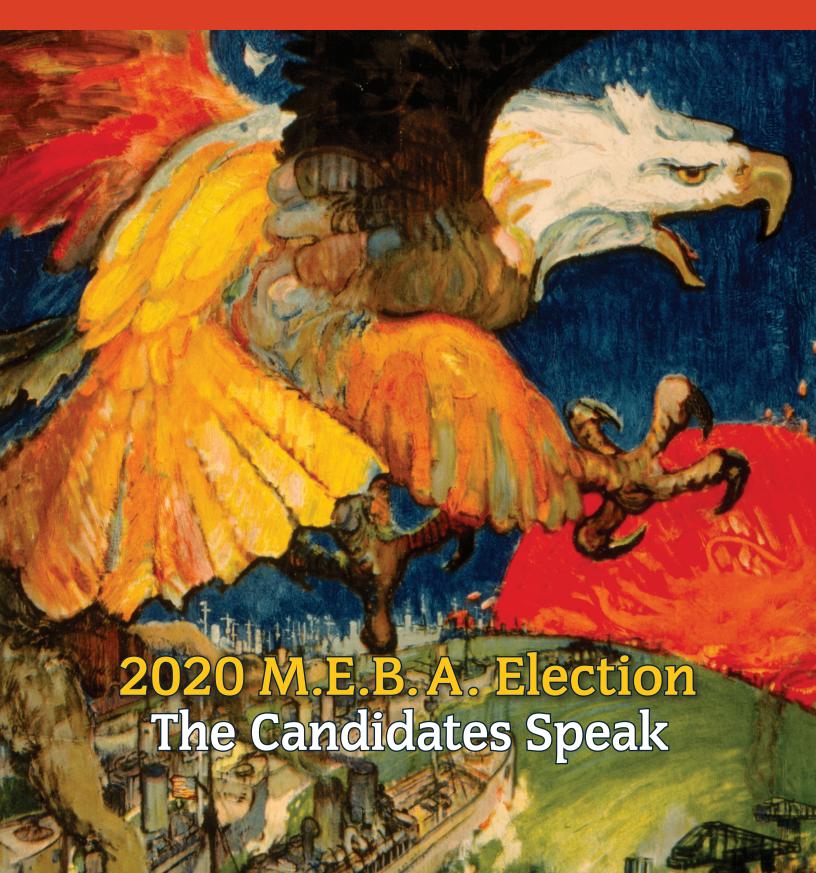
# MARINE OFFICER

Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (AFL-CIO)

**Special Election Issue 2020** 



#### M.E.B.A. Decision 2020

As essential workers, M.E.B.A. members and applicants have been keeping the watch these past months and performing their hard work as they always do – in peace, war and pandemic. While navigating unusual challenges and dangers during these uncertain times, M.E.B.A. is keeping the supply chain strong and continues to deliver the goods. So too, have we found a way to keep the M.E.B.A. election on track, taking advantage of technology and melding determination with practicality. More business is being performed remotely and membership meetings were temporarily shifted to an online format. Operations may be masked in a different guise because of the health crisis, but the important work of the Union is still getting done. The M.E.B.A. continues to fulfill its election-year By-Laws and Constitutional requirements that were most likely originally written without taking a pandemic into account.

This past July, a rank-and-file Credentials Committee accomplished their duties utilizing a hybrid format. Two Committee members worked from Headquarters and two others attended the meeting by the Zoom online conferencing platform, as they performed their qualification review of nominees for M.E.B.A. offices and jobs. Their report appears in this issue followed by candidate statements

arranged alphabetically by office in the order they will appear on the ballot.

This Special Election edition of the *Marine Officer* is offered every M.E.B.A. election year to better inform voting members about the qualifications of candidates vying for office.

Candidates were invited to submit their photo and a statement promoting their candidacy - limited to 400 words - to assist members in making a more informed decision. Statements appearing in this issue are unedited – keeping original wording intact - even if there are grammatical and spelling mistakes.

This issue presents important information related to the 2020 M.E.B.A. election with the lowdown on how to fully participate in this important democratic process.

Because of the nature of our industry, M.E.B.A. voters will have just over three months to cast their votes following the mailing of ballots on September 1st. The District's election process concludes on December 7, 2020 when an Impartial Administrator, assisted by an elected rank-and-file tallying committee, collects and counts the ballots followed by an official report.

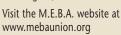
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#### **Marine Officer**

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The M.E.B.A. is the nation's oldest and finest maritime labor union, established in 1875. We represent a large and diverse mix of engineers and deck officers, experienced and skilled in all aspects of the maritime workforce. Our marine officers crew the most technologically advanced ships in the U.S.-flag fleet, including tankers, Great Lakes vessels, cruise and container ships. We sail aboard Government-contracted ships of the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command and the Maritime Administration's Ready Reserve Force, on tugs and ferry fleets around the country, LNG vessels and in various capacities in the shoreside industries. In times of military contingency, our members sail into war zones to deliver critical defense cargo to our fighting forces. M.E.B.A.'s expertise and proven track record of readiness, safety, and loyalty in answering America's call to action in times of both peace and war is unrivaled in the world.

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## 2020 M.E.B.A., District No. 1-PCD Report of Credentials Committee



July 15, 2020

- 1. We the Credentials Committee, elected by the membership pursuant to Article 10, Section 2(a) of the District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. (AFL-CIO) By-Laws, have examined the nominations for all District No. 1 officers and jobs which were received at District No. 1 Headquarters, 444 North Capitol Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington D.C. 20001 or by email during the nomination period.
- The Credentials Committee examined all mailed and emailed nominations.
- 3. All nominations were submitted to the Credentials Committee in accordance with Article 10, Section 1 (a-e) of the District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. (AFL-CIO) By-Laws.
- 4. The Credentials Committee accepted all timely nominations regardless of the method of delivery. Besides mailed nomination packets, the By-Laws also permits nominations submitted by courier, email or delivery in person.
- All nomination letters listed were received in a timely manner at Headquarters as required by Article 10, Section 1(e) of the District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. (AFL-CIO) ByLaws.
- **6.** The dues of all but one nominee were found to be current through the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter (September 30, 2020) at the time of nomination, in accordance with Article 9, Section 3 and Article 20, Section 8 of the District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. (AFL-CIO) By-Laws.
- 7. The membership status of all nominees was checked and all were determined to have been a "member of the District for one (1) year immediately preceding the date of the closing of the nominations" as required by Article 10, Section 8(a) of the National M.E.B.A. Constitution.
- 8. All disqualified nominees were notified of the reasons for their disqualification, and their right, if any, to appear before the Committee to appeal the decision or appeal to the membership, as required by Article 10, Section 2(c) of the District No. 1-PCD M.E.B.A. (AFL-CIO) By-Laws.
- **9.** The Committee makes the following findings concerning all nominations received:

Nominations for the Office of the President of District No. 1: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate & National President)

Nominations for the Office of Secretary-Treasurer of District No. 1: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of New York (Atlantic Coast V.P.):

(Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

Jason CallahanQualifiedMichael B. KovachQualified

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of Houston (Gulf Coast V.P.): (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

Jeff FrobeniusQualifiedLawrence HolbertQualifiedPhillip SistrunkQualifiedAdam SmithQualified

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of San Francisco (Executive V.P.):

(Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of Los Angeles:

(Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of Norfolk: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

Tom EastwoodQualifiedJack S. MenendezQualifiedCraig Moran\*QualifiedEugene SmithQualified



<sup>\*</sup> Voluntarily withdrew following the issuance of the Credentials Committee Report. His name will not appear on the ballot.

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of Seattle: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)  Jeff Duncan Qualified Jason Flesner Disqualified Mark Lund Qualified  Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of Tampa: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)  Nicole Greenway Qualified Michael Martykan Qualified Salvatore "Torey" Zingales Jr. Qualified	Mark S. Gallagher Qualified Andrew Martin Qualified Dan Massoni Qualified John McElhone Qualified Nico Sermoneta Qualified Tom Stenquist Qualified Serena Webber-Bey Qualified  10. The campaign statements submitted by the nominees were reviewed and will be limitedto 400 words in accordance with the M.E.B.A. Election Notices issued as All Ports Bulletins on May 18, 2020 and posted on the M.E.B.A. website.
Nominations for the Position of Patrolman in the Port of New York:  Julianne Cona	<ul> <li>11. All disqualified members failed to meet Article Ten Section 1(c) 5 [Regarding sufficientemployment time] or Article Ten Section 8 of the M.E.B.A. Constitution [Regarding eligibility for office in Districts].</li> <li>12. The Committee wishes to thank the staff at Headquarters</li> </ul>
Nominations for the Position of Patrolman in the Port of San Francisco:	for outstanding support and cooperation.  Recommendations from the Committee:
Max Alper	<ol> <li>That candidates include a Plans-generated statement of days of covered employment in addition to discharges, pay stubs and/or vacation stubs. Interpretation of hours worked or other accounting procedures from specific companies makes it difficult to ensure that days of covered employment requirements are met.</li> <li>Election material should continue to emphasize that employment in the election year does not count towards required employment.</li> <li>If required information is not included/complete in the submitted nomination packet, the committee is not required to validate.</li> </ol>
Nominations for Delegates to the National M.E.B.A. Convention:	Respectfully submitted by the 2020 Credentials Committee,  Chairman/ Rayomond Collector Houston Union Hall
Max Alper Qualified Erik Barton Qualified Adam Blackwell Qualified Michael Brady Qualified Mark S. Collins Qualified Kevin M. Cross Qualified Nils Djusberg Qualified	Recording Secretary/ Chris Ferraro  NY/NJ Union Hall  Member/Trevor Lapham  Oakland Union Hall  Alternate/Will Demilio  Norfolk Union Hall
Michael R. Doherty Qualified Michael P. Donovan Qualified Eric Downer Qualified April Fleischer Qualified	W//20th

#### Candidates for President of District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A



Marshall Ainley

M.E.B.A. Members:

I believe the direction our Union is heading is correct and we need to remain on course, which is the primary reason I'm announcing my candidacy for President of the M.E.B.A. once again. I

also believe our Union is at a crossroads in certain respects and the membership will need to determine if it believes a change in course warranted.

As voting members you have the opportunity and the responsibility to choose the most qualified candidates to best represent the M.E.B.A. for the next 4 years. The 90 day ballot period provides the time to perform your due diligence prior to choosing each candidate. As members you have earned the right to vote to choose your Union leadership, please use that right.

