



BROTHERHOOD OF MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYEES DIVISION  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

Freddie N. Simpson  
*President*

David. D. Joynt  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

June 22, 2021

## **WE STAND IN SUPPORT OF SAME EMPLOYER, SAME SYSTEM, SAME DUES**

Brothers and Sisters:

We stand united in support of President Simpson establishing System Divisions and Federations for each major freight railroad employer and Amtrak in accordance with the authority granted to him by the membership under the BMWED National Division Bylaws.

The railroads have spent the last 30 years consolidating to form larger, stronger and more profitable railroad systems with centralized power structures. The most effective way to combat this is to fight each employer with a centralized voice. But our current organization of having multiple System Divisions and/or Federations on an individual Railroad allows the railroads to divide and conquer us. It also allows them to pit our internal competing interests against each other. For many years, President Simpson strongly encouraged the System Divisions and/or Federations to merge and consolidate for the purpose of building a more centralized representation structure that would ultimately build unity and strength at the bargaining table for members working for the same railroad.

All the while, he was urging voluntary realignment; President Simpson held the authority to carry out such changes through the BMWED National Division Bylaws. However, it was not his desire to exercise such authority. Rather, it was his hope that the needs and interests of the membership would drive the rationalization of their System Divisions and Federations on each railroad employer. To the credit of previous and current System Division and Federation officers; there have been changes to the System Divisions and Federations, but these changes were inadequate for reaching the level necessary to achieve real transformation for our Union.

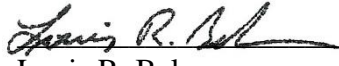
Maintenance of Way workers deserve a centralized System Division and Federation representation structure that provides them with the same dues for the same working conditions and rates of pay that they share on a single railroad employer. Maintenance of Way workers deserve representatives that are focused on issues wholly specific to a single railroad employer, which will provide for the representatives being more effective at representing the members. In short, Maintenance of Way workers deserve a single, united, powerful and authoritative voice at the bargaining table when dealing with their unique and respective issues on a given railroad. Maintenance of Way workers will only get this if President Simpson acts under his authority.

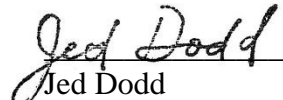
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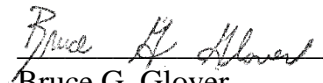


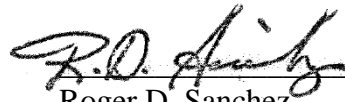
Therefore, we stand united in support of President Simpson establishing a System Division and/or Federation for each major freight railroad employer and Amtrak, and we look forward to the strength, unity and power it will bring to BMWED members on each railroad employer.

In support and solidarity,

  
Louis R. Below  
Vice President

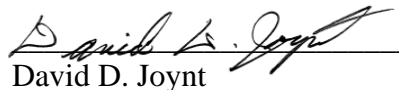
  
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