Railroad Workers Killed on the Job
2019

As compiled by RailroadWorkersUnited.org at http://railroadworkersunited.org/railroaders-killed-on-the-job

December 14, 2019 – Washington WV – A four-year, CSX employee was killed just before 4 pm. Curtis C. McConihay, 32, died in an undetermined accident/derailment. Brother McConihay left behind a wife and two daughters. He was a member of SMART-TD Local 1386 (Parkersburg WV). SMART-TD National Safety Director requested a NTSB investigation.

December 5, 2019 – New York NY – An Amtrak worker was killed at Amtrak's Parkchester facility in the Bronx. Jarrett Lee Erhart, 27 of Berlin NJ, died while working on a transformer. He was a BMWED/IBEW Union substation electrician. Two co-workers were injured in the accident and sustained what were reported to be non-life-threatening injuries.

December 3, 2019 – Wichita KS – A 48-year-old conductor on the Wichita Terminal Association was killed in a Union Pacific railyard at the 2600 block of N. New York Street. Steven Christopher "Chris" Seidl died when he was struck and trapped under a train.

December 2, 2019 – Port Coquitlam, British Columbia - A 56-year-old Canadian Pacific engineer died in an accident at the CP Port Coquitlam yard. Kirk McClean was reportedly struck by a yard trains as he was walking across tracks after his shift had ended. McClean was a 32-year CP employee and a member of Teamsters Canada Rail Conference Division 320. According to a family member, he had called his wife, shortly before the accident, to say he was headed home.

November 13, 2019 – New York, NY - Brother Juan J. Diaz (65), of the Pennsylvania Federation's BMWED Local lodge 3068 in New York City, was struck and killed by a train on Dock Bridge Wed., Nov. 13 at approximately 5:00 p.m. Brother Diaz, a 22 year Amtrak employee, had ended his shift and was leaving railroad property, walking to his car to drive home. An investigation into the circumstances of this tragic incident are ongoing.

November 9, 2019 – Chicago IL – A 61-year-old Amtrak employee was killed in an accident at a South Loop mechanical facility. Christopher Bless, a member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Local Lodge 2600, died of multiple blunt force injuries. According to his local, he didn't want a service and he was placed in a family plot in Joliet IL.

September 25, 2019 - Montgomery County VA - A 40-year-old Norfolk Southern employee was killed in a tragic work accident while driving his NS fuel truck. Keith Whited was a member of BMWED Affiliated System Federation Local Lodge 571 and was a 10-year NS employee. According to a sheriff's office Captain, an investigation showed that the Norfolk Southern truck over-corrected while trying to maintain control on the windy road and the truck crossed the center line and struck an oncoming SUV. Whited is survived by his wife and two stepsons.

September 6, 2019 – Shreveport LA – A 36-year-old Union Pacific employee was killed while working as a conductor. Bruce "Andy" Dominique Jr. was reportedly walking beside his train when it collided with a semi-truck at a crossing and the truck wrapped around the front of the locomotive and pinned Dominique in the cab of the truck. He was survived by his wife, father and brother.

August 20, 2019 – Beaumont TX – A Union Pacific employee was killed when he was crushed between two rail cars during switching operations. 39-year-old Travis "Bowie" Andrepont of DeQuicy, LA, had reportedly

jumped from one cut of cars to prevent a tank car from rolling into the cars he was riding. He had worked for the UPRR for 16 years. He was survived by his wife and three children.

August 15, 2019 - Vaughn Ontario - A 27-year-old employee of the Canadian National Railroad was killed in a yard switching accident at the CN MacMillan Yard. Imraan Qamar died when a car derailed and overturned and trapped him underneath.

July 8, 2019 – Philadelphia PA – A Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority railroad worker was fatally struck by a commuter train at the Erie Station on the Broad Street Line. Police say 54-year-old Darren Monroe was hit by an oncoming train when he fell backward. He later died. "It appears they were inspecting the track at the time, making some minor repairs. It's routine that we would be conducting regular inspections during operating hours," SEPTA's Assistant General Manager Scott Sauer said. Brother Monroe was a 17-year member of the Track Department and Transport Workers Union Local 234. SEPTA said the incident had not prompted any adjustments of its safety policies.

May 31, 2019 – Duryea PA – A rail yard worker died at Coxton Yards after being found unconscious inside a tank car. 29-year-old Justin Fields, an employee of Dana Railcare, had been using an oxygen supply as he worked cleaning the interior of the car. The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration later cited the company in connection with the unfortunate fatality.

May 17, 2019 – Pueblo CO – A 27-year-old, employee of Rocla Concrete, Joel Montoya, died when he was trapped between two rail cars while yard workers were reportedly moving train cars. Rocla is a supplier of pre-stressed concrete crossties and switch ties for the railroad industry. Montoya was married and the father of two. The unfortunate fatality is being investigated but is considered to be an accident.

May 10, 2019 – Elmendorf TX – A CRU Rail Services employee was killed, and four others suffered thermal injures in the explosion of an oil tank car and the resulting flash fire. Gary Garza was trapped inside and killed while in the process of cleaning residue inside the oil tanker. On May 13, Roger Noriega, 42, died at Brooke Army Medical Center from severe burns and a cable that had been impaled in his side as a result of the explosion.

April 18, 2019 – Romulus NY – An employee of Andersons Rail Group was killed after being struck by a train. Thomas J. Horn, 46 of Romulus, and another employee were moving rail cars at the former Seneca Army Depot when possibly fell and was struck. The FRA and NTSB are investigating.

April 12, 2019 – Wauhatchie TN – A 24-year, mechanical department, CSX employee was killed in a train accident in Chattanooga. Allen Lowe, of Erwin TN, was struck and killed while working in the rail yard. Lowe was a father of two, one of which is a son who will graduate from high school this year. The NTSB and FRA are investigating.

April 2, 2019 – East Chicago IL – A seventeen-year employee of ArcelorMittal was killed at the Indiana Harbor steel mill when the locomotive he was operating struck a railcar on an adjacent track. Edwin L. Fleming, 49 from Schererville IN, died at the scene. Brother Fleming was a member of the United Steel Workers.

February 7, 2019 – Baltimore MD – A Norfolk Southern (NS) conductor was killed while switching cars at the Bayview rail yard. Brother Keith Leon Gilmore was riding the rear of a cut of cars on a shove move when he was caught between the car and standing equipment on an adjacent track. The NTSB is investigating and issued a preliminary report.

February 4, 2019 – Field BC, Canada – Three Canadian Pacific (CP) employees were killed when their train derailed and plunged off a bridge into icy water. Their 112-car grain train was parked on a steep downgrade with the air brakes applied when it began moving on its own. The victims were 26-year-old trainee, Daniel Waldenberger-Bulmer from Grand Prairie, Conductor Dylan Paradis and Locomotive Engineer Andrew Dockrell. All three brothers were remembered as by-the-book family men.