This statement, which I made previously, is worth repeating yet again, "Simply put the M.E.B.A. Membership, Constitution, By-Laws, Collective Bargaining Agreements and Plans form the foundation of our Union. Integrity of this foundation is critical for the M.E.B.A. to sustain itself. Regard for and adherence to the M.E.B.A. Constitution, By-Laws and Collective Bargaining Agreements should be of concern to all."

The By-Laws state the following:

#### ARTICLE THREE

#### System or Organization

**Section 1.** This District, its officers, representatives and members, in any and all Branches, shall be governed in this order by:

- The National Constitution and these By-Laws,
- District Executive Committee, and
- Majority vote of the membership

A new District Executive Committee (DEC) will be critical to lead the Union forward as there are considerable challenges and forces we continue to face. Union officers must take an oath of office to adhere to our Union's Constitution and By-Laws. When voting it should be with the By-Laws in mind, "It shall be the duty of the District Executive Committee to develop policies, strategies and rules which shall advance and protect the interests and welfare of the District and the members."

We must continue our long-term planning for the sustainability of our Union. Much credit is due our Union Officials, representatives and employees around the country and at Headquarters, as well as M.E.B.A. Plan's personnel, for the work they accomplish daily to maintain and strengthen our Plans, contracts and representation.

If elected I will continue to work with all in a new administration, along with the membership, to focus on the most important issues which will benefit and sustain our Union and M.E.B.A. Plans into the future.



#### Adam Vokac

ADAM VOKAC for President of the MEBA. The MEBA has done well over the last 7 years while I have been serving as Executive Vice President, and I would like to see many more years of progress for the MEBA. We all know opportunities

and growth are hard to find in the US Maritime Industry, so we must focus on maintaining and strengthening the contracts we have while looking for new areas to grow. My current push is through a contract I recently signed with MAN to supply day labor in their shop and on the ships they attend. Our greatest asset is having skilled Engineers, ready for work, in just about every corner of the country. Meanwhile, we must maintain positive relations with our existing employers, but push back when and as necessary to maintain our hard fought gains. Through the dedication of the dispatchers, representatives, and officials, the West Coast has run efficiently for the last 7 years and we have delivered many solid contracts.

The MEBA Plans are the backbone of the Union, and great focus has been put on them in recent years. I can confidently state they are positioned well financially, including the Calhoon

school which was on the ropes just seven years ago, and the medical plan has even increased coverage in many areas while managing expenses.

I believe I am well qualified for the position of MEBA President, having served 7 years as EVP and 3 years as the Honolulu Representative prior to that. I graduated Kings Point valedictorian, and later earned two Masters Degrees from MIT, one in Mechanical Engineering and the other in Ocean Systems Management. I have used my 8 years sailing with the MEBA, with which I obtained my unlimited CE license, and additional 10 years representing the MEBA in the Halls, to build company relations, improve my negotiating skills, as well as my own contract knowledge base, and effectively represent our membership and demand the respect the MEBA deserves.

I have worked hard to modernize the MEBA while maintaining our core principles, and I would like your vote to continue that stewardship at MEBA Headquarters. I would be honored to continue to deliver for the MEBA. Adam Vokac for PRESIDENT of the MEBA. Please reach out to me with any concerns at any time. Thank you for your consideration. www.VokacForMEBA.com

#### Candidates for Secretary-Treasurer of District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A

#### Roland "Rex" Rexha

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Roland "Rex" Rexha and I am seeking your vote for the position of Secretary Treasurer of MEBA.

I joined MEBA in 2005 upon graduation from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. I had sailed for Interlake, Central Gulf, APL, Keystone and Patriot before moving to Staten Island Ferry where I am currently employed and have been for over 12 years. In the last six years I began working (pro-bono) as the Shop Steward (Union Representative) and led our members to change the dues structure (from the fixed rate to a percentage based dues system) while also signing up over 100 members that never formally joined MEBA in some cases for over 20 years. Now we are on the cusp of receiving over 50% pay increases retroactively paid from 2010. This would not have been possible if not for the leadership of our current DEC and the memberships unity. The decline of the US Maritime industry has made it difficult for our once flourishing union to operate as it did in past years. With the Janus Decision we have an obligation to get back to our roots and become a more localized union. Our patrolman should be visiting ships as they arrive in our American ports. Our members should be unified against companies who have tried to chip away at our work protections and wages. We should be maximizing our current memberships activism and support. What makes this union great is we have the highest standard of mariners in the industry and we should expect the same from our union representation. We have made great strides with the current DEC, I want to build on their progress, whether it is protecting the Jones Act, MSP and Cargo Preference or keeping our employee rights that were negotiated in times of strength. The position of Secretary Treasurer requires someone with political savvy and the ability to reach both sides of the political spectrum. As Secretary Treasurer I would look to rebuild the strength of the Calhoon School by looking at partnerships with other engineering trade unions like the Operating Engineers (IOEU). We are at a critical juncture in our union's history. We need to reinforce the mission started over 144 years ago when this union was formed. As Secretary Treasurer I would push to create more employment opportunities while protecting our mariner's wages and rights.

#### Candidates for Atlantic Coast Vice President - Branch Agent of New York



**Jason Callahan** 

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I respectfully ask for your vote for reelection as Atlantic Coast Vice President.

Upon graduation from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point NY in

1999, I sailed MSC and joined MEBA. Starting in 2000 I had faithfully sailed out of the hall or as permanent for MEBA. I hold an unlimited Chief Engineer's license (Steam, Motor, Gas Turbine) and my last sailing position was Permanent First Engineer with Matson Navigation aboard the M/V Maunawili – a position held for four years until I was elected as your Atlantic Coast Vice President.

It has been an honor to have served as your Atlantic Coast Vice President, and I firmly believe that I have done well representing Contracts and Plans. Most importantly, there has been great help from rank and file participation during MLL, Lamont Doherty, Interlake, and Liberty Maritime negotiations and excellent shop stewards at places such Staten Island Ferries and Cape May-Lewes Ferries.

Yes, we have done well these past four years, but there is always room to grow. By continually seeking out new opportunities, we can further expand the job base and influence of the Union. An example of this can be seen with the recent addition of new work with Hornblower NYC.

Our industry and jobs are dependent upon the three-legged stool of the Jones Act, Cargo Preference, and the Maritime Security Program. It is critical that Congress support these programs, which is why I have always been a longtime supporter of the M.E.B.A. Political Action Fund.

Further, I have made myself available both day and night to address concerns and issues from Members. Recently, this included reaching out to the State Department and Members of Congress to facilitate repatriation home of our members who had been stranded overseas due to COVID-19.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the men and women of MEBA!

Fraternally yours,

Jason Callahan



#### Michael B. Kovach

Dear M.E.B.A. Brothers and Sisters,

I wish the best to you and your family during these distressing times in which we now live. My name is **Michael B. Kovach** and I'm asking for your vote for **Atlantic Coast Vice President**. I live in

NJ with my wife and son.

Beginning in 1988, I sailed Unlicensed in the engine room for 11 years working my way up to Electrician. I sat for my license in 1999 and began sailing with **M.E.B.A.** in 2000. I currently hold a 1st A/E Unlimited license, and have been an active member for 21 years, having sailed exclusively out of the Port of New York and New Jersey. Additionally, I have worked as a crane engineer and served on the financial review committee.

I would like call to your attention key union issues that, as your **Atlantic Coast Vice President**, I will address with priority.

#### \* Our contract negotiations are weak:

- \* Years of unsigned contracts.
- \* 12 hour work-day contracts.
- \* No pension plan contracts.

#### \* M.E.B.A looses, on average, 100 - 200 applicants a year:

- \* Our union has experienced declining growth.
- \* In 2020, we're approximately 5,000 members.

#### The Calhoun School:

\* Because of poor decisions & bad management, our school is a shell of what it once was.

#### \* Union representation:

\* Our union representatives no longer board sailing vessels, while in port, to address and update the members on union activities, and ask for membership feedback and/or concerns.

I've come to understand the hard work and dedication of a Trustee. We need new leadership that will fight hard and aggressively, with creative ideas and strategies, to advance M.E.B.A. forward. I will defend and represent our members with energy and vigor, no matter how big or small our contracts.

To all my brothers and sisters whom I've had the pleasure to work with and to those I've haven't yet met, I believe our elected leadership of the East Coast has done their best to date but it has been inadequate and now it's time for a change.

If you want better contracts, better representation, please give me your me support and vote for me as your **Atlantic Coast Vice President**.

Please email me with any vital union issues that concern you, Fraternally,

Michael B. Kovach MKovach43@gmail.com

#### Candidates for Gulf Coast Vice President, Branch Agent of Houston



#### **Jeff Frobenius**

I, Jeff Frobenius, respectfully request that you vote for me as the next Houston Branch Agent, Gulf Coast Vice-President.

I was honored to graduate from Kings Point in 2005. I have actively sailed on 12

different M.E.B.A. ships since then including Tankers, ITB's, Break Bulk, R.O.S. and Containership vessels. Currently, I'm a permanent First Engineer onboard the Rio Grande Express.

Having recently shipped, I have insight and experience that will serve the membership well. I understand and am empathetic to the hardships of individuals that ship off the board and must leave their home for weeks before actually sailing. If elected, I will be part of a modern transparent solution to help improve this process.

In this new world of COVID, I believe we can progress towards meaningful change that will greatly improve shipping life. Simple enhancements such as being able to clear the hall remotely for permanent jobs can have an enormous impact on the quality of service that M.E.B.A. provides to its members. If elected, I will work with the new administration to strive for technological and process innovations.

I have lived in the Greater Houston Gulf Coast Geographic area my entire life and fully understand the local mentality and political proclivities. I will use this to my advantage as I aggressively work to seek out new job opportunities for us all.

Too often as a membership we have shared the burden during downturns but not the spoils of economic fortune. I will fight to help reverse this cycle. As a M.E.B.A. Plans Trustee and member of the District Executive Committee I will make sure that the viewpoints of the membership are heard. I will always serve the membership with utmost loyalty and integrity. I will make it a point to stress that M.E.B.A. exists, first and foremost, for the benefit of the membership.

I am determined to help ensure that the membership does not experience any diminished stewardship during the transition period of newly elected officials. As a testament to this, if elected, I hereby pledge at least 25 percent of my salary the first year towards hiring personal consultants and/or making improvements to the Houston Union Hall and its processes.

I am fully committed to the future success of our M.E.B.A. union and hope that you will allow me the honor of serving you.

Please Vote!

