

PRE-DECISIONAL/DELIBERATIVE

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



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ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

FROM: Admiral Karl L. Schultz

Commandant; (202) 372-4411

R. Room, USCG 4/8/21

SUBJECT:

**Appointment of Members to the National Towing Safety
Advisory Committee**

Purpose: I herein present 18 candidates to be appointed as members on the National Towing Safety Advisory Committee. Upon their appointment, the members' term will expire on December 31st of the third full year after the effective date of the appointment. All candidates herein were vetted and cleared by the White House Liaison's Office. This action has been coordinated with the Department's Committee Management Office and Office of the General Counsel.

Candidates who are qualified for appointment are listed by membership category.

The candidates for appointment as Special Government Employees, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a) are required to submit a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report, Office of Government Ethics Form 450, prior to appointment.

The appropriate U.S. Coast Guard Ethics Official has reviewed the candidates' Office of Government Ethics Form 450s and determined that no insurmountable conflict of interest exists preventing the appointment.

Barge and Towing Industry: Seven members representing the barge and towing industry, reflecting a regional geographic balance. There are seven vacancies. These members are representatives of the barge and towing industry reflecting a regional balance and are not Special Government Employees as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a).

Mr. John W. Hazel. Appointment.

Mr. Hazel has over 25 years of experience within the marine industry. Currently, Mr. Hazel serves as the Port Captain for Marquette Transportation overseeing the day-to-day operations of a modern towing vessel fleet that sails throughout the U.S. inland rivers, the Gulf of Mexico, the Eastern Seaboard, and offshore destinations such as Caribbean, Mexico, Central and South America.

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Mr. Steven J. Huttman. Appointment.

Mr. Huttman is currently the Senior Vice President Marine Operations at G&H Towing, managing operations in four different ports within the Gulf of Mexico. Mr. Huttman operates one of the youngest harbor and towing fleets on the Gulf Coast.

Mr. Andrew J. Gauthier. Appointment.

Mr. Gauthier has more than 23 years in the towing industry and currently serves as the Manager of Operations Integrity for Crowley Maritime. In this position, Mr. Gauthier oversees tug and barge liner services between Jacksonville, Philadelphia, and Puerto Rico where he is responsible for the maintenance of safety, environmental, and quality standards in accordance with company and regulatory requirements. Mr. Gauthier currently holds Master of Towing Vessels license, Third Mate Unlimited and pilotage for the Great Lakes with experience towing tank barges on the Great Lakes and East Coast, as well as sailing as a Mate on articulated tug-barges.

Mr. Matthew Lagarde. Appointment.

Mr. Lagarde is currently employed as the Assistant Vice President of the Ingram Barge Company based out of Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Lagarde has extensive experience both managing and operating towing vessels on the Lower Mississippi River, as well as on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterways between Panama City, Florida and Houston, Texas.

Ms. Lindsay M. Price. Appointment.

Ms. Price is a Harbor Tug Master for G&H Towing based out of Galveston, Texas. As a distinguished marine operator with tremendous professional acumen, Ms. Price volunteers her time to numerous maritime organizations to include The Nautical Institute, Women's International Shipping and Trading Association, Women in Maritime Operations, and the Galveston and Houston Propeller Clubs.

Mr. Mark C. Sawyer. Appointment.

Mr. Sawyer is the Marine Operations Compliance Supervisor for Marathon Petroleum Corporation. In this position, Mr. Sawyer oversees the safety management systems, training, material inspection, and incident investigation for over 300 tank barges, 23 company owned inland towing vessels, and an additional 50 privately contracted vessels.

Mr. Jonathan A. Van Dusen. Appointment

Mr. Van Dusen is the Inland and Coastal Shipping Superintendent for Chevron's Shipping Marine Assurance Department. In this role, Mr. Van Dusen enforces Chevron's environmental, safety, and health standards and best practices. Mr. Van Dusen also serves as Vice Chairman of the Oil Companies International Marine Forum which represents a significant percentage of the companies responsible for the marine transportation of hydrocarbon products throughout North America.

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Offshore Mineral and Oil Supply Vessel Industry: One member representing the offshore mineral and oil supply vessel industry. There is one vacancy. This member represents the offshore mineral and oil supply vessel industry and is not a Special Government Employee as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a).

