BFHS/HACI Alumni Association P.O. Box 25 Williamsville, New York 14231

## Re: Nomination of James P. Louis for Bishop Fallon High School (BFHS) Hall of Fame

To All Concerned:

Attached, please find completed "Nomination Form", and Biography Information required for the nomination of James P. Louis as a distinguished graduate of Bishop Fallon High School, class of 1975.

In nominating Mr. Louis, while I may not hold the history others may offer, I have had the distinguished honor of working closely with Mr. Louis and learning from him for the better part of a decade now; as the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET) assigned National Vice President to the Amtrak General Committee of Adjustment (GCA). So, if you will kindly indulge me with providing a brief background of my position, you will quickly see why Mr. Louis is deserving of this nomination.

While I have known and talked with Mr. Louis many times over the years as a Local Chairman within the Amtrak GCA, our interactions dramatically increased December of 2022 when I was elected Vice General Chairman of the Amtrak GCA; ultimately elevating to the office of General Chairman, January 1, 2024 when my predecessor retired. During this time, we were in active negotiations with two properties which we represent, we just finished negotiations with Amtrak. Therefore, I was embroiled in an implementing process with Amtrak where numerous work rules were modified, some dating back to 1949; all the while handling day to day business which the office requires. So, needless to say, it was like drinking information from a firehose, beginning day one.

However, while all of this was occurring, Mr. Louis was there every single time I had a question, any time of the day; of which, I can assure, there were many within the upcoming months. He was my sounding board for ideas, he was there when I had questions regarding the Railway Labor Act, and he was there always to answer and make suggestions in the midst of negotiations with numerous Carrier's. I always knew he had a passion and a fight; you do not get to the level he achieved without that; however, through our numerous discussions and battles with the Carrier's it quickly became clear his passion and fight ran deep.

Throughout not only his lifetime of dedicated service for the Membership; as Local Chairman, General Chairman, and National Vice President, but also through my current tenure as a General Chairman, Mr. Louis has stressed and imparted within me the absolute importance of doing the best we can do for the Members whom we represent. We are the individuals who are there on what can only be considered the absolute worst day for an employee, when the need to represent them within arbitration presents itself, and Mr. Louis has instilled within me and shown through

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his actions as the Organization Member within our designated arbitration Boards, the steadfast resolve and fortitude we must have during those times; something I will never forget and will carry with me until my time is done.

When we take our offices, or work our jobs, we should be of the mindset to leave it better for future generations than how we found it when we began. I can promise you this, whoever has to follow Mr. Louis will have a near impossible task to do just that. Mr. Louis has not only left it better for the Membership whom he has vigorously represented since 1989, he has set the standard for all who follow.

The foregoing represents the reasons I believe Mr. Louis should be bestowed an honor such as this; there are very few people who we come across within our lifetime that are more deserving, and I am hard pressed to think of anyone better. I thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Patrick W. Darcy, Jr General Chairman

Amtrak GCA

34 Debra Lane North Haven, CT 06473