

2018 Speaker Bios

Mayor's Welcome

Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor

City of Anchorage

Mayor Ethan Berkowitz has lived in Anchorage since 1990. He and his wife, Dr. Mara Kimmel have 2 children. Mayor Berkowitz earned a Bachelor's degree studying Government and Economics at Harvard University, where he graduated with honors. He received a Master's degree from the Scott Polar Research Institute at Cambridge University, and a law degree from Hastings College of the Law. After moving to Alaska, he worked as an assistant district attorney before serving for ten years in the Alaska State Legislature, eight as Minority Leader. As a state legislator he supported fiscal responsibility and a more comprehensive and sustainable energy policy. In the private sector, Mayor Berkowitz worked on technology and energy projects, including deployment of fiber optic cables in Alaska and across the Arctic, and a major geothermal project in Northwest Alaska. Email: mayor@muni.org



Alaska Marine Highway Strategy Update

Robert Venables, Executive Director

Southeast Conference

Robert's involvement with Southeast Conference began in 2001 and continued for 7 years as a member of the SEC Board of Directors, including one year as president before stepping down in 2008 to take the role of SEC Energy Coordinator. Robert was previously employed by the Haines Borough for nearly 8 years, the first half as Economic Development Director and the last half as Borough Manager. Before his work with the municipality, Robert was the local manager for a SE Alaskan regional wholesale distributor and served 7 years on the local chamber of commerce with 2 terms as President. Robert has served on various boards and commissions and currently is a member of the State's Marine Transportation Advisory Board as well as the Haines Borough's Planning Commission and the Chilkat Valley Community Foundation. He and his wife lived in Haines for more than 25 years, before moving to Juneau in 2015. Email: energy@seconference.org



Shifting the Service Mix – Filling the Vital Service Gap

Clare Sullivan, Deputy Commissioner

Alaska Department of Corrections

Ms. Clare Sullivan grew up in the New York City suburb of Rye, New York. She attended Fordham University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and a minor in Sociology. She was commissioned in 1980 as a United States Army 2nd Lieutenant, in the Military Intelligence Branch where she continued her military career until 1992. She began her State of Alaska career as a Correctional Officer in 1996, working her way up through the ranks to Deputy Commissioner. In her time off, she enjoys community work service which at the American Legion local post #5. Ms. Clare served as Post Commander for 8 years, and served as Western District Zone 2 Commander, American Legion Department of Alaska Executive Committeewoman, and American Legion Department of Alaska Historian and Chaplain. She is currently Vice Commander at Seward Post 5. Email: clare.sullivan@alaska.gov



Captain Andrew Tolman Merrill MPA, Commander/Director

Alaska Dept. of Public Safety, Village Public Safety Officer Program

Captain Merrill joined the Alaska State Troopers in 2002 and has been assigned to Fairbanks, Bethel, Nome, and Anchorage. He has worked in various assignments to include Judicial Services, Patrol, and Rural Investigations. He supervised the remote Trooper Posts of Nome and Unalakleet as the Sergeant and Post Commander. He was then promoted to the Western Alaska C Detachment Deputy Commander overseeing the area from Kodiak to Kotzebue as well as the Aleutian chain. In his current assignment as the Commander/Director of the DPS Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) program he works with partnering Alaska Native Tribal Associations to administer and oversee the VPSO program throughout the State of Alaska. Captain Merrill is a DARE Officer, School Resource Officer, Alaska Police Standards Council instructor, Use of Force Instructor and analysis commander, Crisis Negotiation Team Leader, DPS Online training coordinator, and Department fixed wing aircraft pilot. Captain Merrill holds a Master of Public Administration in Justice Administration from Wayland Baptist University and a Graduate Certificate in Criminal Justice Education from the University of Virginia and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. Lives in Anchorage with his wife and three children. Email: Andrew.merrill@alaska.gov



