



***Federal Railroad Administration  
Office of Safety  
Headquarters Assigned  
Accident Investigation Report  
HQ-2008-16***

***MARC (MARC)  
Washington, DC  
February 07, 2008***

***Note that 49 U.S.C. §20903 provides that no part of an accident or incident report made by the Secretary of Transportation/Federal Railroad Administration under 49 U.S.C. §20902 may be used in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report.***

1. Name of Railroad Operating Train #1 Amtrak [ATK]		1a. Alphabetic Code ATK		1b. Railroad Accident/Incident No. 861748	
2. Name of Railroad Operating Train #2 MARC Train Service [MACZ]		2a. Alphabetic Code MACZ		2b. Railroad Accident/Incident No. 861748	
3. Name of Railroad Operating Train #3 N/A		3a. Alphabetic Code N/A		3b. Railroad Accident/Incident No. N/A	
4. Name of Railroad Responsible for Track Maintenance: Amtrak [ATK]		4a. Alphabetic Code ATK		4b. Railroad Accident/Incident No. 861748	
5. U.S. DOT_AAR Grade Crossing Identification Number		6. Date of Accident/Incident Month 02 Day 07 Year 2008		7. Time of Accident/Incident 10:03:00 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	
8. Type of Accident/Incident (single entry in code box)		1. Derailment 2. Head on collision 3. Rear end collision		4. Side collision 5. Raking collision 6. Broken Train collision	
		7. Hwy-rail crossing 8. RR grade crossing 9. Obstruction		10. Explosion-detonation 11. Fire/violent rupture 12. Other impacts	
		13. Other (describe in narrative)		Code 03	
9. Cars Carrying HAZMAT 0		10. HAZMAT Cars Damaged/Derailed N/A		11. Cars Releasing HAZMAT N/A	
		12. People Evacuated 0		13. Division MID-ATLANTIC	
14. Nearest City/Town WASHINGTON, DC		15. Milepost (to nearest tenth) 135.7		16. State Abbr Code N/A DC	
17. County WASHINGTON, DC					
18. Temperature (F) (specify if minus) 52 F		19. Visibility (single entry) Code 1. Dawn 3. Dusk 2. Day 4. Dark 2		20. Weather (single entry) Code 1. Clear 3. Rain 5. Sleet 2. Cloudy 4. Fog 6. Snow 1	
21. Type of Track Code 1. Main 3. Siding 2. Yard 4. Industry 2					
22. Track Name/Number 13		23. FRA Track Code Class (1-9, X) 1		24. Annual Track Density (gross tons in millions) N/A	
25. Time Table Direction Code 1. North 3. East 2. South 4. West 2					
OPERATING TRAIN #1					
26. Type of Equipment Consist (single entry)		1. Freight train 2. Passenger train 3. Commuter train		4. Work train 5. Single car 6. Cut of cars	
		7. Yard/switching 8. Light loco(s) 9. Maint./inspect.car		A. Spec. MoW Equip. Code 8	
		27. Was Equipment Attended? 1. Yes 2. No 1		28. Train Number/Symbol 711A	
29. Speed (recorded speed, if available) Code R - Recorded E - Estimated 12 MPH R		30. Trailing Tons (gross tonnage, excluding power units) N/A		31. Method(s) of Operation (enter code(s) that apply) a. ATCS g. Automatic block m. Special instructions b. Auto train control h. Current of traffic n. Other than main track c. Auto train stop i. Time table/train orders o. Positive train control d. Cab j. Track warrant control p. Other (Specify in narrative) e. Traffic k. Direct traffic control Code(s) f. Interlocking l. Yard limits f N/A N/A N/A N/A	
		31a. Remotely Controlled Locomotive? 0 = Not a remotely controlled 1 = Remote control portable 2 = Remote control tower 3 = Remote control transmitter - more than one remote control transmitter 0			
32. Principal Car/Unit		a. Initial and Number (1) First involved (derailed, struck, etc) MARC 4912		b. Position in Train 1	
		c. Loaded (yes/no) N/A		33. If railroad employee(s) tested for drug/alcohol use, enter the number that were positive in the appropriate box. Alcohol 0 Drugs 0	
(2) Causing (if mechanical cause reported)		0		0	
		N/A		34. Was this consist transporting passengers? (Y/N) N	
35. Locomotive Units		a. Head End (1) Total in Train 1		Mid Train b. Manual 0	
		c. Remote 0		Rear End d. Manual 0	
		e. Remote 0		36. Cars (1) Total in Equipment Consist 0	
(2) Total Derailed 0		0		0	
		0		0	
		0		0	
37. Equipment Damage This Consist \$165,000.00		38. Track, Signal, Way, & Structure Damage \$5,350.00		39. Primary Cause Code H607	
				40. Contributing Cause Code H211	
41. Engineer/Operators 1		42. Firemen 0		43. Conductors 1	
		44. Brakemen 0		45. Engineer/Operator Hrs 2 Mi 4	
46. Conductor Hrs 2 Mi 4					
Casualties to:		47. Railroad Employees 0		48. Train Passengers 0	
Fatal		0		0	
Nonfatal		0		0	
				50. EOT Device? 1. Yes 2. No 2	
				51. Was EOT Device Properly Armed? 1. Yes 2. No N/A	
				52. Caboose Occupied by Crew? 1. Yes 2. No N/A	
OPERATING TRAIN #2					
53. Type of Equipment Consist (single entry)		1. Freight train 2. Passenger train 3. Commuter train		4. Work train 5. Single car 6. Cut of cars	
		7. Yard/switching 8. Light loco(s) 9. Maint./inspect.car		A. Spec. MoW Equip. Code 3	
		54. Was Equipment Attended? 1. Yes 2. No 1		55. Train Number/Symbol 419/MARC	
56. Speed (recorded speed, if available) Code R - Recorded E - Estimated 0 MPH R		57. Method(s) of Operation (enter code(s) that apply) a. ATCS g. Automatic block m. Special instructions b. Auto train control h. Current of traffic n. Other than main track		58a. Remotely Controlled Locomotive? 0 = Not a remotely controlled 1 = Remote control portable	

