

**Questionnaire responses provided to
The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation**

On behalf of T. Bella Dinh-Zarr

October 30, 2014

A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

1. Name (Include any former names or nicknames used):

Tho Bella Dinh-Zarr
Tho Dinh-Zarr
Bella Dinh-Zarr
Tho Anh Dinh (maiden)

2. Position to which nominated:

Member, National Transportation Safety Board

3. Date of Nomination: September 18, 2014

4. Address (List current place of residence and office addresses):

Residence
Head Office Address:

5. Date and Place of Birth: March 16, 1971; Danang, Vietnam

6. Provide the name, position, and place of employment for your spouse (if married) and the names and ages of your children (including stepchildren and children by a previous marriage).

Spouse - Dr. Robert Zarr, pediatrician, Unity Health Care


7. List all college and graduate degrees. Provide year and school attended.

B.A. 1993 – Rice University, Houston, Texas

M.P.H. 1997 – University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston, Texas

Ph.D. 2001 – University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston, Texas

8. List all post-undergraduate employment, and highlight all management-level jobs held and any non-managerial jobs that relate to the position for which you are nominated.

As AAA National Director of Traffic Safety Policy for 4 years, I managed staff, collaborated with colleagues and ensured a large federation of independent and unique AAA clubs around the U.S. addressed the most important safety priorities. In my 8 years with the FIA Foundation, I have managed people with a wide range of responsibilities and skills on road safety projects and collaborations around the world. These employment experiences have given me the managerial and issue-related credentials to, if confirmed, help advance the important goal of increased transportation safety.

Director of the U.S. Office, FIA Foundation, Washington, DC & London, UK, 1/2014-present

Road Safety Director, FIA Foundation, Washington, DC & London, UK, 12/2007-1/2014

Director, North America, Make Roads Safe – The Campaign for Global Road Safety, Washington, DC 7/2006-1/2014

National Director of Traffic Safety Policy, American Automobile Association (AAA), Washington, DC 3/2002-6/2006

Social Scientist, U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Washington, DC 8/2001-3/2002

Research Fellow, U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC), in conjunction with the U.S. Guide to Community Preventive Services Branch, Atlanta, Georgia 4/2000-5/2001

Research Associate, Texas Transportation Institute, The Texas A&M University System, College Station, Texas 5/1998-5/2001

Production Editor, *International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care*, Houston, Texas (Secretariat: Stockholm, Sweden) 1/1997-5/1999

Community Liaison, *RDI Inc.*, Houston, Texas 1/1995 – 5/1997 (dates approximate)

Evaluator, *Houston-Harris County Community Partnership, University of Texas School of Public Health, Center for Health Promotion*, Houston, Texas 5/1995-5/1996 (dates approximate)

9. Attach a copy of your resume.

See attached.

10. List any advisory, consultative, honorary, or other part-time service or positions with Federal, State, or local governments, other than those listed above, within the last five years.

None.

11. List all positions held as an officer, director, trustee, partner, proprietor, agent, representative, or consultant of any corporation, company, firm, partnership, or other business, enterprise, educational, or other institution within the last five years.

Positions below are current positions except where dates are indicated. All positions are uncompensated.

- Independent Transportation Network of America (ITNAmerica) – Member, Council of Advisors (previously, member of Board of Directors)
- National Association of Women Highway Safety Leaders (NAHWSL) – Co-Chair of the Board of Advisors
- UN NGO Committee on Sustainable Development – Co-chair (2013-2014)
- American Public Health Association, Injury Control and Emergency Health Services Section – Past Chair, Current Development Committee Co-Chair

- Transportation Research Board Global Road Safety Subcommittee – Co-Chair
- Carnegie Mellon University Transportation Center – Board Member
- Make Roads Safe (U.S.) – Board President

12. Please list each membership you have had during the past ten years or currently hold with any civic, social, charitable, educational, political, professional, fraternal, benevolent or religious organization, private club, or other membership organization. Include dates of membership and any positions you have held with any organization. Please note whether any such club or organization restricts membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or handicap.

Membership was not restricted in any of these organizations.

