## MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)

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ADAM VOKAC PRESIDENT

ROLAND "REX" REXHA SECRETARY-TREASURER

Dear Academy Cadets:

In the near future you will graduate and begin your chosen career in the maritime industry. Employment in this industry is currently full of opportunities. The pendulum is swinging back to the advantage of the Mariner, both domestically and internationally. Our industry hasn't had these opportunities for young graduates in a long time!

Since 1875, the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (M.E.B.A.) has been the premier maritime labor union for officers of the United States Merchant Marine. Today, with thousands of marine engine and deck officers, the members of the M.E.B.A. are unparalleled in maritime training and experience. We crew the most technologically advanced ships in the U.S.-flag fleet including container ships, tankers, Great Lakes bulkers, LNG vessels, and the only large U.S.- flagged cruise ship sailing between the Hawaiian Islands. We also sail aboard Government contracted ships of the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command, the Maritime Administration's Ready Reserve Force, tugs, ferry fleets and work in various capacities in shore-side industries.

M.E.B.A. offers opportunities in all facets of the maritime industry with wages starting at \$130,000 to \$165,000 for deep sea sailing Third Assistant Engineers.

Working with M.E.B.A. contracted companies offers you great pay, flexibility and the knowledge that a democratic and transparent union will support and represent you. We offer a Defined Benefit pension plan, a company-funded Defined Contribution plan and an optional 401K. Our Medical and Training plans have excellent benefits and you have union officials that will work hard to ensure you are well represented.

We know there may be other avenues of employment when you graduate but I highly doubt that any of those jobs will offer the professional challenge, lifestyle and vacation the M.E.B.A. offers. We have union halls throughout the country to assist you in securing work and providing the opportunities you seek, in a rewarding profession.

Good luck with your career and we hope to find you working with the M.E.B.A. in the near future.

Adam Vokac, M.E.B.A. President