings.

The Finance & Administration Seminar and General Counsel Symposium will follow the Eastern Region Meeting this year in Columbus, Ohio on October 9-11, 2019.

“There is valuable learning for everyone at our regional meetings, and even more education available during the days surrounding the meetings, making them a very efficient use of travel time for our members,” said Baker. “I encourage all short lines railroads, industry suppliers and anyone involved in our industry to attend one or more of these meetings.”

Meeting agendas and registration are available online at www.aslrra.org.

About ASLRRRA - The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRRA) is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of the nation’s 603 short line and regional railroads and railroad supply company members in legislative and regulatory matters. Short lines operate 47,500 miles of track in 49 states, or approximately 29% of the national railroad network, touching in origination or termination one out of every five cars moving on the national railroad system, serving customers who otherwise would be cut off from the national railroad network.