Capitol Hill Garden Club	2003-present	Member
Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School Parent Teacher Association (PTA)	2011-2013	Member
Tyler Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)	2013- present	Member
Capitol Hill Public School Parents Organization (CHPSPO)	2012-present	Member

13. Have you ever been a candidate for and/or held a public office (elected, non-elected, or appointed)? If so, indicate whether any campaign has any outstanding debt, the amount, and whether you are personally liable for that debt.

No.

14. Itemize all political contributions to any individual, campaign organization, political party, political action committee, or similar entity of \$500 or more for the past ten years. Also list all offices you have held with, and services rendered to, a state or national political party or election committee during the same period.

None.

15. List all scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, honorary society memberships, military medals, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievements.

- Youth Choice Award, Individual Winner, Global Youth Traffic Safety Month, 2013
- *Car & Travel Magazine* – Named “Green Light in Transportation” by AAA, 2005
- NHTSA – Recognition Award, Outstanding Contribution to Traffic Safety, April 2003
- CDC Outstanding Scientific Contribution to Public Health Award, June 2002
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary’s Award, July 2001
- Fellow, CDC, *U.S. Guide to Community Preventive Services Branch*, Atlanta, Georgia 2000-2001

16. Please list each book, article, column, or publication you have authored, individually or with others. Also list any speeches that you have given on topics relevant to the position for which you have been nominated. Do not attach copies of these publications unless otherwise instructed.

Publications:

Sleet, D., Naumann, R., Baldwin, G., **Dinh-Zarr, T.B.**, Ewing, R. (2012). Eco-Friendly Transportation and the Built Environment. Vol. 1, Ch.21. in Friis, R.H. (Ed.). *Praeger Handbook of Environmental Health* (2012). New York: Oxford University Press.

Dinh-Zarr, T.B. (2011). Envisioning a Traffic Safety Culture. *Texas Transportation Researcher*, August 2011.

Dinh-Zarr, T.B., Goss, C.W., Heitman, E., Roberts, I.G., DiGuseppi, C. (2009) Interventions for preventing injuries in problem drinkers. *The Cochrane Library* 2009, Issue 1.

Dinh-Zarr, T.B. (2008). United Nations Debates Road Safety This Spring. *ITE Journal*. Institute of Transportation Engineers, April 2008.

Sleet, D.A., **Dinh-Zarr, T.B.**, & Dellinger, A.M. (2007). Traffic safety in the context of public health and medicine. *Improving Traffic Safety Culture in the U.S.: The Journey Forward*. AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, 41-58.

Dinh-Zarr, T.B. & Hargarten S.W. (2007). Road Crash Deaths of American Travelers: The Make Roads Safe Report. An Analysis of U.S. State Department Data on Unnatural Causes of Death to U.S. Citizens Abroad (2004-2006). FIA Foundation report, April 25, 2007.

Staplin, L. & **Dinh-Zarr, T.B.** (2006). Promoting rehabilitation of safe driving abilities through computer-based clinical and personal screening techniques. *Topics in Geriatric Rehabilitation* 22(2), 129-138.

Eberhard, J.W., Stutts, J., Burkhardt, J., Finn, J., Hunt, L., Staplin, L., Molnar, K.J., Peters-Beumer, L, **Dinh-Zarr, T.B.**, Carr, D.B., Trilling, D.R., & McCarthy, D.P. (2006). Strategies and tools to enable safe mobility for older adults. *Topics in Geriatric Rehabilitation* 22(1), 3-19.

Zaza, S., Sleet, D.A., Shults, R.A., Elder, R.W., **Dinh-Zarr, T.B.**, Nichols, J.L., Compton, R., Thompson, R.S., & Task Force on Community Preventive Services (2005). Motor vehicle occupant injury. In S. Zaza, PA Briss, KW Harris (Eds.), *The Guide to Community Preventive Services* (pp. 329-384), New York: Oxford University Press.

Reininger, B., Martin, D., Ross, M., Sinicrope, P., & **Dinh-Zarr, T.** (2005). Advancing the Theory and Measurement of Collective Empowerment: A Qualitative Study. *Int Q Community Health Education* 2005-2006: 25(3): 211-38.

Lin, M., Porretta, K., Shope, J., **Dinh-Zarr, T.B.**, Griffin, L., & Stutts, J. (Eds.) (2003). Special Issue: Senior Transportation Safety and Mobility. *Journal of Safety Research*, Volume 34 (4).