Jeff Frobenius - Houston Branch Agent, Gulf Coast Vice-President



#### **Lawrence Holbert**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Lawrence Holbert. I am running for the position of Gulf Coast Vice President of the M.E.B.A. I feel that I can be effective as Gulf Coast V. P. by ensuring that: The M.E.B.A.

remains an Officers Union unto itself without being merged, unified, or lost within some other entity for the benefit of the M.M.&P., and a very few within the M.E.B.A., at the expense of the M.E.B.A. Membership & the Union. Reverse the trend of lost billets. Actively seek new shipping contracts. I will revisit lost contracts the MEBA had for dockside work. Ensure contracting companies are made aware that adhering to contract language is in their own self-interest and will create more harmony aboard vessels between the M.E.B.A. officers doing the work & company management directing the vessel operations. Most importantly, I have taken up this challenge to promote contracts that give the M.E.B.A. membership Equal benefits that full time MEBA employees are receiving and the hard working M.E.B.A. membership are paying for out of the wages. I will ensure that M.E.B.A. contracts are written for & crewed by M.E.B.A. members, and are not given to the M.M.&P. membership in preference to the dues paying M.E.B.A. members. This Practice Must Stop!

As a member of a new D.E.C., I will try to get through to the bean counter in every company representative I meet with, that "a happy crew creates a productive, efficient, money making ship". After all, how many times have you heard, "it's the crew that makes the ship"?

This union is only as strong as the respect it has from those outside of the union, the ability to have a voice in the decisions made on the Memberships behalf before there made, a vote on those decisions, and the respect given to the Membership by those representing us. My mission is to honor that respect to the Membership. Let your voice be heard and be current with your dues!!! Please vote this election!!! I am asking for your vote. I promise to help create that level playing field for you to be heard. With your help we will get this Union representing the Membership, again. I promise a pledge of respect and hard work, to you, the Membership. Thank You for your vote!

With Unity & Fidelity

Lawrence Holbert for Gulf Coast Vice President

Contact me at m.e.b.a.respect@gmail.com

#### Candidates for Gulf Coast Vice President, Branch Agent of Houston (continued)



#### **Phillip Sistrunk**

Dear fraternal brothers and sisters,

It was a privilege to have served as your elected Gulf Coast Vice President/ New Orleans Branch Agent from 2014 to 2017. Now I ask for your vote and support as I seek the Gulf Coast Vice President/

Houston Branch Agent position. As I have resided in the Houston area for the past 40 years, the distance is closer from my home compared to when I was serving in the New Orleans office and came home only weekends and holidays.

My accomplishments as Gulf Coast Vise President were:

- 1. Established the first 5.85% paid out by OSG toward the 11.7% Defined Benefit and then an additional 1% in our first contract negotiations with the help of the rank and file.
- 2. Worked to keep the MEBA Jacksonville Hall open, and in Jacksonville when MM&P moved out and sold their hall.
- 3. Negotiated the Yorktown Express contract that brought their wages up to that of other Express Vessels under the Crowley contract. Also included a wage increase, plus one additional paid holiday, including an increase in MPB, for all Express
- 4. Worked on over 40 personal grievances that resulted in restitution paid out to members.

5. As the past Gulf Coast Vice President I logged many hours driving to union meetings in Tampa, Jacksonville, New Orleans, and Houston. I stayed at less expensive hotels and motels and drove rather than flew.

I Worked alongside the Trustees and the DEC. I was outspoken for the membership, as someone had to be their line of defense and speak up for their best interest. After all this is what elected officials are supposed to do. Executing my fiduciary duties as an elected union official, I worked long hours and weekends to secure important union matters.

If elected as your Gulf Coast Vice President, I will carry out my duties of office to the best of my ability, to always be accountable, remain transparent, and undaunting in my endeavors to move MEBA forward in the Maritime Industry. My door will always be open and my phone close by to answer your questions and requests.

Thank you to all our members, both ashore and afloat, and the very best to your families in this time of uncertainty. Like a storm at sea, this too will pass, and we will return to calm seas and blue skies.

In Union Fraternity,

Phillip



#### **Adam Smith**

My name is Adam Smith and I am seeking your support for my candidacy for MEBA's Gulf Coast Vice President. During the past four years I have been honored to work as the Tampa Branch Agent, and during that time I have

contributed to the strength of our Union by working for strict contract enforcement, strong representation of the membership, and striving to ensure the integrity of our plans.

I would like to thank you, the members, that have entrusted me to assist in handling the various issues that have arisen on board your vessels, and to those that have placed their confidence in me knowing that I would represent you aggressively.

During my time in office, I have participated in multiple contract negotiations and have actively sought membership input from those who have worked on board those vessels whether permanent, rotary or relief. I have successfully helped

organize job actions in the ports of Houston, Jacksonville, and Charleston. In Jacksonville, I had the honor of standing on the front lines fighting for equal pay and workers' rights with over thirty of my Union brothers and sisters.

I am a firm believer that the strongest part of our Union are the members themselves. As Union officials it is our job to inspire the members to be directly involved in our great Union. If elected, I resolve to continue to do my part to directly involve our members in charting our future and making our Union even better than it already is.

I am committed to the membership and will never forget that I work for you and will continue representing with the same dedication and tenacity that I have in the past four years. As Gulf Coast Vice President, I will not only have the responsibility of enforcing the contracts of the Gulf, but I understand that as a member of the DEC you will be entrusting me to make decisions that are best for the Union as a whole. I am ready, willing, and able to take on these responsibilities. I want to thank you for your consideration.

#### Candidates for Executive Vice President, Branch Agent of San Francisco



#### **Claudia Cimini**

Honor, Duty, Pride, Professionalism.

My Plebe class motto continues to guide me:

**Honor** those who came before us: leading the effort to rededicate MEBA

monuments and place a new one in Seattle after learning about them from a maritime labor historian I invited to speak at our Hall. Later, bringing to fruition shipmates' vision of a plaque to honor our brothers who died in the MV Cape Horn fire.

**Duty**: with membership comes responsibility. I'm grateful for the opportunities that have been part of being an MEBA member for 20+ years. It was an honor to represent the Seattle membership on multiple committees and as a Convention Delegate. A living wage, good medical benefits, and the support of my union brothers and sisters through times happy and sad – these are the things I value. I'm committed to ensuring that those benefits remain in place for our future members.

**Pride**: I'm proud to be an MEBA member. I've represented our union at conventions, on the Advisory Board of the WA Labor

Education and Research Center, to members of congress, and at the local level in Washington State.

**Professionalism:** I hold an unlimited Chief Engineer license, Steam and Motor. I've worked on tankers, containerships, and ferries in Massachusetts, Washington, and Alaska. Between ships I've taught ERM and MEECE. In recent years, I've worked as Chief Engineer in the Ready Reserve fleet both ROS and FOS.

We need an EVP who is focused and mindful. Someone who is committed to working on a team, demonstrating unity & strength to accomplish our goals. Someone who will listen to members, respect the shipping rules and the contracts, and continue the legacy of our great union.

I am as committed to working with and looking out for the membership as I was while relief Chief Engineer last year during the Cape Henry fire.

#### Vote Claudia Cimini for MEBA EVP

https://claudiagcimini.wordpress.com facebook: Claudia Cimini for MEBA



**Jameson Smith** 

Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Jameson Smith and I am announcing my candidacy for West Coast Executive Vice President. I am a graduate of the California Maritime

Academy and hold an Unlimited Chief Engineer License. For the past five years I have been sailing First Engineer with Matson, both Commercial and in their RRF program.

I am running for EVP because of my desire to help the membership. Whether giving an applicant directions to a ship for their first night job or negotiating the details of our contracts and pension, I am fully committed to promoting the security and welfare of our esteemed Union. If we desire strong, high paying contracts, MEBA has an obligation to itself and the companies we work with to provide the best labor possible. Accountability on our part is key to seeing that we can maintain our jobs and improve our wages and benefits.

The more we understand the systems MEBA has in place, the better we will be as a whole. While beneficial to the membership, our policies and benefits can appear convoluted amongst our ranks. I want to ensure that the EVP vacancy is filled by someone who will properly give the membership the information that it needs. This will be accomplished by maintaining a hospitable environment in the hall and through making frequent visits to ships in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Working with fellow officials, I want to promote the benefits and necessity of MEBA, MSP and the Jones Act to politicians regardless of political affiliation. The current pandemic has shown serious flaws in the United States' ability to provide itself with a variety of items and services in a time of need. While these deficiencies may be unrelated to American shipping, preservation of the Jones Act will ensure that the USA will not come up short when our services and skill sets are called upon.

MEBA has provided me several opportunities to work with and learn from some of the best engineers in the industry. With eleven years remaining until I am eligible for a full retirement, I have a vested interest to make worthwhile decisions affecting myself and the members I will be working alongside for the next decade. It is my desire to humbly serve MEBA with the goal of recreating my experience for new and existing members alike, perpetuating our motto of Unity and Friendship.

#### **Candidates for Branch Agent of Los Angeles**



#### **Russell Bellenfant**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Russell Bellenfant, and I am asking for your vote for the Branch Agent of Los Angeles. I graduated from Kings Point in June 2014 and signed up for MEBA minutes after graduation. I have

sailed on a variety of ships and have discussed many issues that members have and want to see resolved.

I grew up minutes away from the current LA hall in an ILWU household. I have over 100 family members and more friends in ILWU and as Branch Agent I would build on these relationships to help propel our union to new heights. ILWU is arguably the strongest union in the US and if we build a stronger bond with them it will make us stronger in return.

As an elected official the two things I want to focus on are money and jobs. There are too many group 3s leaving this union because they cannot get a ship after sitting in the hall for 9 months. We have union applicants struggling for work while

AMO has 20+ jobs on their open board that cannot be filled. Engineers leaving school are willing to work for less money with AMO than not work at all with MEBA. This needs to stop. The only way this union can survive is by having new blood. There are jobs in other sectors that I have connections with that need good engineers, and as an elected official I would build those connections.

Money will always be a priority in an election. I think there is room for improvement and we should always be asking for more. With my connections with ILWU, I believe we have a solid partner to back us at the negotiating table.

As the Los Angeles Branch Agent I will always put the union first and I hope my energy and hard work will serve all of my union brothers and sisters.

If you have any questions please contact me at bellenfantr. meba@gmail.com

Respectfully, Russell Bellenfant



#### **Richard Doherty**

My name is Richard Doherty but most people just call me Rich. I am running for re-election to the position of Branch Agent in the Port of Los Angeles (San Pedro, CA). I graduated from Massachusetts Maritime Academy in

1976 and have been a member in good standing in the PCD D1-MEBA since 1985. I've shipped off the board on both coasts. My wife of 35 years and I relocated from Connecticut to California in 2001.

