



2011-8

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES RAILROAD
POLICE SPECIAL AGENTS AS BONA FIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICERS IN THE UNITED STATES**

WHEREAS, railroad police special agents have been respected members of the law enforcement community in the United States for over 150 years;

WHEREAS, railroad police special agent's interstate law enforcement authority is derived from federal statute 49 USC 28101;

WHEREAS, railroad police special agents are responsible for the protection of - (1) employees, passengers, or patrons of the rail carrier; (2) property, equipment, and facilities operated, or maintained by the rail carrier; (3) property moving in interstate or foreign commerce and (4) personnel, equipment, and material moving by rail that are vital to the national defense;

WHEREAS, railroad police special agents are dedicated, highly trained certified law enforcement professionals who risk their lives in a variety of situations such as criminal law enforcement, protection of the national defense, hazardous material releases, or terrorist attacks;

WHEREAS, railroad police officers are routinely subjected to the same perils as their federal, state, and local law enforcement partners, which has throughout history resulted in their own injuries or deaths;

WHEREAS, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC, more than 175 railroad police special agents have been killed in the line of duty in the United States;

WHEREAS, there is a need to recognize railroad police special agents as bona fide law enforcement officers in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association recognizes railroad police special agents as bona fide law enforcement officers in the United States.

Adopted at a Meeting of the General Membership in St. Louis, MO on June 20, 2011.