





# **DENISE LAWTON**

# Rail Traffic Controller

#### **PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

Dedicated rail traffic controller with years of experience coordinating freight and passenger train movement across Midwest rail networks. Expert in CAD systems, signal interpretation, and FRA safety regulations. Recognized for decisive judgment and consistent track conflict prevention.

#### **EDUCATION** -

### **Associate Degree in Transportation Operations Management**

Joliet Junior College | Joliet, IL | 2016

#### **Radio Operations for Rail Systems**

Certified March 2023

### **Emergency Response Preparedness**

Amtrak Rail Safety Institute / October 2022

#### **FRA Rail Dispatcher Certification**

Completed June 2018

fast prioritization

SK	(ILLS	
•	Track switching and route clearance	Expert
•	FRA compliance monitoring	Expert
•	Rail network coordination	Expert
•	Emergency reroute handling	Expert
•	CAD (Centralized Traffic Control) systems	Expert
•	Rail signal interpretation	Expert
•	Radio communication with conductors	Expert
•	Scheduling adjustments and track dispatching	Expert
•	Logbook and incident report documentation	Expert
•	Situational awareness and	Expert

#### **EXPERIENCE**



#### 2019 - Now

# **Rail Traffic Controller** Union Pacific Railroad / Chicago, IL

- · Manage and authorize train departures, arrivals, and switch requests on the West Line, minimizing congestion and ensuring schedule reliability.
- Communicate in real-time with conductors and yard masters to resolve delays due to weather, maintenance, or unplanned events.
- · Monitor multiple screens using CAD software to track train positions and proactively respond to routing conflicts.
- Log all train movements and delays for audit compliance, and lead internal reviews to enhance efficiency.

#### 2016 - 2019

# **Train Dispatcher Assistant** Canadian National Railway / Gary, IN

- Supported senior dispatchers by entering data, tracking active trains, and alerting teams to approaching track conflicts.
- · Gained hands-on experience with signal systems, switching protocols, and train prioritization for freight and passenger operations.
- · Identified scheduling overlaps and helped reroute or hold trains to avoid bottlenecks or maintenance blocks.
- · Participated in emergency drills, learning response coordination in derailment, hazardous materials, and medical events.

### **TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY** -

	Experienced	with CAD	, RailComm	, and RTC 4.0	systems
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