Dinh-Zarr, T.B., Heitman, E., Baker, S.P., Vaca, F.E., Wen, W., Osberg, S., & DiGuseppi, C. (2002). Health risks of Latino children (Letter to the Editor). *JAMA (Journal of the American Medical Association)*, 288 (16).

Dinh-Zarr, T.B., Sleet, D.A., Shults, R.A., Zaza, S., Elder, R.W., Nichols, J.L., Thompson, R.S., & Sosin, D.M. (2001). Reviews of evidence regarding interventions to increase the use of safety belts. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 21(4) Suppl 1, 48-65.

Dinh-Zarr, T., DiGuseppi, C., Heitman, E., & Roberts, I. (1999). Preventing Injuries through Interventions for Problem Drinking. A Systematic Review of Randomized Controlled Trials. *Alcohol & Alcoholism*, 34 (4), 609-621.

Reininger, B., **Dinh-Zarr, T.**, Sinicrope, P., & Martin, D. (1999). Dimensions of Participation and Leadership: Implications for Community-based Health Promotion for Youth. *Family & Community Health*, 22 (2), 72-82.

Zarr, R., Heitman, E., Delclos, G., & **Dinh, T.** (1998). Tuberculosis in Texas: Trends and Issues in Surveillance. *Texas Medicine*, August. (Winner of Harriet Cunningham Award for Meritorious Scientific Writing).

Jerger, S., Martin, R., Pearson, D., & **Dinh, T.** (1995). Childhood hearing impairment: Auditory and linguistic interactions during multidimensional speech processing. *Journal of Speech & Hearing Research*, 38(4):930-48. (*The Hearing Journal's* Best of '95 Award Article).

Jerger, S., Elizondo, R., **Dinh, T.**, Sanchez, P., & Chavira, E. (1994). Linguistic influences on the auditory processing of speech by children with normal hearing or hearing impairment. *Ear & Hearing*, 15(2): 138-60.

Speeches

National Association of Women Highway Safety Leaders (NAWHSL). September 5, 2014. Grand Rapids, Michigan. "The Key Role of Women Worldwide."

Canadian Multidisciplinary Road Safety Conference. June 3, 2014. Vancouver, B.C. "The Decade of Action for Road Safety."

2014 Society of Professional Engineers Conference on Health, Safety, and Environment. March 18, 2014. Long Beach, California. "How to Save a Million Lives (and a Billion Dollars)."

Global Health Mini-University. March 7, 2014. Washington, DC. "An Epidemic on Wheels: How to Save a Million Lives (and a Billion Dollars)."

NAWHSL Annual Meeting. August 2013. San Diego, CA. "Update on the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety & The Long Short Walk: NAWHSL Historical Perspective."

Transportation Librarians Roundtable. June 13, 2013. Washington, DC. (virtual conference). "The Decade of Action for Road Safety."

New York Auto Show Safety Summit. April 5, 2013. New York, New York. "The Decade of Action for Road Safety."

XIX International AIDS Conference. July 19, 2012. Washington, DC. "What's Road Safety Got to Do With It? The Intersection of Road Safety with Public Health and Development in the Context of HIV/AIDS."

Lifesavers Conference. June 15, 2012. Orlando, Florida. "We're All in This Together (Road Safety)."

AID Forum. June 7, 2012. Washington, DC. "Road Safety: Child vs. Road."

Best Practices in Work Zone Safety Virtual Conference & Innovation Showcase (American Road and Transportation Builders Association, ARTBA). May 29, 2012. Washington, DC. "Work Zone Safety in the Decade of Action."

Automotive Safety Council Annual Meeting. March 22, 2012. Scottsdale, Arizona. "The Decade of Action for Road Safety."

Texas Traffic Safety Conference. March 21-23, 2010. Austin, Texas. "We're All in This Together: The Decade of Action for Global Road Safety."

NAWHSL Annual Meeting. September 2010. Kansas City, Missouri. "The Five Pillars of the Decade of Action for Road Safety."

NAWHSL Annual Meeting. September 2007. Portland, Oregon. "Make Roads Safe: The Campaign for Global Road Safety."

