



January 28, 2025

Secretary Sean Duffy  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Office of the Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of the American Trucking Associations (ATA), the undersigned organizations, and the 8.5 million hardworking men and women employed in the trucking industry in every state and congressional district, we write to express full support for the nomination of Derek Barrs to be Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

Mr. Barrs's experience in the commercial motor vehicle industry spans nearly 17 years, demonstrating dedication to ensuring highway safety while serving in various law enforcement capacities for the Florida Department of Transportation and Florida Highway Patrol. Mr. Barrs's extensive leadership in commercial enforcement equips him with a unique perspective on issues impacting the commercial motor vehicle industry and positions him as an exceptionally qualified candidate to lead the FMCSA. Beyond Mr. Barrs's experience in commercial vehicle enforcement, he brings over five years of industry experience, working most recently as a consultant on traffic-related and commercial motor vehicle safety projects across various states. The experience and expertise Mr. Barrs gleaned through these roles ultimately led him to a position on ATA's Law Enforcement Advisory Board in 2021, where he has helped strengthen the ties between the trucking industry and the law enforcement community. This group's active collaboration with federal and state officials, along with local, state, and national law enforcement organizations, has been instrumental in securing hundreds of millions of dollars in federal grant funding to expand truck parking capacity nationwide. Additionally, as a member of the Board, Mr. Barrs has provided critical insights into pressing issues affecting the CMV community and highway safety, including marijuana and drug impairment, cargo theft, and human trafficking. Mr. Barrs has also dedicated countless hours to the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, serving in multiple roles and most recently as the President of the Associate Members, representing motor carriers and suppliers to the industry.

Mr. Barrs extensive work history would be an invaluable resource to the FMCSA and the men and women employed in the trucking industry who share a common goal of highway safety. He would undoubtedly facilitate a reliable and effective partnership between DOT and the commercial motor vehicle industry.

ATA, the National Tank Truck Carriers, and Truckload Carriers Association believe that Derek Barrs would make a superb FMCSA Administrator, and we urge the DOT to swiftly nominate him to this position.

Sincerely,

Chris Spear,  
President & CEO  
American Trucking Associations

Jim Ward  
President & CEO  
Truckload Carriers Association

Ryan Streblov  
President & CEO  
National Tank Truck Carriers