57. Trailing Tons (gross tonnage, excluding power units) N/A	c. Auto train stop d. Cab e. Traffic f. Interlocking	i. Time table/train orders j. Track warrant control k. Direct traffic control l. Yard limits	o. Positive train control p. Other (Specify in narrative) Code(s) f. N/A   N/A   N/A   N/A	2 = Remote control tower 3 = Remote control transmitter - more than one remote control transmitter 0
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59. Principal Car/Unit (1) First involved (derailed, struck, etc) MARC 4903	a. Initial and Number 7	b. Position in Train no	c. Loaded(yes/no) no	60. If railroad employee(s) tested for drug/alcohol use, enter the number that were positive in the appropriate box. Alcohol: 0   Drugs: 0
(2) Causing (if mechanical cause reported) 0	0	0	N/A	61. Was this consist transporting passengers? (Y/N) Y

62. Locomotive Units	a. Head End	Mid Train b. Manual   c. Remote	Rear End d. Manual   e. Remote	63. Cars	Loaded a. Freight   b. Pass.	Empty c. Freight   d. Pass.	e. Caboose
(1) Total in Train	1	0   0	1   0	(1) Total in Equipment Consist	0   4	0   2	0
(2) Total Derailed	0	0   0	0   0	(2) Total Derailed	0   0	0   1	0

64. Equipment Damage This Consist   \$165,000.00	65. Track, Signal, Way, & Structure Damage   \$5,350.00	66. Primary Cause Code H607	67. Contributing Cause Code H211
Number of Crew Members		Length of Time on Duty	

68. Engineer/Operators 1	69. Firemen 0	70. Conductors 1	71. Brakemen 1	72. Engineer/Operator Hrs 5   Mi 38	73. Conductor Hrs 5   Mi 38
Casualties to:	74. Railroad Employees	75. Train Passengers	76. Other	77. EOT Device? 1. Yes   2. No   2	78. Was EOT Device Properly Armed? 1. Yes   2. No   N/A
Fatal	0	0	0	79. Caboose Occupied by Crew? 1. Yes   2. No   N/A	
Nonfatal	0	3	0		

OPERATING TRAIN #3

80. Type of Equipment Consist (single entry)	1. Freight train	4. Work train	7. Yard/switching	A. Spec. MoW Equip.	Code N/A	81. Was Equipment Attended? 1. Yes   2. No   N/A	82. Train Number/Symbol N/A
	2. Passenger train	5. Single car	8. Light loco(s)				
	3. Commuter train	6. Cut of cars	9. Maint./inspect.car				

83. Speed (recorded speed, if available) R - Recorded E - Estimated N/A MPH   N/A	85. Method(s) of Operation (enter code(s) that apply) a. ATCS b. Auto train control c. Auto train stop d. Cab e. Traffic f. Interlocking	g. Automatic block h. Current of traffic i. Time table/train orders j. Track warrant control k. Direct traffic control l. Yard limits	m. Special instructions n. Other than main track o. Positive train control p. Other (Specify in narrative) Code(s) N/A   N/A   N/A   N/A   N/A	85a. Remotely Controlled Locomotive? 0 = Not a remotely controlled 1 = Remote control portable 2 = Remote control tower 3 = Remote control transmitter - more than one remote control transmitter N/A
84. Trailing Tons (gross tonnage, excluding power units) N/A				

86. Principal Car/Unit (1) First involved (derailed, struck, etc) N/A	a. Initial and Number N/A	b. Position in Train N/A	c. Loaded(yes/no) N/A	87. If railroad employee(s) tested for drug/alcohol use, enter the number that were positive in the appropriate box. Alcohol: N/A   Drugs: N/A
(2) Causing (if mechanical cause reported) N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	88. Was this consist transporting passengers? (Y/N) N/A

89. Locomotive Units	a. Head End	Mid Train b. Manual   c. Remote	Rear End d. Manual   e. Remote	90. Cars	Loaded a. Freight   b. Pass.	Empty c. Freight   d. Pass.	e. Caboose
(1) Total in Train	N/A	N/A   N/A	N/A   N/A	(1) Total in Equipment Consist	N/A   N/A	N/A   N/A	N/A
(2) Total Derailed	N/A	N/A   N/A	N/A   N/A	(2) Total Derailed	N/A   N/A	N/A   N/A	N/A

91. Equipment Damage This Consist   N/A	92. Track, Signal, Way, & Structure Damage   N/A	93. Primary Cause Code N/A	94. Contributing Cause Code N/A
Number of Crew Members		Length of Time on Duty	

95. Engineer/Operators N/A	96. Firemen N/A	97. Conductors N/A	98. Brakemen N/A	99. Engineer/Operator Hrs N/A   Mi N/A	100. Conductor Hrs N/A   Mi N/A
Casualties to:	101. Railroad Employees	102. Train	103. Other	104. EOT 1. Yes   2. No   N/A	105. Was EOT Device Properly 1. Yes   2. No   N/A
Fatal	N/A	N/A	N/A	106. Caboose Occupied by Crew? 1. Yes   2. No   N/A	
Nonfatal	N/A	N/A	N/A		

Highway User Involved				Rail Equipment Involved			
107. C. Truck-Trailer A. Auto B. Truck 108. Vehicle Speed (est. MPH at impact) N/A	F. Bus G. School Bus H. Motorcycle	J. Other Motor Vehicle K. Pedestrian M. Other (spec. in narrative) N/A	Code N/A	111. Equipment 1. Train(units pulling) 2. Train(units pushing)	3. Train (standing) 4. Car(s)(moving) 5. Car(s)(standing)	6. Light Loco(s) (moving) 7. Light(s) (standing) 8. Other (specify in narrative)	Code N/A
109. geographical 1. North 2. South 3. East 4. West   N/A				112. Position of Car Unit in N/A			

