

Contact

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Top Skills

Internal Audits

Digital Asset Management

DOT Regulations

Languages

English

Nicholas Standefer

Accomplished executive with over 15 years of progressive leadership in transportation, infrastructure, and operational management.

Known for strategic foresight, and transparent governance

Springfield, Illinois Metropolitan Area

Summary

Dear Hiring Manager,

As a seasoned operations executive with over 15 years of leadership experience, I have built a career around transforming complex organizations into models of efficiency, accountability, and growth.

My background managing multimillion-dollar budgets, leading large, unionized teams, and driving innovation across public and private sectors aligns strongly with the strategic and operational goals of your organization.

In my recent role as General Manager for MV Transportation, I led a full turnaround of the Decatur Mass Transit system—driving year-over-year EBITA growth exceeding \$1 million, restoring critical partnerships with city officials and labor unions, and leading the design and build of a \$48 million operations facility. I also spearheaded the launch of Illinois' first Micro Transit Program, bringing modern, data-driven mobility solutions to the community.

Previously, as Assistant General Manager at the Greater Peoria Mass Transit District, I oversaw more than \$100 million in concurrent capital projects, guided the district's green transformation with the addition of electric buses and solar infrastructure, and implemented cost-saving measures across five multimillion-dollar budgets. My ability to manage complex initiatives while fostering engaged, motivated teams has consistently produced measurable operational and cultural results.

I take pride in leading with transparency, mentorship, and strategic foresight—whether I'm improving process efficiency, implementing new technologies, or championing employee engagement initiatives that raise morale and retention. My focus is always on creating sustainable, high-performing organizations that deliver excellence for both employees and the communities they serve.

I would welcome the opportunity to bring my experience and results-driven leadership to your organization and discuss how I can contribute to your continued success. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm regards,

Nicholas R. Standefer

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Experience

MV Transportation

General Manager

February 2024 - Present (2 years 8 months)

MV Transportation – City of Decatur Mass Transit

General Manager

February 2024 - Present (2 years 8 months)

Delivered \$1M+ EBITA growth in under 12 months by restructuring cost centers and implementing performance-based budgeting. Supervised over 100 Union ATU (Amalgamated Transit Union) members as well as 15 Non-Union members. Repaired years of distrust between the ATU and MV. Established Illinois' first municipal Micro Transit Program — expanding coverage by 22% and reducing service gaps for vulnerable populations. Implemented a real-time dispatch and vehicle tracking system integrated with IDOT reporting dashboards for enhanced transparency. Strengthened city partnership through quarterly performance reviews, policy alignment sessions, and data-driven accountability reporting. Reduced staffing vacancy rate from 70% to 15% by developing a strategic workforce plan focused on succession and cross-training. Instituted a continuous improvement program that cut service interruptions by 30% through preventive maintenance optimization. Designed safety metrics tracking system resulting in 40% incident reduction and improved compliance with OSHA and FTA standards. Developed RFP and procurement frameworks for vehicle acquisition and infrastructure modernization in compliance with IDOT procurement protocols. Established fiscal reporting systems ensuring adherence to federal circulars and IDOT

audit requirements. Enhanced ADA paratransit service coordination through technology integration and driver re-certification initiatives. Implemented and upgraded operational software by launching Spare and Workday. Spearheaded employee engagement campaigns that increased retention and reduced turnover-related training costs by 25%. Implemented policy-driven internal audits for vehicle inspection, fueling, and data management, meeting all state oversight metrics. Led emergency response planning for severe weather events and service interruptions, maintaining service continuity across key routes. Sat on and start an accident review committee board. Member of regional planning committees.

Greater Peoria Mass Transit District/CityLink

Assistant General Manager

January 2019 - November 2025 (6 years 11 months)

Peoria, Illinois Area

Greater Peoria Mass Transit District

Assistant General Manager

January 2019 - February 2024 (5 years 2 months)

Managed over 30 capital projects simultaneously, totaling more than \$100M, ensuring all projects met IDOT and FTA regulatory standards. Collaborated with engineering firms and IDOT District officials to advance grant-funded construction milestones ahead of schedule. Awarded federal and state grants to procure a wide range of resources. From buses to construction projects to equipment. Directed full lifecycle management of a \$48M operations and maintenance facility including IDOT coordination, environmental assessment, and contractor oversight. Oversaw modernization of facilities and fleet through electrification initiatives and integration of renewable energy technologies. Led development of a new \$48M maintenance and administrative headquarters, from design planning to occupancy certification. Created multi-year fleet replacement plans that secured over \$12M in competitive federal and state grants. Served as DBE, EEOC, and Title VI Officer — enforced inclusive contracting practices and ensured civil rights compliance. Prepared and submitted quarterly performance reports and funding documentation to IDOT and the FTA with 100% on-time compliance. Implemented digital work order and asset management systems, improving maintenance accuracy and cost predictability. Developed standard operating procedures for budget controls, procurement processes, and document retention policies. Coordinated public hearings and community input sessions during route redesign projects, improving rider satisfaction by 18%. Partnered with regional MPOs and IDOT

to align service delivery with statewide mobility goals and transportation improvement plans. Oversaw safety and training initiatives resulting in a 50% reduction in workers' compensation claims. Directed contract administration for vendors, consultants, and capital projects exceeding \$25M annually. Implemented zero-based budgeting strategies that increased fiscal efficiency and reduced redundant spending by 10%.

Two Men & A Truck – Central Illinois

Area Operations Manager

March 2016 - January 2019 (2 years 11 months)

Directed statewide logistics and operations across three Illinois branches with 50+ employees. Developed statewide compliance framework ensuring DOT and IDOT safety requirements were consistently met. Implemented staff development programs that improved efficiency and service delivery. Reduced operating expenses by introducing standardized routing and asset utilization systems.

Two Men and a Truck

Operations Manager

March 2016 - December 2018 (2 years 10 months)

Springfield

I run the day to day operations for the 3 franchise locations in Illinois. I am active in Human Resource functions which include hiring employees, coaching them as well as terminating them. I also have standardized the company in terms of organizational development, training programs, project management, created new standard operating procedures and ensuring Department of Transportation as well as OSHA compliance are all held to a high standard.

Springfield Clinic

2 years 4 months

Quality Administrator

December 2014 - March 2016 (1 year 4 months)

Streamlined clinical scheduling and departmental workflows improving patient throughput and compliance with CMS reporting standards. Introduced standardized performance dashboards and operational metrics. Supported leadership in policy documentation and internal quality reviews.

Patient Service Representative

December 2013 - March 2016 (2 years 4 months)

Springfield, Illinois Area

I assist the patients in getting their plans of care set up as well as their billing situations organized and their surgeries scheduled.

Habitat for Humanity

Administrator

January 2011 - December 2014 (4 years)

Managed retail and warehouse operations including procurement, budgeting, and volunteer coordination. Oversaw construction supply chain logistics and community donation drives. Represented organization in public partnership initiatives focused on sustainable development.

Habitat for Humanity Springfield, Illinois

ReStore Administrator

January 2010 - December 2013 (4 years)

I ran the day to day operations in the ReStore. I managed the employees, the volunteers, coordinated events, planned trips and led teams overseas for humanitarian work, I prepared the building materials to go to the build sites, I also set up the employee schedule, planned the truck route as well as did marketing, product procurement, community relations and marketing.

Education

Webster University

Master's Degree · (2014 - 2016)

Webster University

Master's degree, Public Relations/Image Management · (January 2012 - May 2013)

Benedictine University

Bachelor's Degree, Education · (2009 - 2012)

Benedictine University

Bachelor of Arts, Innovation

Webster University

Master of Public Administration