I have been serving as the Los Angeles Hall Branch Agent since January 1, 2013 and have been a Union Official since February of 2010. My time as the Los Angeles Hall Branch Agent has afforded me the opportunity to meet and assist many members, participate in multiple contract negotiations, resolve member grievances, visit ships, run job calls and manage the office staff as well as the day to day demands of a very busy union hall. I also sit as a full Trustee on the MEBA Deep Sea Pension Plan and Health and Welfare Plans as well as a full Trustee on the Southwest Marine Trust Fund and Health and Welfare Plan. I have made a point, in the course of doing the Branch Agent's job, to take the time to maintain

the relationships we have with our local Affiliates and the other Unions that we work alongside of.

I've worked on various steam and diesel ships including but not limited to Victory ships, tankers, NOAA research ships, Alaska State Ferries, Washington State Ferries, C-8, C-9, C-10 and C-11 class ships. I'm also a plank owner on the New York City Department of Transportation/Corrections Prison Ferry Boats. While employed with the New York DOT/DOC, I completed a degree in Business Management.

I've walked picket lines in support of local job actions and have participated in and contributed to the successful completion of Connolly-Pacific, FOSS, MATSON, APL, APL POID and Pasha contract negotiations. The four highest paying MEBA contracts were negotiated on the West Coast.

I've always considered knowledge to be a gift which I have given back and shared freely with those I have worked with. My overall career experience has served me well when assisting members who have come to me for help.

I will make sure that the service members have come to expect from the Los Angeles MEBA hall continues under my stewardship. I ask for your support. Thank you!

#### **Candidates for Branch Agent of Norfolk**



#### **Tom Eastwood**

Brothers and Sisters of MEBA. I plan on running for the position of Norfolk Branch Agent. I hold a Chief Engineer's License and have sailed in every position. I would like to inform you that I have had a great 18 years in our Union. It has been

very good to me. It has given me the opportunity to work and earn a good and fair salary. My life now is pretty well set, thanks to MEBA. Now I feel it is time to give back. I believe that the present administration has done a good job this past term. Sure, there have been a few problems. The world is not perfect and I accept that. My intentions are to help the Union Officials

making things a little better for the membership. I would like the Union to become more transparent with their plans and objectives. Making communication to the membership more thorough by doing more ship visits which have come to be non-existent. My other idea is to have the Union School more attractive, we don't want to lose it due to lack of funding. To have people want to go there again to improve their skills and professionalism. Our employers are willing to pay the school an attractive sum, but we have to attend for the school to receive it. My objective is to keep members informed and assist them in obtaining membership and advancing their Group status. I am asking for your vote and put the X next to my name.

Eastwood11@verizon.net



lack S. Menendez

Jack S. Menendez, your next Norfolk Government Fleet Representative

My name is Jack Menendez and I am running for the elected MEBA position of Government Fleet Representative in

the port of Norfolk, Virginia. I have been a MEBA member since September of 1978 and was in the first draft of deck officers who manned MEBA's top-to-bottom contracts of the 70s. I was the first MEBA Second Mate on the SS PENNY as well the first MEBA Second Mate on the ill-fated SS POET (which sunk with all hands in October 1980). After the industry crashed in 1980 I volunteered for active duty in the Navy. I was a 1200 psi chief engineer before moving into a more "specialized field." I returned to sea after the Navy and upgraded my license and currently have an unlimited tonnage Master's license. I have sailed as Master, chief mate and second mate on nearly every government and commercial contract we have including our MEBA Frontier drilling contract and NCLA.

Additionally, I have been an adjunct instructor at Calhoon MEBA Engineering School since 2005, while actively sailing on my license.

I believe that MEBA is the only union that offers our American flag companies and the Maritime Administration a single contract with quality licensed officers to operate their ships. It is time to grow our membership and to aggressively pursue growth in both jobs and membership. I have spent my whole life on the waterfront and am proud of that "well-spent" time. My experience in the military, commercial and government sectors give me the ability to relate to all of our mariners, regardless of the employer. As the maritime industry changes, so must we. If elected I promise to bring the membership the leadership that they deserve and to make Norfolk the best MEBA union hall in the country.

God bless America and this American Merchant Marine that we so proudly serve. Vote Jack Menendez as your Norfolk rep in 2020!

#### Candidates for Branch Agent of Norfolk (continued)



#### **Eugene Smith**

My name is Eugene Smith and I am asking for your support in my candidacy for the Port of Norfolk Branch Agent. I have 19 years sailing with MEBA since graduating from New York Maritime College in 2001. I sailed off the board

on tankers until settling into permanent jobs with Keystone Shipping and Patriot. I hold an Unlimited Chief's license for Steam, GT, Motor and furthered my education with a Masters Degree from Drexel University.

As Branch Agent in Norfolk I would execute the responsibilities with transparency and integrity. The membership would come first during contract negotiations, disputes, and operating the day to day activities of the hall. The Norfolk hall plays a vital role for the membership. Hampton Rhodes encompasses a large area that has ports in Portsmouth, Newport News, and Norfolk. I have worked in all the ports and would provide knowledge and experience to members who live in the area and those here temporarily while shipping off the board.

I would also look forward to representing the Government Fleet for MEBA. Our brothers and Sisters in MSC, NOAA, and the Army Corps of Engineers would be well served if I am elected. Roughly half my deep sea time has been on MSC vessels in the Prepositioning Fleet. I can relate to the training requirements, the inspections, the difficulty in getting a relief, and the operating programs that our CIVMAR members experience. I would work tirelessly to improve contracts and enforce already established terms.

Joining MEBA was one of the best decisions I've made. I have been fortunate to have great shipmates and great jobs. I want that experience to be available to not only current members, but future generations. I will work to improve benefits and contracts so that the MEBA will continue to be the best opportunity in the Maritime Industry.

Fraternally,

Eugene Smith

#### **Candidates for Branch Agent of Seattle**



**Jeff Duncan** 

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Jeff Duncan, and I am proud to announce my reelection candidacy for Branch Agent in the Port of Seattle. It has been an honor to serve the M.E.B.A.

membership as Branch Agent these past seven (7) years, and prior to that as Patrolman and Washington State Ferries (WSF) Representative for the previous eight and one half (8 1/2) years.

We have faced challenges these past four (4) years both with our contracts and Plans. I believe the current group of elected officials have taken these challenges head on. I have always known who I work for, you the membership. That is why I have decided to run for reelection.

I have continually advocated bringing youth into the elected ranks of M.E.B.A. It is my belief that we need to invest in the future of our Union.

After serving four (4) years in the United States Marine Corps, I started my sailing career in 1988 on factory trawlers in Alaska and have been an M.E.B.A. member for 20 years.

My labor education at the University of Oregon and the National Labor College includes Grievance Handling, Arbitration Preparation and Presentation, Collective Bargaining and Communication Skills for Union Activists to name a few. I believe all Union Officials need to continually improve their skills, as I have done, through ongoing labor education. I have always asked the other Seattle Union Officials to take a minimum of one labor class a year.

My negotiating history, as lead negotiator, includes sixteen (16) WSF contracts, Two King County Passenger Only contracts the Alaska Marine Highway System contract, Black Ball contract and assisted Adam Vokac with the Matson contracts. Throughout my career I have also settled nearly 100 grievances and testified in many dozens of Arbitrations.

If reelected Seattle Branch Agent I will continue my proven track record of working hard to improve the lives of the membership and their families every day. I will do my best, with the ongoing help of Kevin Cross, to continue to run the Seattle Hall as effectively and efficiently as possible, always remembering whom we are elected to serve, you the member.

I would like to thank you for your support. PLEASE VOTE!!!

Jeff Duncan

Seattle Branch Agent



**Mark Lund** 

Hello fellow MEBA members,

I, Mark Lund, am running for your Branch Agent in Seattle because I wish to give back and better serve this Union which has done so much for me. After graduating

from Kings Point in 1983, I sailed on tugs, factory trawlers,

oil tankers, and bulkers. In 1992, I sailed on my first MEBA contracted vessel and never looked back. MEBA has provided my family and me with stability and security for which I could not be more grateful - nor could I have made a better choice. I have sailed on MEBA vessels from the roles of 3rd AE to C/E on both my steam and diesel unlimited HP licenses. Now I want to utilize my experiences to better advocate for you and our Union while upholding the high standards which MEBA demands.

#### **Candidates for Branch Agent of Tampa**



#### **Nicole Greenway**

Dear MEBA Brothers and Sisters,

I respectfully ask for your support in the election for Tampa Branch Agent.

Tampa is my home hall, and I want to see the area continue to thrive. The union is

here to work for the membership and I don't forget that. Our Jobs are hard. One of the most important things keeping us going at sea is knowing that our union representatives are looking out for us, are there when we need them and are working to keep things not only running, but improving.

I would be the right person to take over as branch agent because I am organized, analytical and I genuinely care what happens to our union. My husband and I have been sailing with the MEBA since we graduated from the Great Lakes Maritime Academy. I grew up in Traverse City, Michigan running a small trucking company with my family. When that ended, I made the decision to apply to the maritime academy and completely change my life. After graduation we moved to Florida to join MEBA and start our careers.

Over the last few years MEBA has been making a lot of forward momentum in keeping our union strong and holding companies accountable. I think that this trend needs to continue and growth has to be encouraged.

We need to encourage younger generations to be a part of our Union.

We need to keep our training valid.

We need find new ways to re-invigorate our industry.

And of course, we need to continue the fight for the rights and wages of our members.

You need a support system you can trust. I am that person. So, all joking aside, "If you want it done the right way, vote Greenway".

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind Regards,

Nicole Greenway



#### Michael Martykan

1st Assistant Michael Martykan is a life-long Floridian, having grown up in South Florida before his subsequent move to Tampa. He enlisted in the Navy from 1986-1991, where he studied in the Nuclear Program and was Honorably

Discharged as a Gulf War Veteran in 1991. In 1992 he joined Seafarers International Union until 2003 and then joined MEBA which he currently has sailed for the last 17 years. In total, he has 33 years of experience being at sea in a permanent, rotary, and relief working on Steam and Motor Container, Tanker, Car Carrier, Cruise, Military, and Research vessel capacity. He also contributes to the PAF automatically on an annual basis because our union strength is the friends that we

Mike is known for asking meaningful, thoughtful questions as well as adding his take or suggestions on the discussion at hand during the Tampa Hall meetings, and in fact some might say he's a little outspoken: he's no schmoozing politician by any means. This comes from his ardent belief in this union. He believes the following as a union member in MEBA:

- Know the company contract and your rights as a worker
- Adhere the Companies to the terms of their contracts
- Teach/mentor other members in their rights and obligations
- Represent M.E.B.A. as a hard-working professional

After all, isn't that the point of a Union? To have someone in your work boots? Mike is currently sailing on the Charleston Express and will be back the first week in September, but will make every attempt to reply to e-mails, answer questions and most importantly—listen to your main concerns.