110. Position 1. Stalled on Crossing 2. Stopped on Crossing 3. Moving Over Crossing 4. Trapped				Code N/A	113. Circumstance 1. Rail Equipment Struck Highway User 2. Rail Equipment Struck by Highway User				Code N/A			
114a. Was the highway user and/or rail equipment involved in the impact transporting hazardous materials? 1. Highway User 2. Rail Equipment 3. Both 4. Neither				Code N/A	114b. Was there a hazardous materials release 1. Highway User 2. Rail Equipment 3. Both 4. Neither				Code N/A			
114c. State here the name and quantity of the hazardous materials released, if any. N/A												
115. Type Crossing 1. Gates 2. Cantilever FLS 3. Standard FLS 4. Wig Wags 5. Hwy. traffic signals 6. Audible Warning 7. Crossbucks 8. Stop signs 9. Watchman 10. Flagged by crew 11. Other (spec. in narr.) 12. None				Code N/A	116. Signaled Crossing (See instructions for codes)			Code N/A	117. Whistle Ban 1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown		Code N/A	
118. Location of Warning 1. Both Sides 2. Side of Vehicle Approach 3. Opposite Side of Vehicle Approach				Code N/A	119. Crossing Warning with Highway Signals 1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown			Code N/A	120. Crossing Illuminated by Street Lights or Special Lights 1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown			Code N/A
121. Age N/A		122. Driver's Gender 1. Male 2. Female		Code N/A	123. Driver Drove Behind or in Front of and Struck or was Struck by Second Train 1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown			Code N/A	124. Driver 1. Drove around or thru the Gate 2. Stopped and then Proceeded 3. Did not Stop 4. Stopped on Crossing 5. Other (specify in narrative)			Code N/A
125. Driver Passed Highway Vehicle 1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown				Code N/A	126. View of Track Obscured by (primary obstruction) 1. Permanent Structure 2. Standing Railroad Equipment 3. Passing Train 4. Topography 5. Vegetation 6. Highway Vehicle 7. Other (specify in narrative) 8. Not obstructed						Code N/A	
Casualties to:			Killed	Injured	127. Driver 1. Killed 2. Injured 3. Uninjured			Code N/A	128. Was Driver in the Vehicle? 1. Yes 2. No			Code N/A
129. Highway-Rail Crossing Users			N/A	N/A	130. Highway Vehicle Property Damage (est. dollar damage)			N/A	131. Total Number of Highway-Rail Crossing Users (include driver)			N/A
132. Locomotive Auxiliary Lights? 1. Yes 2. No				Code N/A	133. Locomotive Auxiliary Lights Operational? 1. Yes 2. No				Code N/A			
134. Locomotive Headlight Illuminated? 1. Yes 2. No				Code N/A	135. Locomotive Audible Warning Sounded? 1. Yes 2. No				Code N/A			

136. DRAW A SKETCH OF ACCIDENT AREA INCLUDING ALL TRACKS, SIGNALS, SWITCHES, STRUCTURES, OBJECTS, ETC., INVOLVED.

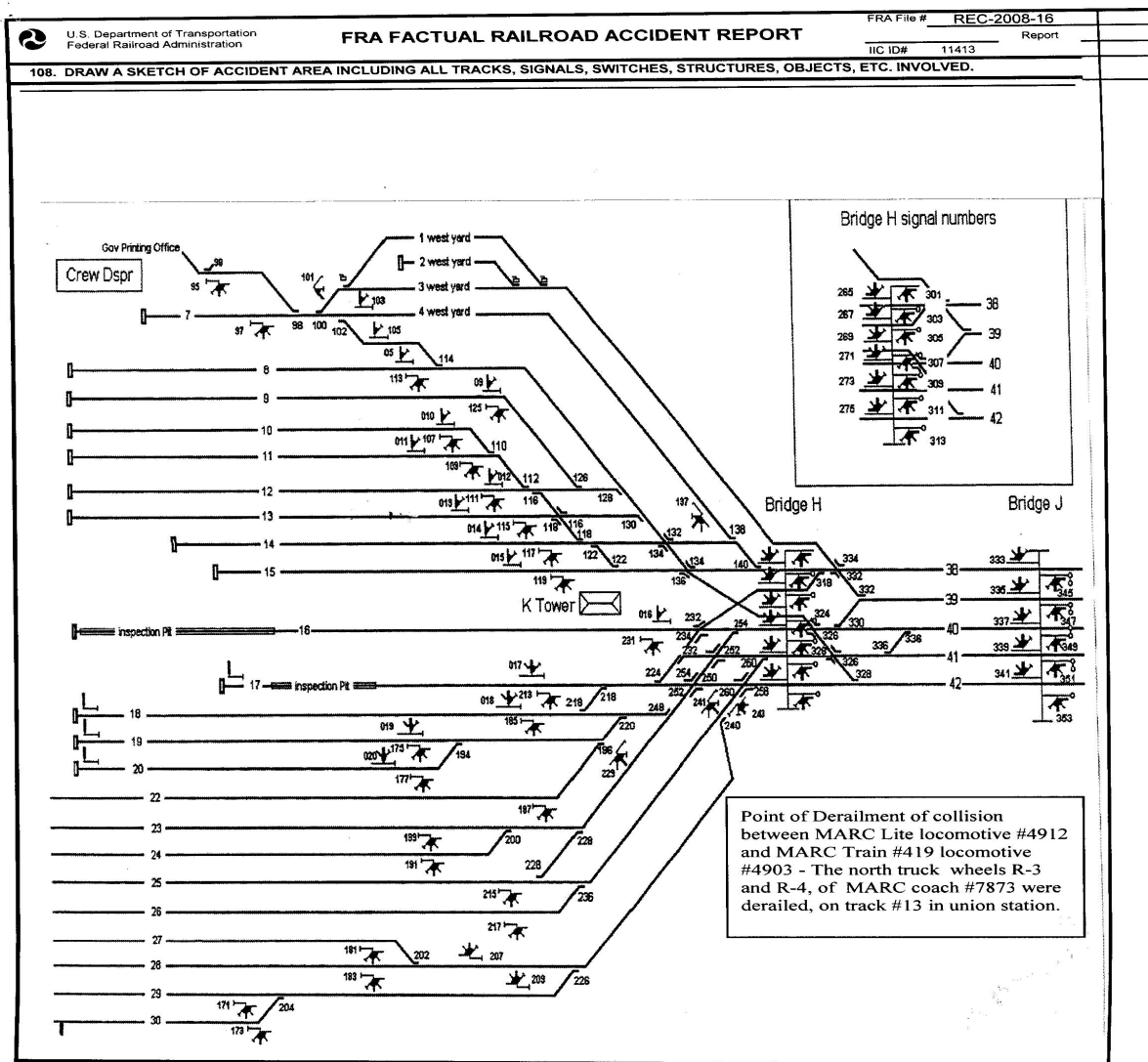


Figure 4

## 137. SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCIDENT

On Thursday, February 7, 2008, at approximately 10:03 AM, a southbound MARC locomotive No. 4912 collided with MARC passenger train No. 419. The collision occurred in Washington, DC at milepost 135.7, on track No. 13, in Union Station.

