Steptoe's railroad practice represents rail carriers in complex commercial disputes before the Surface Transportation Board (STB), in federal and state courts, and in arbitration proceedings. Our major representations include high-stakes rail rate and contract litigation and arbitration proceedings, major rail construction/environmental cases, and cases involving the preemption of state law.

We are recognized as a leading firm in virtually every major area of rail regulatory activity, and our experience in high-profile cases gives us a thorough understanding of the complex and evolving issues in rail transportation law. We have broad experience in commercial litigation before the STB. In other regulatory areas, our experience includes rail safety matters overseen by the Federal Railroad Administration, advice in matters involving rail safety and security issues. We are well known for the depth and quality of our appellate litigation practice and regularly handle cases in the Federal Courts of Appeals. Our lawyers have experience not only in the process for obtaining regulatory approval for new construction and other rail transactions, but also in the environmental review process and specifically the application of the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act to such projects. We also have experience in dealing with tribal issues that arise in infrastructure projects.

Where We Excel:

- Preemption
- Rate regulation and commercial litigation
- Rulemaking proceedings regarding rail regulation
- Rail Transactions, including state sovereign immunity
- Rail control and other transactions
- Rail construction projects

Noteworthy


**Rail Safety and Accident Response**

Steptoe’s multidisciplinary rail accident response team has extensive experience advising clients with respect to rail accidents and investigations. Our team consists of regulatory, enforcement, litigation, and environmental lawyers who have in-depth knowledge of every aspect of the accident response and investigation process associated with rail accidents. We have successfully handled safety, enforcement, and regulatory matters before the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), Chemical Safety Board (CSB), and State Department. We know that the post-accident environment can be stressful and confusing, so our team takes every necessary measure to provide our clients with peace of mind, realistic expectations, and a clearly defined approach to accident response. Our team has handled more than 35 accidents across multiple modes of transportation.
News & Publications

PRESS RELEASES
Steptoe Receives 67 Rankings in 2021 US News - Best Lawyers' 'Best Law Firms'
November 5, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Steptoe Secures Supreme Court Success for All Aboard Florida
October 6, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Steptoe Receives 125 Individual Mentions in Best Lawyers in America 2021
Four Lawyers Named 'Lawyer of the Year'
August 20, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Law360 Names Peter Denton a Rising Star in Transportation
August 12, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Steptoe Advises Oaktree in Acquisition of Rail Infrastructure Assets
July 17, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Steptoe Receives 28 Practice Rankings, 29 Individual Awards in Legal 500 US 2020
July 7, 2020

MEDIA MENTIONS
Law360 Names Five Steptoe Lawyers to 2020 Rising Stars List
July 6, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Steptoe Receives 19 Practice, 56 Individual Mentions in Chambers USA 2020
April 23, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Washington, DC Super Lawyers Recognizes 62 Steptoe Attorneys
April 17, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Law360 Names Steptoe a 'Transportation Group of the Year' for Fourth Year
February 18, 2020

Events
WEBINARS
Real World Accident Response: The NTSB
February 28, 2017
Speakers: David H. Coburn, Dane Jaques

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