AAA Roadwise Review Press Conference at the National Press Club. January 12, 2005. Washington, DC. "Roadwise Review: A Tool to Help Senior Drivers Keep Driving Safely."

The White House Conference on Aging - Listening Session. January 8, 2005. Washington, DC. "A Senior Friendly Transportation Environment: The Consumer Perspective."

NAWHSL Annual Meeting. August 23, 2003. New Orleans, Louisiana. "Traffic Safety: A Public Health Challenge."

NOTE: I have written or given hundreds of speeches over the past 15 years (because giving speeches is a key component of my work), so it would be difficult to list all of them, but I have tried to list major speeches and at least one version of all similar speeches.

17. Please identify each instance in which you have testified orally or in writing before Congress in a governmental or non-governmental capacity and specify the date and subject matter of each testimony.

Committee: House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Date: June 27, 2002

Topic: Highway Safety and Reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)

18. Given the current mission, major programs, and major operational objectives of the department/agency to which you have been nominated, what in your background or employment experience do you believe affirmatively qualifies you for appointment to the position for which you have been nominated, and why do you wish to serve in that position?

I believe in public service and would be honored to serve my country by supporting the mission and legislative mandate of the NTSB if confirmed. My personal and professional background has uniquely prepared me to be an NTSB Board Member. From my early years working at the Railroad Museum in Galveston, Texas, and being acutely aware of marine safety on the Gulf Coast, to my formal training in motor vehicle safety and injury prevention, I have always believed in the importance of transportation safety. And, of course, I will never forget that it was an American airplane that carried my family to safety when we fled Vietnam – an airplane that we were able to board because of my father's lifesaving medical work as a physician and his friendships with Americans.

The NTSB is in the unique position of being an independent body which can help save lives and prevent injuries across all modes of transportation. My training and experience in public health have prepared me to objectively assess and utilize information from different sources towards the ultimate goal of preventing deaths and injuries. If confirmed, I will be dedicated to continually improving transportation safety.

Furthermore, I have an excellent history of collaboration and have always ensured that my priorities and opinions are expressed clearly and taken into consideration. My strengths are my background in public health and injury prevention, which, if confirmed, will enable me to contribute to all modes of transportation. Also, if confirmed, my specific training and experience in traffic safety will contribute toward the advancement of NTSB's surface transportation safety activities.

I strongly believe that each of us must strive to serve our country and our communities in the best way possible. This means that we each should use our unique skills and experience, in my case in transportation safety and injury prevention, to provide our country and our communities with the information and tools needed to help ensure that people are safe, secure, and have the opportunity to live healthy, productive, and happy lives.

19. What do you believe are your responsibilities, if confirmed, to ensure that the department/agency has proper management and accounting controls, and what experience do you have in managing a large organization?

I believe transparency, collaboration, and appropriate oversight are essential to a healthy, well-functioning agency. If confirmed, I will work closely with the NTSB Chairman, Board Members, and staff to review procedures to ensure that there are proper and consistent checks and controls throughout the agency.

I have an excellent history of management of people, diverse groups and organizations. My experience as AAA National Director of Traffic Safety Policy involved both managing individuals and collaborating with colleagues, as well as ensuring a large federation of independent and unique AAA clubs around the country addressed the most important safety priorities. My current work with the FIA Foundation and my chairmanships of the Injury Control and Emergency Health Services Section of the American Public Health Association and the Transportation Research Board Global Road Safety Subcommittee have involved managing and collaborating with people with a wide range of responsibilities and skills around the world. In addition, my work with the *U.S. Guide to Community Preventive Services* at the CDC has given me a good understanding of how research can be used to promote safety, how to manage research as part of an organization, and how to use the best available evidence to keep safety as the top priority.

20. What do you believe to be the top three challenges facing the department/agency, and why?

The NTSB's top challenges are:

(1) The NTSB must continue to adapt to the evolving transportation environment in order to address emerging safety challenges in all modes of transportation. To do this, the NTSB must be agile in understanding and developing solutions to the new risks presented by our ever-changing world (such as new technology and changing demographics). My strengths of flexibility and adaptability, coupled with my strong sense of vision, equip me well to contribute, if confirmed, to the agency's continued success in the midst of rapid changes in transportation.