There were 14 passengers and 1 employee slightly injured. Locomotive No. 4912 sustained damage of about \$165,000. Locomotive No. 4903 sustained damage of about \$3,000. Neither one derailed. However, there was 1 car derailed in the 5th position MARC train No. 419 with estimated damages of \$10,000.

At the time of the collision, it was daytime with clear weather. The temperature was about 52 degrees F.

The accident was caused by failure to comply with restricted speed. A contributing factor is the Conductor failed to give proper distances to the Engineer when backing up and also changed the method of communication, Radio communication to hand signals, without notifying the Engineer.

## CIRCUMSTANCES PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT:

The crew SP-711A, south included a locomotive Engineer, and a Conductor. They first went on duty at 7:59 a.m. EST, February 7, 2008, at Washington terminal in Washington, DC. This is their home terminal and they received more than the statutory off duty period, prior to reporting for duty.

MARC Train No. 417, arrived on 13 track at Washington Union Station at 9:02 a.m. with the following consist south to north:

Cab Car- 7854, 7802, 7813, 7816, 7815, 7876, 7798, Motor - 4912.

MARC Train 419 arrived in 13 track, stopping just short of MARC 417 at 9:55a.m. and began detrain passengers from the following consist:

Cab Car- 7852, 7825, 7800, 7808, 7873, 7895, Motor - 4903.

At 10:03 AM on February 7, 2008, MARC commuter train No. 419 was positioned on No. 13 track in Union Station, Washington, DC and was struck from behind by a light locomotive. Immediately before the incident, the commuter train had entered Union Station in the push mode and passengers were debarking from the commuter train. Fourteen of the passengers who were onboard the commuter train as the collision occurred were slightly injured. All injuries are minor with four claiming back injuries. All were transported to local hospitals as a precautionary measure.

In addition to the 14 passenger injuries, the engineer on the revenue passenger train (MARC Train No. 419) is reporting a slight head injury. That engineer was located in the operating compartment of cab control car, which was on the south (lead) end of the train located on No. 13 track. At the time of the impact, he was applying a hand brake.

The conductor was positioned at the controls on the south end of MARC locomotive No. 4912. The engineer was positioned on the north end of MARC locomotive No. 4912. The railroad timetable direction of the train was south.

## 138. NARRATIVE

## THE ACCIDENT:

Marc locomotive No. 4912

The download of the event recorder shows that the speed at the time of collision was 12 miles per hour. The maximum speed on this track is 15 mph.

At 9:02 a.m. Marc train No. 417 arrived in Washington Union Station on Track 13. The train consisted of seven (7) cars 7798,7876,7875,7816,7813,7802,7854, and one (1) locomotive No. 4912.

At approximately 9:40am, Washington Terminal Yard Crew SP711A, received instructions from K Tower to walk to 13 track and remove MARC Motor 4912 from the rear of MARC 417, proceed north and follow the next train in. At approximately 9:50am, yard crew SP711A, proceeded North out of 13 track, routed to 38 track, and stopped just North of H-Bridge.

At 9:56 a.m., yard crew SP711A received a restricting signal at H-Bridge to proceed South. The Conductor on the point of the movement, via radio communication called the restricting signal to Engineer and told him to comeback 15 cars. MARC 4912 then proceeded South from H-Bridge to 13 track traversing the following switches: 140 switch, 136/134 slip switch, 122 crossover, 118 switch and the 1181116 slip switch into 13 track. MARC Motor 4912 traveled a distance of approximately 783 feet from where it stopped North of H-Bridge until it collided with MARC 419 in 13 track at approximately 9:57am.

At 10:00am, MARC Conductor of job SP711A, called the Washington Commuter Services Control Center and requested medical assistance. In addition, a radio call was made to K-Tower requesting medical assistance on Track 13. K-Tower responded by calling the Division Control Center and also the Washington Commuter Services Control Center. Calls were made to DC Fire and Rescue and the Fire Department sent out the first units at 10:08am.

Amtrak Mid-Atlantic Division management were called to the scene. In addition, personnel from the mechanical department were also called. Information from the collision, such as event recorder downloads, measurements, and inspections were started at this time.

The impact caused extensive damage to MARC motor 4912, MARC locomotive No. 4903 and caused the derailment of the north truck, wheels R3-4 of MARC car No. 7873. In addition to the equipment damage there was also 80 feet of rail that had rolled over.

In addition to the equipment damage, there were also fourteen (14) passenger injuries and one (1) employee injury.

#### ANALYSIS and CONCLUSIONS:

MARC locomotive NO. 4912 was equipped with a speed indicator and an event recorder as required. The relevant event recorder data was downloaded by the trainmaster at the accident site. The analysis disclosed that the Conductor was not in compliance with all applicable railroad operating and train handling requirements. FRA reviewed the results of this analysis, and concurred with the conclusions. The Conductor operating MARC locomotive No. 4912 did not comply with restricted speed. A contributing factor is the Conductor failed to give proper distances to the Engineer when backing up and also changed the method of communication, Radio communication to hand signals, without notifying the Engineer.

The following are the results of the Signal and Train Control investigation for the MARC collision that occurred on February 7, 2008 in Washington, DC on the Mid Atlantic Division, Washington Tenninal Sub, Milepost (MP) 135.

The Amtrak signal forces were notified at approximately 1010 hrs. and were dispatched to K-Tower and the H Signal Bridge. At this location trains are operated by signal indication of an interlocking system with NORAC Operating Rules in effect. An operational test to recreate the scenario was conducted, and a 24 hour signal watch was implemented and no exceptions were noted.

On February 8, 2008 a FRA signal inspection was conducted at this location. The inspection consisted of interviewing the Assistant Division Engineer, Signal Supervisor, and signal maintainers. All pertinent downloads and test documentation were reviewed. The conditions that existed at the time of the accident were recreated and the signal system was found to be working as intended. An inspection report number 14 with no exceptions taken is included as an attachment.