"I know the sacrifices that we all make with divorce, lost time with our children, and missed holidays, but we are a unique group of professionals that make a vital impact on the economy and everyday life, though most who benefit are unaware. We need to protect American Maritime jobs."

Mike lives in Brandon, Florida (20 minutes from the Tampa Hall), and in his spare time loves bowling, fixing up houses, live trivia and playing chess with his son, who is enrolled in a local College.

#### Candidates for Branch Agent of Tampa (continued)



#### Salvatore "Torey" Zingales

Dear MEBA Brother and Sisters,

I am proud to announce my candidacy for Branch Agent for the Port of Tampa and Delegate to the National M.E.B.A. Convention. I am running as an independent in this election because,

like many of you, I feel that forming a slate is not in the best interest of the Union. I believe we need to bring independent thought and differing opinions to the conversation on moving our great Union forward. I am committed to doing my best to provide solid leadership with True Union Democracy and Transparency.

I graduated from Kings Point in 1999 and sailed on my License for 8 years before I took a break from sailing in February 2007 because I was hand selected to be MEBA's Cleveland Representative. It was a privilege to serve the Great Lakes and Deep Sea Members in that position. During my time as a Representative, I gained valuable experience in Contract Negotiations, Grievance procedures, Organizing, and Lobbying efforts. I served as MEBA's representative to the Cleveland Port Council, MTD (AFL-CIO) and the Great Lakes Maritime Task Force. In those positions I built and

maintained strong relationships with other Maritime Unions and with State and Federal Legislatures. In 2010, after my stint as the Cleveland Representative, I went back to sea. At first I shipped out off the board in the New York hall with APL. I soon became a Permanent 1st Assistant Engineer with APL. In February 2016, after the MEBA won the arbitration with AMO over the APL Guam, I was offered the Permanent Chief Engineer's job on the APL Guam. I accepted that job knowing the challenges it offered. I am proud to say that with the help of our great MEBA brothers and sisters, we managed to turn that ship around from her original dire straits.

I pledge to use my work ethic, experience and abilities to work hard for each and every member of the MEBA, no matter what bargaining unit you belong to. Whether you are from Deep Sea, Great Lakes, Ready Reserve Fleet, Tug/Barge, Ferry Boats, MSC, POID, CBJ, I will work tirelessly on your behalf each and every day.

I humbly ask that you please exercise your Democratic right and Vote Salvatore "Torey" Zingales Jr. for Branch Agent. Thank you.

Fraternally,

Salvatore "Torey" Zingales

#### Candidates for Patrolman in the Port of New York



#### **Julianne Cona**

Hello! MEBA Union Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Julianne Cona and I am kindly asking for your vote and support in running for Patrolman in the Port of NY/NJ.

I graduated from SUNY Maritime in 2013 and I joined the union shortly thereafter. I have been sailing off the board as a 2nd and 3rd Assistant engineer ever since and will be sitting for my 1st license later this year. Primarily I have sailed out of the NY/NJ Hall, but I enjoy traveling to different halls when I have the chance in order to take work and meet new people.

Being a patrolman is something that I have been thinking about for a while now. While working deep sea, I have been referred to as "a maritime lawyer" not because I am nitpicky or don't want to work but because I value knowing the contracts and standing up for what is in them. I believe that as a union member you should have access to and be able to follow the contracts in a straightforward manner. Throughout my experiences, on and

off the ships, I have encountered many different types of people, personalities and obstacles. All of those different encounters have made me realize that I want to fight for and represent our membership, I want to be able to help people find the answers they need.

I would also like to advocate that more representation to go down to the ships while in port. I personally believe this is an important part of the union mission because it helps to improve the lines of communication between the union and its membership. All members deserve to be heard and their problems, questions, and concerns addressed.

MEBA has allowed me a lot of amazing opportunities, has always been there when I needed something, and has taught me a great deal. If elected to be the Patrolman of NY/NJ, I will always show up, listen, and fight for the interests of our membership especially in the uncertain times that lie ahead of us.

Thank You for your time, I hope I can count on your vote and support in the upcoming election.

continued

#### Patrolman in the Port of New York (continued)



#### **Nico Sermoneta**

My Sisters and Brothers of the MEBA,

At the end of this term, I will have been patrolman for seven years. While there have been ups and downs, my understanding of this great Association and of my role in it has grown and

shifted over that time. Union officials are often said to be the defenders of the contract. That is true. All union members have opportunities to defend the contract. And, only by stepping up in true solidarity, do we have any power.

The contract formalizes the relationship between the member and the employer. We, the Patrolmen, are keepers and stewards of that relationship. I have and will endeavor to build and foster my relationships with members, employers, and other people important to our industry. Relationships with people outside the industry matter a lot too. Lawyers, politicians, and journalists to name a few.

My door has to be open, and simultaneously I have to be ready to say "no." By maintaining strong boundaries with both management and the members, I have learned that many problems can be nipped in the bud. That means I can't be afraid to confront anybody, and I can't be afraid to maintain open lines of communication with the union leadership to whom I answer.

Please, do me the honor of voting for me again as your Patrolman for the Port of New York, and as delegate to the National Convention of the MEBA.

In Unity and Friendship,

Nico Sermoneta

#### Candidates for Patrolman in the Port of San Francisco



#### **Max Alper**

Brothers and Sisters, my name is Max Alper, and I am running for the position of Patrolman for the Port of San Francisco/Oakland. I graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy in 2010, and I have been part of the

M.E.B.A. ever since, first sailing on the great lakes, and then out of the New York hall.

I have been the Oakland Patrolman since appointed to the position in 2017. Not a single person wanted this job, yet I saw an opportunity to make a positive impact. Since then, I have helped negotiate contracts with Matson, APL, PCS, Golden Gate Ferries, and others. I have adjudicated member grievances, dispatched for job call, and maintained the Oakland Hall and clinic's infrastructure. I have had the opportunity to participate in picket lines, work with other labor leaders, and

have represented the M.E.B.A. at political events. Above all, I have always been available to help members with any issues they may have.

Modernizing the M.E.B.A.'s internal workings has been a focus for me – I want the union to be able to be able to respond better and faster to any situation that arises whether from the members or the companies that we contract with. The more information we have, the stronger we are, the more our members are protected, and the better our wages and work rules are sustained and improved.

I am honored to have been the Patrolman in Oakland and ask for your support so that I can work for the good of the M.E.B.A. again. If reelected as Patrolman, I will continue to represent our members, defend our work rules, and keep working towards the goal of a better M.E.B.A., however our Union needs.

www.AlperforMEBA.com



#### **Jarrod Costopulos**

Dear Union Brothers and Sisters,

To say that 2020 has been a tumultuous year for us all, our country and the world would be an understatement. As we look ahead towards the future, we wonder how our industry and union can move

forward while advocating for our rights and our families rights as essential maritime labor.

I've been a sailing member with the union since 2004. I've worked on almost every class of vessel the union operates. I've seen ships I've operated retire while new ships come online. In that time, the reason I've felt secure in my job and proud to be a union member in this unique industry of ours is advocacy. The Union is at its heart an advocacy organization – and I intend to be that advocate for our members, their benefits and the future of the Union.

As patrolman of the Oakland hall I hope to be that advocate for you as we press forward for our rights with employers and work

continued on next page

#### Candidates for Patrolman in the Port of San Francisco (continued)

#### continued from previous page

to bring the Union online and into the modern era. We can't forget the people who got us here, and at the same time we must more quickly and dynamically challenge ourselves to bring in new members, new organizations and new procedures so that our Union can not only survive, but thrive going forward.

I ask for your support for the position of Patrolman in the Oakland hall.

I can be reached at j.costopulos2020@gmail.com for any discussions, concerns or comments.

In Solidarity,

Jarrod Costopulos

#### Candidates for Patrolman in the Port of Los Angeles



#### **Jacob LeBeouf**

Dear M.E.B.A. Brothers and Sisters,

My name is **Jacob LeBeouf**, I'm asking you for your vote and to support you as the **Los Angeles Patrolman**.

For the last 4 years, my wife of 18+ years and I, along with our two teen boys have traveled around our beautiful country. We have enjoyed seeing new places and having new experiences. I now want to call Los Angeles my home.

I began my sailing career in 2001 and then joined M.E.B.A. in 2004. I have worked with the Washington State Ferries, Alaska Marine Highway, OSG, ATC, and as a Port Engineer for Cargo Tech as a Crane Technician. I've shipped off the board out of Los

Angeles, Seattle, Houston and New Orleans Halls.

I have been a member with the D-1 M.E.B.A. in good standing since 2004. I'm very proud to be an M.E.B.A. member. I believe that my experience will help me assist with members who come to me for help. I'm committed to seeing our members grow and thrive. M.E.B.A. is the oldest maritime union in the nation, we have the best engineers, benefits, and contracts. I will bring new eyes and ears to our members and support you and our families. The Los Angeles Hall continues to be the busiest in the country. I look forward to working with you, providing our members with the information you need, visiting our ships and answering the call as your Patrolman.

Unity and friendship Vote for Jacob

Thank you!



#### John McElhone

Dear M.E.B.A. Brothers and Sisters,

My name is John McElhone and I ask for your vote and support for Los Angeles Patrolman and Delegate to the M.E.B.A. National Convention.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you all for the honor of being your Patrolman in Los Angeles for the past 8 years. I am humbled by the overwhelming acceptance and appreciation of my efforts to advocate on your behalf. I am deeply proud to be an M.E.B.A. member. I have already put my money where my mouth is 8 years ago by giving up my Permanent First Engineer job with Matson and taking a 45% pay cut to be your official. **A vote for John McElhone** is a vote to be heard.

I have always been a member ready to stand up and be counted on. I walk in solidarity with ILWU regularly and they have walked with me! My stalwart pickets against Liberty Maritime included shutting down Port Hueneme which greatly contributed to the return of the Liberty Peace two months later. I am committed to patrolling all vessels that dock at Southern California from Port Hueneme to San Diego. I go up every gangway informing, educating,

advocating and most importantly LISTENING! I have grown the L.A. Patrolman job into areas no other L.A. Patrolman ever has including visiting and assisting Government Fleet in San Diego. With your support my advocating will continue to strengthen the M.E.B.A. membership.