Mr. Marc T. Dial. Appointment

Mr. Dial has over 15 years of experience on tankers, bulk (command), and break bulk vessels and is qualified Mooring Master for ship-to-ship, single point moorings and floating production storage and offloading vessels; overseeing the towing and positioning of offshore semi-submersible platforms and jack up rigs in waters around the world.

Masters and Pilots of Towing Vessels: One member representing masters and pilots of towing vessels who hold active licenses and have experience on the Western Rivers and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. There is one vacancy. This member is a representative of active licensed Masters or Pilots of towing vessels with experience on the Western Rivers and Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and is not a Special Government Employee as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a).

Mr. Raymond G. Richmond. Appointment

Mr. Richmond is a towing vessel master employed by SCF Marine. Mr. Richmond is responsible for the pilotage of harbor towing vessels performing all manner of tow building and breaking while also providing services in support of dock maintenance and fleeting operations in the St. Louis Area. He has over 20 years of maritime experience, and holds a U.S. Coast Guard 500 gross ton Masters license on the Western Rivers, Master of Towing Vessels, 3rd Issue.

Masters of Towing Vessels in Offshore Service: One member representing masters of towing vessels in offshore service who hold active licenses. There is one vacancy. This member is a representative of active licensed Masters of towing vessels in offshore service and is not a Special Government Employee as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a).

Mr. Douglas W. Covil. Appointment.

Mr. Covil has over 25 years of experience as a professional mariner, serving as master aboard numerous ocean-going towing vessels that operate across the East and Gulf Coasts of the United States. Currently, Mr. Covil works for Express Marine Inc. as the Captain of the Articulated Tug and Barge *Freedom*, homeported out of Camden, NJ.

Masters of Active Ship Docking or Harbor Towing Vessel: One member representing masters of active ship docking or harbor towing vessel. There is one vacancy. This member is a representative of the Masters of active ship docking or harbor towing vessel and is not a Special Government Employee as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a).

Mr. Jonathan A. Steinberg. Appointment

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Employed by the Moran Towing Corporation, Mr. Steinberg has over 11 years of experience working on harbor tugs involved in ship docking and escorting in the Baltimore Harbor, Chesapeake Bay, Delaware River and the Norfolk area. In addition to his duties as a tug captain, Mr. Steinberg also serves as an Instructor and Trainer for the Maritime Institute for Technology and Graduate Studies.

Towing Vessel Engineers: One member representing licensed and unlicensed towing vessel engineers with formal training and experience. There is one vacancy. This member represents the towing vessel engineers and is not a Special Government Employee as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a).

Ms. Laura K. Wilcox. Appointment

Ms. Wilcox is a licensed and degreed Marine Engineer with extensive seagoing and shipyard experience, specializing in propulsion and power generation machinery. She has over 13 years of experience serving both as below deck engineer aboard towing vessels as well as managing the readiness of towing vessel fleets as a port engineer.

Port Districts, Authorities, or Terminal Operators: Two members representing port districts, authorities, or terminal operators. There are two vacancies. These members are representatives of port districts, authorities, or terminal operators and are not Special Government Employees as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a).

Mr. Eric J. Johansson. Appointment

Mr. Johansson serves as the chairperson for the Energy Sub-Committee for the Port of New York and New Jersey as well as an appointed member of Mayor de Blasio's New York City Waterfront Management Advisory Board. Mr. Johansson is currently employed as a professor within the Professional Mariner Training Department at State University of New York Maritime College. In this capacity, he has authored more than 35 papers, research articles, and presentations.

Ms. Joy B. Terral. Appointment

Ms. Terral has 35 years of experience working in marine transportation, logistics, and storage facility throughout the Mississippi River Region. For the past 22 years, Ms. Terral has been employed with the Lemm Corporation, managing a bulk liquid terminal in North Memphis that receives and unloads tank barges transporting bulk liquid hazardous materials. Ms. Terral holds numerous nationally recognized certifications for emergency/disaster response and contingency operations. She is certified to conduct threat, risk, and security assessments of transportation infrastructure of chemical and port facilities.

Shippers: Two members representing shippers and of the two, one shall be engaged in the shipment of oil or hazardous materials by barge. There are two vacancies. These members

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are representatives of shippers and are not Special Government Employees as defined 18 U.S.C. § 202(a).