This rear end collision was due to human factor. The Conductor on the leading end of this shove move was not in compliance with NORAC Operating Rules, and NEC system special instructions. This employee was given a 90 day suspension from work, because of not complying with railroad operating rules. These issues have been discussed with Amtrak supervision, and will be further reviewed during an upcoming focused inspection at Union Station.

**PROBABLE CAUSE & CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:**

The probable cause of this collision is non compliance with restricted speed. A contributing factor is the Conductor failed to give proper distances to the Engineer when backing up and also changed the method of communication, Radio communication to hand signals, without notifying the Engineer.



1. Name of Railroad Operating Train #1 Amtrak [ATK]		1a. Alphabetic Code ATK		1b. Railroad Accident/Incident No. 861748		
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3. Name of Railroad Operating Train #3 N/A		3a. Alphabetic Code N/A		3b. Railroad Accident/Incident No. N/A		
4. Name of Railroad Responsible for Track Maintenance: Amtrak [ATK]		4a. Alphabetic Code ATK		4b. Railroad Accident/Incident No. 861748		
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3. Rear end collision		6. Broken Train collision		11. Fire/violent rupture		
		9. Obstruction		12. Other impacts		
				13. Other (describe in narrative) Code 03		
9. Cars Carrying HAZMAT 0		10. HAZMAT Cars Damaged/Derailed N/A		11. Cars Releasing HAZMAT N/A		
				12. People Evacuated 0		
				13. Division MID-ATLANTIC		
14. Nearest City/Town WASHINGTON, DC		15. Milepost (to nearest tenth) 135.7		16. State Abbr Code N/A DC		
17. County WASHINGTON, DC						
18. Temperature (F) (specify if minus) 52 F		19. Visibility (single entry) Code 1. Dawn 3. Dusk 2. Day 4. Dark 2		20. Weather (single entry) Code 1. Clear 3. Rain 5. Sleet 2. Cloudy 4. Fog 6. Snow 1		
21. Type of Track Code 1. Main 3. Siding 2. Yard 4. Industry 2						
22. Track Name/Number 13		23. FRA Track Code Class (1-9, X) 1		24. Annual Track Density (gross tons in millions) N/A		
				25. Time Table Direction Code 1. North 3. East 2. South 4. West 2		
OPERATING TRAIN #1						
26. Type of Equipment Consist (single entry)		1. Freight train 4. Work train 7. Yard/switching 2. Passenger train 5. Single car 8. Light loco(s). 3. Commuter train 6. Cut of cars 9. Maint./inspect.car		A. Spec. MoW Equip. Code 8		
				27. Was Equipment Attended? Code 1. Yes 2. No 1		
				28. Train Number/Symbol 711A		
29. Speed (recorded speed, if available) Code R - Recorded E - Estimated 12 MPH R		30. Trailing Tons (gross tonnage, excluding power units) N/A			31. Method(s) of Operation (enter code(s) that apply) a. ATCS g. Automatic block m. Special instructions b. Auto train control h. Current of traffic n. Other than main track c. Auto train stop i. Time table/train orders o. Positive train control d. Cab j. Track warrant control p. Other (Specify in narrative) Code(s) e. Traffic k. Direct traffic control f. Interlocking l. Yard limits f N/A N/A N/A N/A	
					31a. Remotely Controlled Locomotive? 0 = Not a remotely controlled 1 = Remote control portable 2 = Remote control tower 3 = Remote control transmitter - more than one remote control transmitter 0	
32. Principal Car/Unit		a. Initial and Number		b. Position in Train		
(1) First involved (derailed, struck, etc)		MARC 4912		1		
(2) Causing (if mechanical cause reported)		0		0		
				c. Loaded (yes/no) N/A		
				33. If railroad employee(s) tested for drug/alcohol use, enter the number that were positive in the appropriate box. Alcohol 0 Drugs 0		
				34. Was this consist transporting passengers? (Y/N) N		
35. Locomotive Units		a. Head End		Mid Train		
		b. Manual		c. Remote		
		d. Manual		c. Remote		
(1) Total in Train		1		0 0		
(2) Total Derailed		0		0 0		
				36. Cars		
				a. Freight b. Pass. c. Freight d. Pass. e. Caboose		
				(1) Total in Equipment Consist 0 0 0 0 0		
				(2) Total Derailed 0 0 0 0 0		
37. Equipment Damage		This Consist \$165,000.00		38. Track, Signal, Way, & Structure Damage \$5,350.00		
				39. Primary Cause Code H607		
				40. Contributing Cause Code H211		
				Number of Crew Members		
41. Engineer/Operators 1		42. Firemen 0		43. Conductors 1		
				44. Brakemen 0		
				45. Engineer/Operator Hrs 2 Mi 4		
				46. Conductor Hrs 2 Mi 4		
Casualties to:		47. Railroad Employees		48. Train Passengers		
Fatal		0		0		
Nonfatal		0		0		
				49. Other 0		
				50. EOT Device? 1. Yes 2. No 2		
				51. Was EOT Device Properly Armed? 1. Yes 2. No N/A		
				52. Caboose Occupied by Crew? 1. Yes 2. No N/A		
OPERATING TRAIN #2						
53. Type of Equipment Consist (single entry)		1. Freight train 4. Work train 7. Yard/switching 2. Passenger train 5. Single car 8. Light loco(s). 3. Commuter train 6. Cut of cars 9. Maint./inspect.car		A. Spec. MoW Equip. Code 3		
				54. Was Equipment Attended? Code 1. Yes 2. No 1		
				55. Train Number/Symbol 419/MARC		
56. Speed (recorded speed, if available) Code R - Recorded E - Estimated 0 MPH R		57. Method(s) of Operation (enter code(s) that apply) a. ATCS g. Automatic block m. Special instructions b. Auto train control h. Current of traffic n. Other than main track			58a. Remotely Controlled Locomotive? 0 = Not a remotely controlled 1 = Remote control portable	

57. Trailing Tons (gross tonnage, excluding power units)	N/A	c. Auto train stop d. Cab e. Traffic f. Interlocking	i. Time table/train orders j. Track warrant control k. Direct traffic control l. Yard limits	o. Positive train control p. Other (Specify in narrative) Code(s)	2 = Remote control tower 3 = Remote control transmitter - more than one remote control transmitter
				f. N/A N/A N/A N/A	0