I have attended Labor College on nights and weekends with my own money and my own time. I am a firm believer in enforcing and strengthening all contracts. This starts with resisting contractual give backs! My passionate approach to advocating has improved many work environments, has consistently gotten members contracted moneys they were not previously getting, and has led to contracted pay and benefit increases.

As your L.A. Patrolman I will continue my proven track record of working hard, advocating fully, and improving the professional environment of all members. I am striving to improve political and labor connections, and promote M.E.B.A. causes such as; the Jones Act, MSP, cargo preference laws, inland waterway needs, and government contract needs. It's your Union. Rise up and **vote for John McElhone**. JohnMcElhoneMEBA@gmail.com

Advocating for M.E.B.A. and Getting it Done in L.A.

#### Candidates for Patrolman in the Port of Seattle



**Kevin M. Cross**Brothers and Sisters

My name is Kevin M. Cross, and I would appreciate your consideration, and vote, for the honorable position of Patrolman in Seattle. It has been a privilege to represent you as a National

Delegate (2014-16) and Seattle Patrolman (2014-20).

My sailing career began with the MEBA in 2001, when I submitted my application in Boston, after graduating from Maine Maritime Academy. Since then I have shipped out of Los Angeles and Seattle. Working off the board for APL, Horizon, NOAA, ATC, Keystone, as well as a permanent position with Central Gulf Lines.

The last 6+ years have been a challenging and learning experience. I have been working to sharpen and focus the skills required to better serve the membership: Attending AFL-CIO Summer School, and Path2Power workshops, as well as University of Oregon Bargaining Institute.

My wife Mary and I wed in 2014, we have two children, Dovie Elizabeth (age 4) and Peter (age 2). We make our home in Tacoma, Washington.

I have been active in the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee, MTD Puget Sound Port Council, local Labor Council, National Defense Transportation Association, as well as a delegate to the Washington State AFL-CIO Annual Convention.

The Seattle Hall continues to be one of the busiest in the country. A dedicated and caring team at the ready. I urge you to vote for Branch Agent Jeff Duncan. We have a good working relationship, and together can continue to move the MEBA forward.

Finally, I implore you to consider upping your contribution (or starting to contribute?) to the Political Action Fund. The Merchant Marine and Jones Act is under constant attack by selfish special interests. Your contributions protect the very way of life we hold dear.

In Unity and Friendship,

Think BIG. Vote CROSS.



Christian Konopaski

CHRISTIAN KONOPASKI: RUNNING TO SERVE YOU AS SEATTLE PATROLMAN

I will spare you the lengthy boring resume. I will just say I have sailed out of the hall and in permanent positions for over 20

years. I know what members go through at sea. I just want to ask you one question. What do you want from your Patrolman? I know what I want. I want someone who will go to bat for

me and vigorously pursue whatever issue I might have with my employer or my union. I want someone who is readily available to answer my call and respond to my issue expeditiously. In my lengthy years of working on ships this is what I have done with the people I work with. As Patrolman this is what I will continue to do. If this is what you want, vote me into office as the Seattle Patrolman. Many members I sail with in the Pacific Northwest support me to be their new patrolman. If you want more, call me at 206-396-0905, or email me at konoc@yahoo. com so I can give you the service you deserve.

Max Alper (See photo & statement on page 15)



#### **Erik Barton**

Brothers and sisters I am running for delegate to the national convention. This union has provided a lot for me and I want to ensure a strong and healthy future for all of us. We barely had candidates run in the last election and we need the membership to be active in our own affairs. Anyone

who uses the NY/NJ hall can tell you I attend every meeting when I'm not at sea. Chief Engineer Steam, Motor, Gas Turbine and a long time Keystone with MEBA mates guy I have the connections for the broader input into our affairs.

Don't vote for the candidate because you like them or they are nice to you. Vote for the one who is going to do right by all of



#### **Adam Blackwell**

I joined M.E.B.A. in 2003. For the last 17 years I have benefited greatly from my association with this great union.

The strength of our Union is in its members. Our members are strong because of their work ethic and skill sets. Our unions ability to provide the highest

quality Marine Officers is what sets us apart from the others.

The school is a critical component of our union that must be supported. The ability of M.E.B.A. to provide highly qualified, experienced, and trained Officers will guarantee our path forward to more high quality and high paying contracts.

I was given some advice early on in my career that still holds true.

Get good years. Convert your overtime. Have faith in the Union.

I respectfully request your vote for Delegate to the National M.E.B.A. Convention.

Fraternally,

Adam Blackwell

**Michael Brady** (No photo or statement)



Mark S. Collins

Hello M.E.B.A. Brothers and Sisters, my name is Mark Collins and I am running for the position of Delegate to the National M.E.B.A. Convention. I graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy in 1999 and joined the M.E.B.A. the next day.

M.E.B.A. is the only place that I have worked and called home for the last twenty-one years. I have sailed for a number of companies in that time on many types of ships including general cargo/break bulk, bulkers, tankers, LASH, RO-RO, and container ships. I have been sailing exclusively as a Chief Engineer for the last ten years. I am currently working for Keystone Shipping Services Inc. and am the Chief Engineer of the M/V Cape Kennedy. I have maintained my commission in the US Navy Reserve Strategic Sealift Officers Force and have attained the rank of Captain.

I have seen a lot of things change in the time since I joined the M.E.B.A that June day in the Jersey City Union Hall on Montgomery Street. The last few years have brought a concerted effort to bring the operations of the M.E.B.A back to the tenants of the various CBA's, work rules, and the constitution, I support these efforts and hope for them to continue. I believe that the M.E.B.A. still has a long prosperous future ahead and I want to contribute to its continued good works. I am running for the position and honor of Delegate to National M.E.B.A. Convention as an independent. I was elected to the National Convention in 2016 and have the experience to make a great contribution to the next Convention. I am asking for your votes so that I can use all that M.E.B.A. has given me to represent the membership at the convention in 2021.

In Unity and Friendship,

Mark S. Collins

continued

**Kevin M. Cross** (See photo & statement on page 17)



#### **Nils Djusberg**

My name is Nils Djusberg and I am running for Delegate for the National Convention. I have been a member of the MEBA for 30 years. In those 30 years I have sailed in every capacity up to Chief Engineer and got my Juris Doctorate while sailing. I am licensed

in Massachusetts and Washington DC and am currently the Legal Counsel for MEBA. Since joining I have always been involved whether helping with negotiations, walking a picket line or just attending meetings whenever I was home. I plan on

continuing to be involved in any aspect of the MEBA necessary as it has provided me with a great means to support my family. I have been proud to sail for MEBA and to have helped with the administration of MEBA. The National MEBA is unique as it is our umbrella organization and I have had the good fortune to be parliamentarian, delegate and Legal Counsel for the NMEBA in the past. I wish to continue having a voice and vote in the next convention. I believe we can make some productive changes to create a more efficient and effective organization. I bring a lot of knowledge and experience to the National MEBA convention and can be a great asset to the NMEBA. Thank you.



#### Michael R. Doherty

I am Michael R. Doherty and I ask for your vote as Delegate for the National MEBA Convention. I am a member in good standing sailing as First Assistant Engineer on board the M/V OVERSEAS NEW YORK. I have sailed under the

MEBA Blue and gold from Third to Chief. I have sailed the Liberty Bulkers to the Waterman Heavy Lift vessels, and many other vessels under our CBA's as a MEBA member.

I am a husband and father so my family's health and well being are covered by MEBA plans. The health and well being of our plans are vital to my family's future. As a delegate I will voice our needs and concerns in the proper forum.

I have always been a vocal member of MEBA meetings from the Boston hall to the LA hall. I have voted in each ballot cycle and for special ballots referendums. I believe in the future of the MEBA and will continue to advocate for our junior Engineers.

The history of our Union is one that is rich and deep, I believe that we all must do our part and be active in its guidance and leadership to continue our long term growth.

I have been involved as rank and file for contract negotiations where I advocated for issues brought up by multiple members to company managers in a clear and precise manner.

Exercise your membership right and vote for your future. We are strongest together when unified and able to discuss our issues and goals in the proper way.

Vote Michael R. Doherty for National MEBA Conference.



#### Michael P. Donovan

My name is Mike Donovan. I am running to be a Delegate for the National Convention. I've held a USCG license for over 40 years and have been a dues paying member of the MEBA since 1994. In that time I've seen a lot of changes and

turmoil in our industry and our union. These last few months

have only increased the challenges we are facing. We need to maintain a strong national organization to fight for our existing jobs and to try and get new ones.

I ask that everyone exercise their right to vote. Vote for me, vote for some else but vote. And when the votes are tallied, we move forward as one. I truly believe that our Union works best when we all work together.



#### **Eric Downer**

Hello, my name is Eric Downer and I am running for the Office of MEBA National Delegate. I am a Group One Member that has been in the Union for 20 years and am a Chief Engineer for the Alaska Marine Highway System. In

my 20 years with the Union I have served as a rank & file Member/Alternate for three AMHS Negotiating Committees, numerous Vacation Committees, AMHS Representation at the 2017 Inland Unit Conference (held in Easton) as well as being selected as Seattle Branch Member of the Year for 2019.

For 20 years I have sat in the Control Room at coffee and listened to as well as talked my share of Union politics, what the Leadership was or was not doing. I decided to run for

Delegate to start putting my money where my mouth is (so to speak) in regards to my Control Room soap box and start working to serve and work for the Membership. I will treat the position as I would any position I have worked on the Boats by putting in the time and effort to learn the systems, machinery maintenance records as well as the vibrations and noises. With being a Delegate I will observe and listen to all sides of the issues brought forth at the Convention, never minimizing somebodies point of view or concerns while forming my own opinion/decision (not blindly following what those in charge would want us to), something that I think is very lacking in the upper levels of the Union these days.

Thank you for your time and consideration for MEBA National Delegate. I would appreciate you vote and promise to do the best job if elected that I can do.



**April Fleischer** 

Dear M.E.B.A. Brothers and Sisters,

My name is April Fleischer and I respectfully request your vote for Delegate to the M.E.B.A. National Convention. If elected, this will be my second term following my election in 2014. In my

current role as the M.E.B.A. POID Representative, as well as the Convention Delegate role, I have the dedication, voice, perseverance, and determination to fight for what is fair and right for our members. I strive to strengthen the M.E.B.A. by supporting continued growth, development, and progress, and endeavor to protect the hard earned rights that our predecessors were so successful in attaining.

