Women of Trucking Advisory Board (WOTAB)

Task 23-3: Opportunities to Enhance Trucking Training, Mentorship, Education, and Advancement and Outreach Programs That Would Increase the Number of Women in the CMV Industry

I. Task Title

Provide feedback to the Agency regarding opportunities that enhance commercial motor vehicle (CMV) driver training, mentorship, education, and advancement and outreach programs that would increase the number of women in the CMV industry.

II. Background

WOTAB's three previous tasks have provided a firm foundation for Task 23-3. Task 22-1 focused on identifying and eradicating sexual harassment and violence against women, particularly drivers, in the CMV industry. Task 23-1 focused on barriers to women's entry into the CMV industry and 23-2 focused on maximizing existing avenues of employment for women. Task 23-3 builds on the previous tasks, focusing on how to enhance commercial motor vehicle (CMV) driver training, mentorship, and education opportunities for women. Additionally, the task considers how to best support career advancement opportunities for women in the CMV industry.

III. Task

For Task 23-3, FMCSA asks WOTAB to discuss opportunities across the industry where women drivers and employers are already creating opportunities for developing the next generation of women in the CMV industry and promoting the advancement of their careers. FMCSA asks WOTAB to focus on independent operators and carriers that have successful initiatives in place for mentorship and advancement of women. FMCSA asks WOTAB to identify best practices and strategies that contribute to these successes. In its recommendations, FMCSA asks WOTAB to discuss how employers and the industry can create workplace environments that promote the advancement of women drivers.

IV. Estimated Time to Complete Task

FMCSA asks WOTAB to deliberate on this task at its August 2023 meeting and, if necessary, continue its deliberations at subsequent meetings. The results of this and other tasks will be compiled and submitted to FMCSA's Administrator as a comprehensive letter report addressing Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) requirements on ways to increase the number of women across the CMV industry. The agency will review this final, comprehensive report and submit it to Congress for its consideration.

V. FMCSA Technical Representatives

- Shannon Watson, Senior Advisor and Designated Federal Officer, WOTAB, shannon.watson@dot.gov
- Kala Wright, Director of External Affairs, kala.wright@dot.gov