59. Principal Car/Unit	a. Initial and Number	b. Position in Train	c. Loaded(yes/no)	60. If railroad employee(s) tested for drug/alcohol use, enter the number that were positive in the appropriate box.	Alcohol	Drugs
(1) First involved (derailed, struck, etc)	MARC 4903	7	no		0	0
(2) Causing (if mechanical cause reported)	0	0	N/A	61. Was this consist transporting passengers? (Y/N)		Y

62. Locomotive Units	a. Head End	Mid Train b. Manual c. Remote	Rear End d. Manual c. Remote	63. Cars	Loaded a. Freight b. Pass.	Empty c. Freight d. Pass.	e. Caboose
(1) Total in Train	1	0 0	1 0	(1) Total in Equipment Consist	0 4	0 2	0
(2) Total Derailed	0	0 0	0 0	(2) Total Derailed	0 0	0 1	0

64. Equipment Damage This Consist	\$165,000.00	65. Track, Signal, Way, & Structure Damage	\$5,350.00	66. Primary Cause Code	H607	67. Contributing Cause Code	H211
Number of Crew Members				Length of Time on Duty			

68. Engineer/Operators	69. Firemen	70. Conductors	71. Brakemen	72. Engineer/Operator	73. Conductor
1	0	1	1	Hrs 5 Mi 38	Hrs 5 Mi 38
Casualties to:	74. Railroad Employees	75. Train Passengers	76. Other	77. EOT Device?	78. Was EOT Device Properly Armed?
Fatal	0	0	0	1. Yes 2. No   2	1. Yes 2. No   N/A
Nonfatal	0	3	0	79. Caboose Occupied by Crew?	1. Yes 2. No   N/A

OPERATING TRAIN #3

80. Type of Equipment Consist (single entry)	1. Freight train	4. Work train	7. Yard/switching	A. Spec. MoW Equip.	Code	81. Was Equipment Attended?	Code	82. Train Number/Symbol
	2. Passenger train	5. Single car	8. Light loco(s).		N/A	1. Yes 2. No	N/A	N/A
	3. Commuter train	6. Cut of cars	9. Maint./inspect.car					

83. Speed (recorded speed, if available)	R - Recorded	E - Estimated	N/A	MPH	N/A	85. Method(s) of Operation (enter code(s) that apply)	85a. Remotely Controlled Locomotive?
						a. ATCS b. Auto train control c. Auto train stop d. Cab e. Traffic f. Interlocking	0 = Not a remotely controlled 1 = Remote control portable 2 = Remote control tower 3 = Remote control transmitter - more than one remote control transmitter
84. Trailing Tons (gross tonnage, excluding power units)	N/A						N/A

86. Principal Car/Unit	a. Initial and Number	b. Position in Train	c. Loaded(yes/no)	87. If railroad employee(s) tested for drug/alcohol use, enter the number that were positive in the appropriate box.	Alcohol	Drugs
(1) First involved (derailed, struck, etc)	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
(2) Causing (if mechanical cause reported)	N/A	N/A	N/A	88. Was this consist transporting passengers? (Y/N)		N/A

89. Locomotive Units	a. Head End	Mid Train b. Manual c. Remote	Rear End d. Manual c. Remote	90. Cars	Loaded a. Freight b. Pass.	Empty c. Freight d. Pass.	e. Caboose
(1) Total in Train	N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	(1) Total in Equipment Consist	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A
(2) Total Derailed	N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	(2) Total Derailed	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A

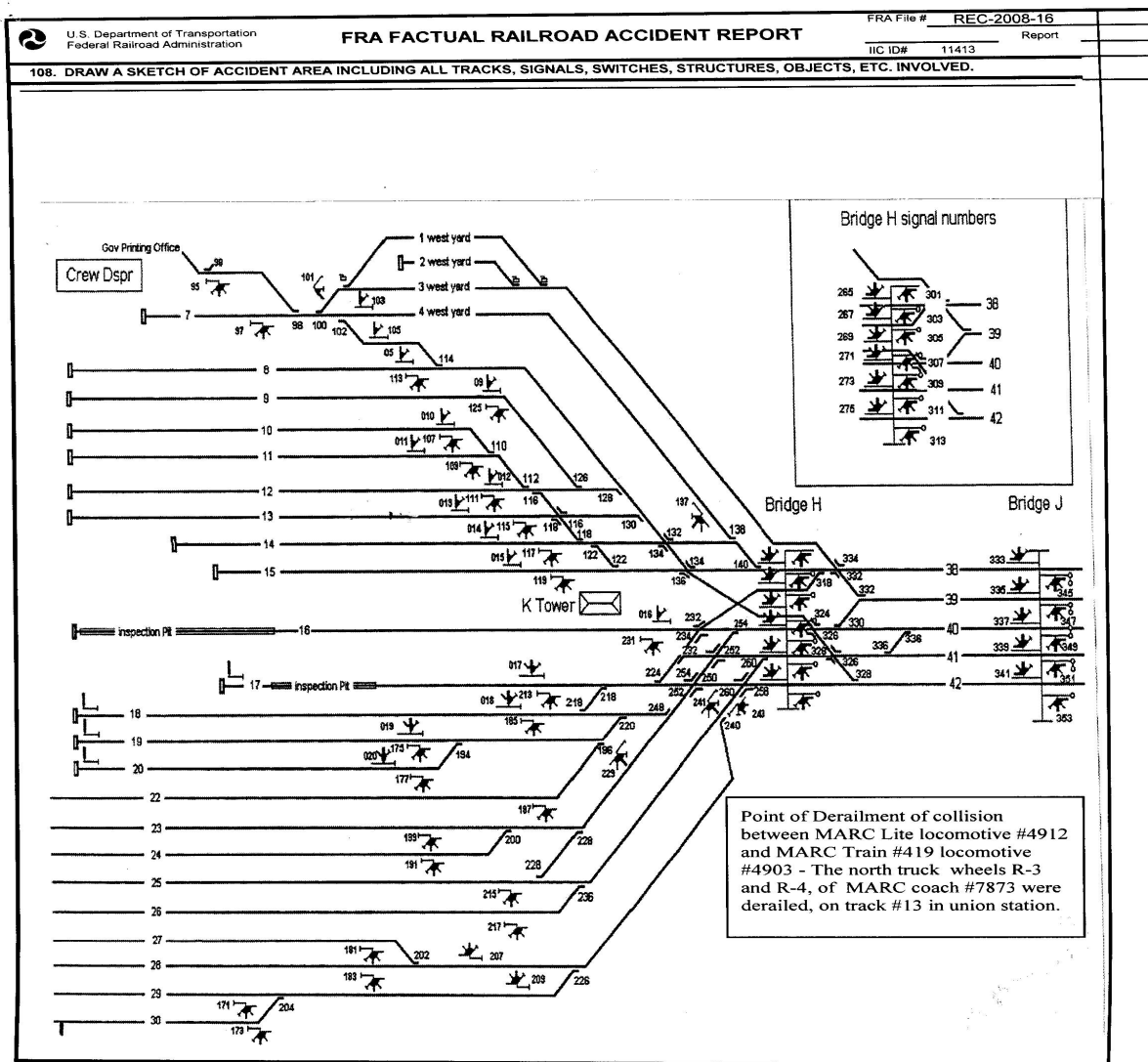
91. Equipment Damage This Consist	N/A	92. Track, Signal, Way, & Structure Damage	N/A	93. Primary Cause Code	N/A	94. Contributing Cause Code	N/A
Number of Crew Members				Length of Time on Duty			