I come from a family of Union workers, my dad a firefighter, my mom a teacher. In May 2011 I ran for office as the M.E.B.A. POID Representative, and remain today an official and 30+ year member of M.E.B.A. I served as a Rank and File delegate/shop steward while employed at APL, volunteering many hours each week, gaining valuable experience while representing members during discipline, grievances, and several contract negotiations. I've worked incredibly hard for the POID unit through rough times at APL. For example, in

2014 APL closed its Denver office and relocated to Nashville, TN (a RTW state), in an attempt to bust the union and reduce the wages of 175 members by half. The move has created an epic amount of challenges over the past 6 years but M.E.B.A. persevered and has been successful in multitudes of grievances and arbitrations, fighting for the rights of our members.

During my 9 years as the M.E.B.A. POID Rep, I attended several training classes to better my grievance and arbitration, organizing, negotiation, and overall representation skills, and gain a clearer understanding of labor law. I recently completed the AFL-CIO Labor Lobby Corps to improve my knowledge of union politics, lobbying, working family legislation, and the importance of developing political and community relationships to strengthen the labor movement. I headed up POID contract negotiations in 2012 and 2016, currently preparing for 2020. In all contracts, M.E.B.A. has been successful in ratifying 3-4 year CBA's that preserve pension benefits and guarantee job security, wage increases, and excellent healthcare benefits.

I'm excited to participate again in the M.E.B.A. National Convention and ask for your continued confidence in me to keep M.E.B.A. strong and secure for all members, current and future.

continued



#### Mark S. Gallagher

My name is Mark S. Gallagher and I respectfully request your support to serve as your representative to the National MEBA Convention. I graduated from Maine Maritime Academy in 1988 and immediately entered active duty military

service as an officer in the U.S. Navy. During my tour of duty with the Navy, I completed a nine-month deployment to the Persian Gulf in support of operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm. This experience, more than any other in my life up to that point, hit home the importance of working together as a team for a common goal.

I left military service in 1992 and sailed as a relief engineer out of the Baltimore Union hall on various MEBA dry cargo and tanker vessels. In 1996, I started as a full time representative at MEBA headquarters in Washington, DC. In this capacity, I work as the Contracts Representative, tracking and adjusting wages and benefits as required under the various MEBA collective bargaining agreements and perform the function of union liaison between the contracted operators and the MEBA Benefit Plans providing a seamless implementation of those contractual wage and benefit adjustments. Additionally, I perform research and cost analysis during contract negotiations

and reopeners; draft contract language, review and formulate government bid proposals for approval and support the out ports by providing assistance with contract interpretation, research and enforcement.

Over the last four years' MEBA has witnessed some good times and some very difficult times. 2020 and the COVID – 19 pandemic has presented challenges on a global scale not experienced in any previous generation, yet, the current administration through hard work, honesty, integrity and open and transparent dialogue with the membership has been successful in preserving and growing our benefit plans while at the same time delivering good wages. Our Medical, Training, Vacation, JEC and AMC plans and funds are healthier today and more of the 11.7% defined benefit (DB) pension obligation has been shifted back to the contracted employers where it rightfully belongs.

As your representative to the National Convention, I will put forth my best effort to preserve and strengthen MEBA's democratic policies. I ask for your continued confidence in myself, and the current administration to keep MEBA on course delivering job security, fiscal responsibility and benefit plan protection for all members, their families, our retirees and the next generation of marine officers. God Bless and stay safe.



#### **Andrew Martin**

I am Andrew Martin a proud graduate of the United States Merchant Marine Academy class of 2012. I have been a member in good standing for 8 years and have been sailing relieve First Assistant Engineer for the last few years

for Matson, Maersk, and Crowley. I chose this union because of the flexibility and transparency of it. At the time, I was chasing my first dream of playing professional baseball, but still wanted to keep my second career going as a licensed engineer. At the time joining the union was looked as taboo and "thats it" because the oil, gas, and offshore industries were booming and looking for talent. As I learned, the union stayed strong

during the cyclical nature of this industry. At current times, this union is getting younger and I think needs to adapt with the times. Fresh blood and ideas are needed to stay ahead of the curve. As I saw in last election the delegate nominations were low and many of the union officials were also in the delegate nominations making their view very narrow minded. I think younger and more diverse active engineers are needed in the delegation to make sure every option is vetted. With the state of our union, a new innovated approach is needed to make sure this union is on the cutting edge instead behind the 8 ball playing catch up. With your vote I will make sure that the convention makes the best decision for the future of this union.



Dan Massoni

Dear fellow MEBA Members,

My name is Dan Massoni and I am requesting your vote as I am running for the position of representative to the National M.E.B.A. Convention in this year's election.

My start in the U.S. Merchant Marine began after leaving the U.S. Navy in 1992. Living in New Orleans and splitting my time between working in the oil patch servicing rigs/support vessels and then spending my days off shaping the Union Hall trying to ship out. My break into the M.E.B.A. finally came with an open board job out of Norfolk fit for a "299"er and I have not looked back since. I have been sailing as Chief Engineer for Matson Navigation Company since 2007. Now currently on the 2018 US Built M/V Daniel K. Inouye built in the strong Union Town of Philadelphia, where I continue to reside.

I know without a doubt that much success I enjoy in this life is due to the hard work and sacrifices of those MEBA members who came before us. I hope as a delegate to the convention I can in a small way contribute to the success of those coming next. Our M.E.B.A constitution, by-laws and shipping rules are not just words but are the foundation of our Unions democratic structure. The National convention plays a key part in keeping our constitution up to date and as delegate I will advocate for you the members.

Over the past few months we have seen the way the union operates adapt in response to the risk of COVID-19. Some for the good and some for the worse. Personally I feel the increased ability for members to participate in monthly meetings via remote call in/internet is a big plus.

Regardless of whom you vote for in this election I urge all our members to be sure to participate. Send in your ballot. U&F

**John McElhone** (See photo & statement on page 16)

**Nico Sermoneta** (See photo & statement on page 15)

Tom Stenquist (No photo or statement)



#### Serena Webber-Bey

Luckily, my career has spanned the globe and I have had various opportunities afforded by my membership to this union. I have worked and sailed out of halls from New York to Hawaii and have had the chance to sail on almost all of

the different types of vessels under the M.E.B.A. umbrella from tugs to cruise ships and everything in between. About five years ago, I earned my Chief Engineers license, Steam & Diesel Unlimited and given the chance of utilizing that license onboard the Cape Henry and SS Kauai. Currently I am employed as a temporary Port Engineer and embrace the

knowledge gained in this experience so that I may take it back to sea in the near future.

Unfortunately last election cycle, I did not see a lot of members running to fulfill certain positions. As a 16+ year member of the M.E.B.A., I have always actively attended meetings and have taken in interest in our proceedings. At this time, I would like to take it a step further and serve my fellow union members as needed in the position of delegate to the national M.E.B.A. convention. The clarity afforded by our union halls, meetings, constitution and by-laws are the reason I joined and continue to be a proud member of the M.E.B.A. Mahalo for your consideration.

#### **Election Campaign Mailing Service Instructions**

Any request for a list(s) of District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. membership mailing addresses from Headquarters for the purpose of M.E.B.A. election campaign related mailings, must be made in writing.

The request should specify whether a list of the entire M.E.B.A. membership or one or more subset(s) of the membership (i.e., by bargaining unit or geographical location), is needed. Please mail your request to the following address:

District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. **Attention: Campaign Mailing List**444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20001-1570

Each request for a campaign mailing list **MUST BE ACCOMPANIED** by a check in the amount of \$100.00 per list per mailing. The check should be made payable to District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. to cover the cost of producing the mailing list and sending the list to the campaign mailing service.

The campaign mailing service will be provided by Accumail, Inc., the same company used in every M.E.B.A. election since 1995. The membership list will be sent from M.E.B.A. Headquarters directly to the campaign mailing service location and the candidate will at no time have direct access to the list. Any candidate requesting a mailing list is responsible for contacting Accumail to arrange payment for the direct mail services, including postage.

The mailing location is as follows:

Ms. Peg Dishong,
President
Accumail, Inc.
3381 "H" 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue
Landover, MD 20785
Phone No. (301) 322-4900/Fax No. (301) 322-4904

M.E.B.A. Headquarters will produce the mailing list(s) in a timely manner upon receiving the written request and accompanying check. Once the list has been produced, the address count will be made available in order for a candidate to know how many campaign pieces to produce and mail.

The list(s) will be forwarded to Accumail immediately when the candidate's campaign materials arrive at Accumail and Accumail requests the list from M.E.B.A. Headquarters.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Eric Pittman at M.E.B.A. Headquarters. He can be reached at (202) 638-5355.

#### **Dues Must Be Current for Vote to Count**

The M.E.B.A. By-Laws state, "No member shall be entitled to any benefits of the Union or be considered in good standing unless his [or her] dues are paid up for the full current calendar quarter or paid in accordance with any dues check-off system under any collective bargaining agreement maintained by the National or this District."

According to our By-Laws, members who are not in good standing by November 15, 2020, with dues paid in accordance with the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, through the end of the quarter where applicable, are not eligible to vote in the upcoming M.E.B.A. election.

In addition, with respect to the payment of quarterly dues, no member shall be entitled to any benefits of the Union or be considered in good standing unless his dues are also paid for periods of Leave Without Pay (LWOP), if LWOP is permitted under any collective bargaining agreement to which the District is a party or paid within (60) days of the postmark of any invoice sent by the Union to the member by mail with delivery receipt. Further, with respect to vacation dues, no member - including members employed by the Union, Union officials and Representatives shall be entitled to any benefits of the Union or considered in good standing unless his dues are paid for any vacation period regarding which (1) vacation benefit payments are received from the M.E.B.A. Vacation Plan; or, (2) wages or salary are paid, as in the case of members of bargaining units that do not participate in the M.E.B.A. Vacation Plan, but owe vacation dues. In order for a member to be current on payment of vacation dues, 6% of the gross amount of said vacation benefit payment must either be remitted via any dues checkoff system or by direct payment by the member to the Union no later than the first day of the quarter next following the vacation benefit payment, or paid within sixty (60) days of the postmark of any invoice sent by the Union to the member by mail with delivery receipt.

#### Mailing of the Ballots & Tabulation

On September 1, 2020, the impartial election administrator will mail out ballots to all members at their address on file at M.E.B.A. Headquarters.

The Union urges all members to make sure Headquarters, not just Plans, has your correct address so that you receive your ballot. Address corrections should be in writing and can be sent to Headquarters by mail or faxed to (202) 638-5369. You can also email the information to membership@mebaunion. org or fill out the Change of Address form on the M.E.B.A. website.

Members should know that the M.E.B.A. Plans office in Baltimore and the Headquarters databases are NOT linked and information updated with Plans will not be represented on the Headquarters mailing list if HQ hasn't been informed of the address change.