Ms. Angela A. Fay. Appointment.

Ms. Fay is the Vice President of Quality Assurance and Corporate Compliance for Blessey Marine Services based out of New Orleans, Louisiana. Ms. Fay brings with her over 20 years of unparalleled experience managing towing vessels and shipping operations throughout the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, the Western Rivers, and across Lake Michigan.

Mr. Brian R. Khey. Appointment.

Mr. Khey is the Director of Compliance for the Marquette Transportation Company based out of St. Rose, Louisiana. In this position, Mr. Khey oversees the safe operation of 67 inland river boats and nine international towing vessels that operate from Corpus Christi, Texas to Saint Marks, Florida and up the Mississippi River into the Ohio Valley.

General Public: Two members drawn from the general public. There are two vacancies. These members will be appointed as a Special Government Employees as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202(a).

Mr. Robert Keister. Appointment.

Mr. Keister is the Vice President of Sabine Surveyors based out of Metairie, Louisiana. Mr. Keister has over 30 years of experience in United States Coast Guard and the Marine Industry in vessel and facility compliance, marine investigations, auditing and other safety and security responsibilities.

Mr. John J. Arenstam. Appointment.

Mr. Arenstam is the Assistant Director for The Seamen's Church Institute Center for Maritime Education. Mr. Arenstam is responsible for the managing all activities at the Paducah campus that trains over 1,000 inland towboat mariners annually.

Background: The National Towing Safety Advisory Committee was established on December 4, 2018, by § 601 of the *Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018*, Pub. L. No. 115-282, 132 Stat. 4192 and is codified in 46 U.S.C. § 15108. The Committee operates under the provisions of the *Federal Advisory Committee Act* (5 U.S.C. Appendix) in addition to the administrative provisions for National Maritime Transportation Advisory Committees in 46 U.S.C. § 15109. The function of the Committee is to advise the Coast Guard on matters relating to shallow-draft inland navigation, coastal waterway navigation, and towing safety.

The National Towing Safety Advisory Committee's charter requires that it be composed of 18 members with particular expertise, knowledge, and experience regarding one or more of the following subjects: shallow-draft inland navigation, coastal waterway navigation, and towing

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safety. Following procedures in 46 U.S.C. § § 15108 and 15109, the Secretary will appoint persons to the following membership positions on the Committee:

- a. Seven members shall represent the barge and towing industry, reflecting a regional geographic balance.
- b. One member shall represent the offshore mineral and oil supply vessel industry.
- c. One member shall represent masters and pilots of towing vessels who hold active licenses and have experience on the Western Rivers and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.
- d. One member shall represent the masters of towing vessels in offshore service who hold active licenses.
- e. One member shall represent masters of active ship-docking or harbor towing vessels.
- f. One member shall represent licensed and unlicensed towing vessel engineers with formal training and experience.
- g. Two members shall represent port districts, authorities, or terminal operators.
- h. Two members shall represent shippers and of the two, one shall be engaged in the shipment of oil or hazardous materials by barge.
- i. Two members shall represent the general public.

In accordance with 46 U.S.C. § 15109(f)(2)(B), the Secretary shall not seek, consider, or otherwise use information concerning political affiliation of a nominee in making an appointment to the Committee.

The Secretary may reappoint a member of the Committee for any term other than the first term of the member without soliciting, receiving or considering nominations for such appointment. When the term of a member ends and successor has not been appointed, he or she may continue to serve as a member for up to one additional year, until a successor is appointed.


Signature Level Justification: The Acting Secretary may delegate authority to the Deputy Secretary to appoint the members of the National Towing Safety Advisory Committee pursuant to DHS Delegation No. 0100.2 *Delegation to Deputy Secretary (June 23, 2003)*.

Timeliness: Request the recommendation in this Action Memorandum be approved as soon as possible.

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Recommendation: I request your approval on the appointment of these candidates to the positions recommended. The official appointment letters are attached for your signature.

Approve/date  Disapprove/date _____
8/17/21

Modify/date _____ Needs Discussion/date _____

- Attachments:** (1) National Towing Safety Advisory Committee Appointment Letters
(2) National Towing Safety Advisory Committee Charter
(3) National Towing Safety Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan
(4) National Towing Safety Advisory Committee List of Applicants