95. Engineer/Operators	96. Firemen	97. Conductors	98. Brakemen	99. Engineer/Operator	100. Conductor
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Hrs N/A Mi N/A	Hrs N/A Mi N/A
Casualties to:	101. Railroad Employees	102. Train	103. Other	104. EOT	105. Was EOT Device Properly
Fatal	N/A	N/A	N/A	1. Yes 2. No   N/A	1. Yes 2. No   N/A
Nonfatal	N/A	N/A	N/A	106. Caboose Occupied by Crew?	1. Yes 2. No   N/A

Highway User Involved				Rail Equipment Involved			
107. C. Truck-Trailer. F. Bus J. Other Motor Vehicle A. Auto D. Pick-Up Truck G. School Bus K. Pedestrian B. Truck E. Van H. Motorcycle M. Other (spec. in narrative)	Code			111. Equipment	3. Train (standing)	6. Light Loco(s) (moving)	Code
	N/A			1. Train(units pulling)	4. Car(s) (moving)	7. Light(s) (standing)	N/A
				2. Train(units pushing)	5. Car(s) (standing)	8. Other (specify in narrative)	
108. Vehicle Speed (est. MPH at impact)	N/A	109. geographical	Code	112. Position of Car Unit in			
		1. North 2. South 3. East 4. West	N/A	N/A			

110. Position 1. Stalled on Crossing 2. Stopped on Crossing 3. Moving Over Crossing 4. Trapped				Code N/A	113. Circumstance 1. Rail Equipment Struck Highway User 2. Rail Equipment Struck by Highway User				Code N/A		
114a. Was the highway user and/or rail equipment involved in the impact transporting hazardous materials? 1. Highway User 2. Rail Equipment 3. Both 4. Neither				Code N/A	114b. Was there a hazardous materials release 1. Highway User 2. Rail Equipment 3. Both 4. Neither				Code N/A		
114c. State here the name and quantity of the hazardous materials released, if any. N/A											
115. Type Crossing 1. Gates 2. Cantilever FLS 3. Standard FLS 4. Wig Wags 5. Hwy. traffic signals 6. Audible Warning 7. Crossbucks 8. Stop signs 9. Watchman 10. Flagged by crew 11. Other (spec. in narr.) 12. None				Code N/A	116. Signaled Crossing (See instructions for codes)				Code N/A	117. Whistle Ban 1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown	
Code(s)				N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
118. Location of Warning 1. Both Sides 2. Side of Vehicle Approach 3. Opposite Side of Vehicle Approach				Code N/A	119. Crossing Warning with Highway Signals 1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown				Code N/A	120. Crossing Illuminated by Street Lights or Special Lights 1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown	
121. Age N/A		122. Driver's Gender 1. Male 2. Female		Code N/A	123. Driver Drove Behind or in Front of and Struck or was Struck by Second Train 1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown				Code N/A	124. Driver 1. Drove around or thru the Gate 2. Stopped and then Proceeded 3. Did not Stop 4. Stopped on Crossing 5. Other (specify in narrative)	
125. Driver Passed Highway Vehicle 1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown				Code N/A	126. View of Track Obscured by (primary obstruction) 1. Permanent Structure 2. Standing Railroad Equipment 3. Passing Train 4. Topography 5. Vegetation 6. Highway Vehicle 7. Other (specify in narrative) 8. Not obstructed				Code N/A		
Casualties to:			Killed	Injured	127. Driver 1. Killed 2. Injured 3. Uninjured				Code N/A	128. Was Driver in the Vehicle? 1. Yes 2. No	
129. Highway-Rail Crossing Users			N/A	N/A	130. Highway Vehicle Property Damage (est. dollar damage)				N/A	131. Total Number of Highway-Rail Crossing Users (include driver)	
132. Locomotive Auxiliary Lights? 1. Yes 2. No				Code N/A	133. Locomotive Auxiliary Lights Operational? 1. Yes 2. No				Code N/A		
134. Locomotive Headlight Illuminated? 1. Yes 2. No				Code N/A	135. Locomotive Audible Warning Sounded? 1. Yes 2. No				Code N/A		

136. DRAW A SKETCH OF ACCIDENT AREA INCLUDING ALL TRACKS, SIGNALS, SWITCHES, STRUCTURES, OBJECTS, ETC., INVOLVED.



## 137. SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCIDENT

On Thursday, February 7, 2008, at approximately 10:03 AM, a southbound MARC locomotive No. 4912 collided with MARC passenger train No. 419. The collision occurred in Washington, DC at milepost 135.7, on track No. 13, in Union Station.

There were 14 passengers and 1 employee slightly injured. Locomotive No. 4912 sustained damage of about \$165,000. Locomotive No. 4903 sustained damage of about \$3,000. Neither one derailed. However, there was 1 car derailed in the 5th position MARC train No. 419 with estimated damages of \$10,000.