The balloting period closes on November 30, 2020 – and ballots should be returned to the designated depository by that day. The ballot collection and tabulation will take place on December 7, 2020. According to the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, ballots not received in the depository when the ballots are collected shall be disqualified and not counted.

## Impartial Administrator & Duplicate Ballot Information

TrueBallot, Inc. is serving as the Impartial Administrator for the 2020 M.E.B.A. Election. If you are an M.E.B.A. member and do not receive a ballot – or yours has been lost or destroyed – you can request a duplicate ballot in writing. Contact the Impartial Administrator at:

TrueBallot, Inc.
3 Bethesda Metro Center
Suite 700
Bethesda, MD 20814
Email: 0212001@trueballot.com

Please make sure you include your address to send the duplicate ballot. As stated in the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, if the original ballot and duplicate ballot are both cast, neither ballot shall count.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact M.E.B.A. Headquarters.

## Ballot Counting – M.E.B.A. By-Laws – Article Ten, Section 4(a)

A Tallying Committee of five members and one alternate who are in attendance shall be elected at a special meeting held in the Ports of New York, Tampa, Houston, Norfolk, Seattle and San Francisco one week prior to the December meeting of the election year [on November 30, 2020]. One member shall be elected at each of the meetings at the New York Branch, Norfolk Branch, Seattle Branch, Houston Branch and Tampa Branch and one alternate shall be elected at the meeting at the San Francisco Branch. No officer or candidate for office or job shall be eligible for election to this Committee.

The elected Tallying Committee of five members and the Impartial Administrator shall, on the morning of the regular December meeting [December 7, 2020], proceed to the depository and obtain all the ballots which shall be retained in the custody of the Tallying Committee and/or the Impartial Administrator until such time as the ballots are checked and counted.

### Nov. 30, 2020 Special Meetings to Elect Tallying Committee

In accordance with the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, six M.E.B.A. Union halls will hold Special Meetings on November 30, 2020 to elect a six-person rank-and-file Tallying Committee to oversee the tabulation of election ballots.

Members of the Tallying Committee will be elected at the meetings in New York (New Jersey), Norfolk, Seattle, Houston and Tampa. One alternate will be elected at the meeting in San Francisco (Oakland).

According to the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, no M.E.B.A. official or candidate for office or job is eligible for election to this Tallying Committee.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE ON ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE**

The M.E.B.A. By-Laws states that no member's ballot shall be counted unless he or she is a member in good standing as of 15 days immediately preceding the closing of the balloting period. You must be current with dues by November 15, 2020 for your vote to count.

#### **2020 M.E.B.A. ELECTION – SIGNIFICANT DATES**

September 1, 2020	Ballots mailed to the membership.
November 15, 2020	Members' dues must be current by this date for their vote to count.
November 30, 2020	Special membership meetings to elect six-person Tallying Committee. Special Meetings will take place at meetings of NY/NJ, Tampa, Houston, Norfolk, Seattle and Oakland.
November 30, 2020	Ballots should be returned to the depository by this date.
December 7, 2020	Impartial Administrator collects ballots and counts votes overseen by the M.E.B.A. Tallying Committee.
December 8, 2020	Tallying Committee and Impartial Administrator file their reports within 24 hours after completion of the ballot count.
December 31, 2020 (at midnight)	Elected officials assume offices and jobs.
February 2021	Nomination period for National Executive Committee positions (excluding National M.E.B.A. President)
March 16, 2021	National M.E.B.A. Convention

## M.E.B.A.DIRECTORY

#### **Headquarters**

444 N. Capitol Street, NW, Ste. 800 Washington, DC 20001 Office No. (202) 638-5355 Fax No. (202) 638-5369 mebahq@mebaunion.org www.mebaunion.org

#### **Government Fleet**

Cell: (804) 614-8717 Office: (757) 440-1820 govtfleet@mebaunion.org

#### **Ports**

#### Baltimore

1003 Eastern Avenue Baltimore, MD 21202 Office No. (410) 685-5353 Fax No. (410) 685-5355 baltimore@mebaunion.org

#### Boston

Marine Industrial Park 12 Channel Street, Ste. 606 Boston, MA 02210 Office No. (617) 261-2338 Fax No. (617) 261-2340 boston@mebaunion.org

#### Charleston

4706-A Spruill Avenue North Charleston, SC 29405 Office No. (843) 744-5088 Fax No. (843) 744-4979 charleston@mebaunion.org

#### Cleveland

1322 Old River Rd., 3rd Floor Cleveland, OH 44113 Office No. (216) 579-6322 Fax No. (216) 862-9669 cleveland@mebaunion.org

#### Honolulu

521 Ala Moana Blvd., Ste. 254 Honolulu, HI 96813 Office No. (808) 533-1910 Fax No. (808) 533-1911 honolulu@mebaunion.org

#### Houston

316 Broadway Houston, TX 77012 Office No. (713) 923-9424 Fax No. (713) 923-2749 Houston@mebaunion.org

#### **Iacksonville**

550 Balmoral Circle North Suite #308 Jacksonville, FL 32218 Office No. (904) 765-6100 Fax No. (904) 765-4050 Jacksonville@mebaunion.org

#### Los Angeles

1891 North Gaffey Street Unit #211 San Pedro, CA 90731 Office No. (310) 548-7358 Fax No. (310) 984-1409 Plans No. (310) 547-1264 losangeles@mebaunion.org

#### **New Orleans**

811 Carondelet Street New Orleans, LA 70130-3707 Office No. (504) 523-1884 Fax No. (504) 523-6911 Plans No. (504) 523-5542 noladispatch@mebaunion.org

#### New York/New Jersey

37 Edward Hart Drive Jersey City, NJ 07305 Office No. (201) 433-7700 Fax No. (201) 433-7959 newyork@mebaunion.org

#### Norfolk

6325 North Center Drive Suite 100 Norfolk, VA 23502 Office No. (757) 440-1820 Fax No. (757) 489-4126 Plans No. (757) 440-2427 norfolk@mebaunion.org

#### Oakland

548 Thomas L. Berkley Way Oakland, CA 94612 Office No. (510) 291-4912 Dispatcher No. (510) 291-4917 Fax No. (510) 835-0384 sanfrancisco@mebaunion.org

#### Seattle

5210 12th Street E. Fife, Washington 98424 Office No. (206) 762-0803 Fax No. (206) 762-6163 Plans No. (206) 767-1955 Plans Fax No. (206) 767-1973 seattle@mebaunion.org

#### Tampa

4333 South 50th Street Tampa, FL 33619 Office No. (813) 247-7223 Fax No. (813) 247-6297 tampa@mebaunion.org

#### M.E.B.A. Divisions

City & Borough of Juneau (CBJ) 229 Fourth Street Juneau, AK 99801 Office No. (907) 586-6040 Fax No. (907) 586-8216 alaska@mebaunion.org

#### Professional, Office & Industrial Division (POID)

21809 Longs Peak Ln.
Parker, CO 80138
(720) 283-1568
Fax: (720) 283-1569
poid@mebaunion.org

#### 24 M.E.B.A. HOTLINE 1-888-519-0018

#### M.E.B.A. Plans

M.E.B.A. Benefit Plans

Ann Gilchrist, Administrator 1007 Eastern Avenue Baltimore, MD 21202 Office No. (410) 547-9111 Fax No. (410) 385-1813 Toll Free No. (800) 811-6322 benefits@mebaplans.org

#### M.E.B.A. Travel

Carly Marafioti, Coordinator Office No. (877) 324-6322 ectravel@mebaplans.org

#### **Training**

Calhoon M.E.B.A.

Engineering School
Chuck Eser, Director
27050 St. Michaels Road
Easton, MD 21601
Office No. (410) 822-9600
Fax No. (410) 822-7220
info@mebaschool.org

#### **Diagnostic Centers**

#### Baltimore

1005 Eastern Avenue Baltimore, MD 21202 Office No. (410) 547-9111 (x1278) BaltimoreClinic@mebaplans.org

#### San Francisco/Oakland

548 Thomas L. Berkley Way, 1st Floor Oakland, CA 94611 Office No. (510) 663-6810 Fax No. (510) 663-6818 OaklandClinic@mebaplans.org

#### M.E.B.A. Affiliates

Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs (ALADS)

Ronald Hernandez, President Robert Sass, Vice Presidentt 2 Cupania Circle Monterey Park, CA 91755 Phone: (323) 213-4005 www.alads.org

#### Association of Public Defender Investigators (APDI)

P.O. Box 365 South Pasadena, CA 91031 626-790-5878 https://www.apdi-union613.com/

#### California Association of Professional Employees (CAPE)

Carlos Clayton, President Lisa Andres, Vice President 1910 W. Sunset Blvd., Suite 600 Los Angeles, CA 90026 (213) 484-0400 www.capeunion.org

#### Ferry Agents, Supervisors and Project Administrators Association (FASPAA)

Dennis Duff, President Michael Bunich, Treasurer P.O. Box 16361 Seattle, WA 98116-0361 (206) 799-1874

#### Los Angeles County Lifeguard Association (LACoLA)

Ken Haskett, President 1140 Highland Ave., Suite 180 Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 (310) 802-3565 www.lacola.org

#### Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association (PPOA)

Tab Rhodes, President 188 E. Arrow Highway San Dimas, CA 91773 (323) 261-3010 https://ppoa.com

## Municipal Construction Inspectors Association (MCIA)

Johnny Yutronich, President 205 S. Broadway, Suite #508 Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 620-1402 www.mymcia.org

#### National Federation of Public and Private Employees (NFOPAPE)

Daniel Reynolds, President 1700 N.W. 66th Ave., Suite 100 Plantation, FL 33313 (954) 797-7575

#### www.federationmembers.org

Professional Aviation Safety Specialists (PASS)

Michael Perrone, President Carlos Aguirre, National V.P. 1200 G Street N.W., Suite 750 Washington D.C. 20005 (202) 293-7277 www.passnational.org

#### Unión de Ingenieros Marinos (U.I.M.) – Panama

Ariel Barcenas, co-General Secretary Luis Yau Chaw, co-General Secretary P.O. Box 0843-00122 Panama, Republic de Panama Phone: 011-507-314-0302 abim\_meba@cwpanama.net

## American Maritime Congress (AMC)

James Caponiti, President
Fair Kim, Maritime Policy Director
444 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20001
Office No: (202) 347-8020
Fax: (202) 347-1550
www.americanmaritime.org

#### International Transport Workers Federation (ITF)

Eric White ITF Inspector, Florida (813) 576-9805 White\_Eric@itf.org.uk