(2) The NTSB faces the challenges of maintaining objectivity and independence, while at the same time, making use of available resources and collaborating with other organizations and agencies. A federal safety agency such as the NTSB must utilize data from as many credible sources as possible, including fellow government agencies, in order to maximize resources and have the most up-to-date transportation data. The challenge will be for the NTSB to do this while continuing to maintain its objectivity and independence, which is integral to its success and identity. I am confident that, with continued good leadership, the NTSB will be able to use widely acquired information to formulate its own independent views and continue in its important role of ensuring and improving transportation safety.

(3) The NTSB has an excellent reputation, but, as with all well-respected organizations, it faces the challenge of maintaining, and even improving, its image in the face of vigilant media and a well-informed public. The assets of NTSB are many, and it will be important to ensure that the public recognizes these assets in times of disaster. The NTSB can capitalize on its lesser-known strengths such as using research and prevention data to complement its well-known work such as crash investigations. It will be critical for NTSB to be pro-active, control its own image, and build an even stronger positive reputation for the media and the public. When the agency addresses difficult issues highlighted by the media, NTSB will continue to build on its foundation of good will and public support, thus advancing transportation safety.

B. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

1. Describe all financial arrangements, deferred compensation agreements, and other continuing dealings with business associates, clients, or customers. Please include information related to retirement accounts.

None.

2. Do you have any commitments or agreements, formal or informal, to maintain employment, affiliation, or practice with any business, association or other organization during your appointment? If so, please explain.

No.

3. Indicate any investments, obligations, liabilities, or other relationships which could involve potential conflicts of interest in the position to which you have been nominated.

None.

4. Describe any business relationship, dealing, or financial transaction which you have had during the last ten years, whether for yourself, on behalf of a client, or acting as an agent, that could in any way constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position to which you have been nominated.

None.

5. Describe any activity during the past ten years in which you have been engaged for the purpose of directly or indirectly influencing the passage, defeat, or modification of any legislation or affecting the administration and execution of law or public policy.

None.

6. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including any that may be disclosed by your responses to the above items.

I have consulted with the NTSB's Acting Designated Agency Ethics

Official, and any potential conflicts of interest that arise will be resolved in accordance to the terms of my ethics agreement with the agency.

C. LEGAL MATTERS

1. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics by, or been the subject of a complaint to any court, administrative agency, professional association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? If so, please explain.

No.

2. Have you ever been investigated, arrested, charged, or held by any Federal, State, or other law enforcement authority of any Federal, State, county, or municipal entity, other than for a minor traffic offense? If so, please explain.

No.

3. Have you or any business of which you are or were an officer ever been involved as a party in an administrative agency proceeding or civil litigation? If so, please explain.

No.

4. Have you ever been convicted (including pleas of guilty or *nolo contendere*) of any criminal violation other than a minor traffic offense? If so, please explain.

No.

5. Have you ever been accused, formally or informally, of sexual harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, or any other basis? If so, please explain.

No.

6. Please advise the Committee of any additional information, favorable or unfavorable, which you feel should be disclosed in connection with your nomination.

None.

D. RELATIONSHIP WITH COMMITTEE

1. Will you ensure that your department/agency complies with deadlines for information set by congressional committees?

Yes.

2. Will you ensure that your department/agency does whatever it can to protect congressional witnesses and whistle blowers from reprisal for their testimony and disclosures?

Yes.

3. Will you cooperate in providing the Committee with requested witnesses, including technical experts and career employees, with firsthand knowledge of matters of interest to the Committee?

Yes.

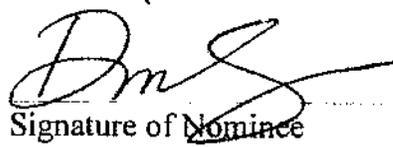
4. Are you willing to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Congress on such occasions as you may be reasonably requested to do so?

Yes.

(Nominee is to include this signed affidavit along with answers to the above questions.)

F. Affidavit

The Dinh-Zart being duly sworn, hereby states that he/she has read and signed the foregoing Statement on Biographical and Financial Information and that the information provided therein is, to the best of his/her knowledge, current, accurate, and complete.


Signature of Nominee

District of Columbia
Subscribed and sworn before me this 30th day of Oct, 2014


Notary Public

Commission Exp Oct 14, 2019