At the time of the collision, it was daytime with clear weather. The temperature was about 52 degrees F.

The accident was caused by failure to comply with restricted speed. A contributing factor is the Conductor failed to give proper distances to the Engineer when backing up and also changed the method of communication, Radio communication to hand signals, without notifying the Engineer.

## CIRCUMSTANCES PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT:

The crew SP-711A, south included a locomotive Engineer, and a Conductor. They first went on duty at 7:59 a.m. EST, February 7, 2008, at Washington terminal in Washington, DC. This is their home terminal and they received more than the statutory off duty period, prior to reporting for duty.

MARC Train No. 417, arrived on 13 track at Washington Union Station at 9:02 a.m. with the following consist south to north:

Cab Car- 7854, 7802, 7813, 7816, 7815, 7876, 7798, Motor - 4912.

MARC Train 419 arrived in 13 track, stopping just short of MARC 417 at 9:55a.m. and began detrain passengers from the following consist:

Cab Car- 7852, 7825, 7800, 7808, 7873, 7895, Motor - 4903.

At 10:03 AM on February 7, 2008, MARC commuter train No. 419 was positioned on No. 13 track in Union Station, Washington, DC and was struck from behind by a light locomotive. Immediately before the incident, the commuter train had entered Union Station in the push mode and passengers were debarking from the commuter train. Fourteen of the passengers who were onboard the commuter train as the collision occurred were slightly injured. All injuries are minor with four claiming back injuries. All were transported to local hospitals as a precautionary measure.

In addition to the 14 passenger injuries, the engineer on the revenue passenger train (MARC Train No. 419) is reporting a slight head injury. That engineer was located in the operating compartment of cab control car, which was on the south (lead) end of the train located on No. 13 track. At the time of the impact, he was applying a hand brake.

The conductor was positioned at the controls on the south end of MARC locomotive No. 4912. The engineer was positioned on the north end of MARC locomotive No. 4912. The railroad timetable direction of the train was south.

## 138. NARRATIVE

## THE ACCIDENT:

Marc locomotive No. 4912

The download of the event recorder shows that the speed at the time of collision was 12 miles per hour. The maximum speed on this track is 15 mph.

At 9:02 a.m. Marc train No. 417 arrived in Washington Union Station on Track 13. The train consisted of seven (7) cars 7798,7876,7875,7816,7813,7802,7854, and one (1) locomotive No. 4912.

At approximately 9:40am, Washington Terminal Yard Crew SP711A, received instructions from K Tower to walk to 13 track and remove MARC Motor 4912 from the rear of MARC 417, proceed north and follow the next train in. At approximately 9:50am, yard crew SP711A, proceeded North out of 13 track, routed to 38 track, and stopped just North of H-Bridge.

At 9:56 a.m., yard crew SP711A received a restricting signal at H-Bridge to proceed South. The Conductor on the point of the movement, via radio communication called the restricting signal to Engineer and told him to comeback 15 cars. MARC 4912 then proceeded South from H-Bridge to 13 track traversing the following switches: 140 switch, 136/134 slip switch, 122 crossover, 118 switch and the 1181116 slip switch into 13 track. MARC Motor 4912 traveled a distance of approximately 783 feet from where it stopped North of H-Bridge until it collided with MARC 419 in 13 track at approximately 9:57am.

At 10:00am, MARC Conductor of job SP711A, called the Washington Commuter Services Control Center and requested medical assistance. In addition, a radio call was made to K-Tower requesting medical assistance on Track 13. K- Tower responded by calling the Division Control Center and also the Washington Commuter Services Control Center. Calls were made to DC Fire and Rescue and the Fire Department sent out the first units at 10:08am.

Amtrak Mid-Atlantic Division management were called to the scene. In addition, personnel from the mechanical department were also called. Information from the collision, such as event recorder downloads, measurements, and inspections were started at this time.

The impact caused extensive damage to MARC motor 4912, MARC locomotive No. 4903 and caused the derailment of the north truck, wheels R3-4 of MARC car No. 7873. In addition to the equipment damage there was also 80 feet of rail that had rolled over.

In addition to the equipment damage, there were also fourteen (14) passenger injuries and one (1) employee injury.

#### ANALYSIS and CONCLUSIONS:

MARC locomotive NO. 4912 was equipped with a speed indicator and an event recorder as required. The relevant event recorder data was downloaded by the trainmaster at the accident site. The analysis disclosed that the Conductor was not in compliance with all applicable railroad operating and train handling requirements. FRA reviewed the results of this analysis, and concurred with the conclusions. The Conductor operating MARC locomotive No. 4912 did not comply with restricted speed. A contributing factor is the Conductor failed to give proper distances to the Engineer when backing up and also changed the method of communication, Radio communication to hand signals, without notifying the Engineer.

The following are the results of the Signal and Train Control investigation for the MARC collision that occurred on February 7, 2008 in Washington, DC on the Mid Atlantic Division, Washington Tenninal Sub, Milepost (MP) 135.

The Amtrak signal forces were notified at approximately 1010 hrs. and were dispatched to K-Tower and the H Signal Bridge. At this location trains are operated by signal indication of an interlocking system with NORAC Operating Rules in effect. An operational test to recreate the scenario was conducted, and a 24 hour signal watch was implemented and no exceptions were noted.

On February 8, 2008 a FRA signal inspection was conducted at this location. The inspection consisted of interviewing the Assistant Division Engineer, Signal Supervisor, and signal maintainers. All pertinent downloads and test documentation were reviewed. The conditions that existed at the time of the accident were recreated and the signal system was found to be working as intended. An inspection report number 14 with no exceptions taken is included as an attachment.

This rear end collision was due to human factor. The Conductor on the leading end of this shove move was not in compliance with NORAC Operating Rules, and NEC system special instructions. This employee was given a 90 day suspension from work, because of not complying with railroad operating rules. These issues have been discussed with Amtrak supervision, and will be further reviewed during an upcoming focused inspection at Union Station.

**PROBABLE CAUSE & CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:**

The probable cause of this collision is non compliance with restricted speed. A contributing factor is the Conductor failed to give proper distances to the Engineer when backing up and also changed the method of communication, Radio communication to hand signals, without notifying the Engineer.