Richard K. Allen, Anchorage District Attorney

Department of Law, District Attorney's Office

Born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska, Richard spent senior year of high school in Johannesburg, South Africa as a Rotary exchange student. He received a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Texas at San Antonio, and interned for U.S. Senator Frank Murkowski in Washington, D.C. Richard received a J.D. from the University of Idaho College of Law, and interned for Judge Andrew J. Kleinfeld of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He served as a Public Defender for the Nez Perce Tribe in Lapwai, Idaho. He had a private legal practice from 2000-2004 in Houston, TX, served as Assistant District Attorney from 2004-2011 in Palmer, AK, and as Director of the Alaska Office of Public Advocacy from 2011-2017 in Anchorage. He is a *Top 40 Under 40* Award recipient. Richard is married with 2 children. Email: richard.allen@alaska.gov



Christy Lawton, Division Director

Office of Children's Services (OCS)

Ms. Lawton has been serving in this role since August 2010. She has been with OCS for the past sixteen years serving in many roles, the first of which was caseworker. She was appointed by Governor Parnell as Director in 2011. Ms. Lawton is a graduate of University of Alaska Fairbanks. She received her Master's in Social Work Degree at the University of Alaska Anchorage where she was privileged to be in the first graduating class of its kind in Alaska. Ms. Lawton is passionate about the field of child welfare, serving Alaskan families, and in improving practice and the agency partnerships all around the state, with Tribes being one of her top priorities. Ms. Lawton currently resides in Anchorage, but grew up in Fairbanks where she has deep family roots. Ms. Lawton is the proud parent of two amazing children.



Fish Take Flight – The Growing Importance of Air Cargo in Marketing Seafood

Dr. Darren Prokop, Professor of Logistics

College of Business and Public Policy, University of Alaska Anchorage

Dr. Prokop received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Manitoba in 1999. Prior to his academic career, Darren Prokop worked in government as an economist and in the private sector in inventory planning. Dr. Prokop specializes in transportation economics and its effects on international trade and transportation security. He has published seminal research in the leading academic journals with topics ranging from the micro-foundations of logistics, air cargo logistics, and supply chain security modelling. Darren Prokop has contributed chapters to many books in his field. His own books include: *The Business of Transportation* (2014), *Concepts of Transportation Economics* (2016), and *Global Supply Chain Security and Management* (2017). He is an active consultant to both government and business. Prominent transport carriers, shippers, and policy-makers have relied on his modelling of complex problems to develop workable solutions to meet their needs. An expert on cabotage regulations, Darren Prokop's opinions in this area are actively sought by international shippers and carriers. Email: djprokop@alaska.edu



Shannon Stevens, Regional Cargo Sales Manager

Alaska Airlines Air Cargo

Ms. Stevens has been an Alaska Airlines team member for over 20 years, and part of the Air Cargo sales force since 2005. In her role as Regional Cargo Sales Manager, based in Anchorage, one of Shannon's primary responsibilities is to oversee the transport of fresh salmon and other seafood out of Alaska, as well as efficiently moving other perishables throughout the State. Her expertise in understanding all species that the airline transports and the seasonal nuances for each, as well as anticipating the expectations and needs of the seafood companies Alaska Airlines serves, has garnered Shannon numerous awards throughout her career. She is also a company resource for clients in Washington and as far east as Boston. Prior to joining Alaska Airlines Air Cargo, Shannon was involved in other aspects of the seafood industry, including commercial fishing off the Oregon Coast, product development laboratory assistant for Alaska Seafood International, and seafood purchaser for her own restaurant, Shannon's Calais Café. Email: shannon.stevens@alaskaair.com



Garrett Parker, Vice President

Golden Harvest Alaska Seafoods, LLC.

Mr. Parker was born and raised in Anchorage and graduated from Service High School. He received a full-ride scholarship to Jacksonville State University and has degrees in economics and international business. He followed his father to Ecuador, where he was CEO of Ecuadorian Coastal Properties. Garrett has appeared on the tv shows 'House Hunters International' and 'Beachfront Bargain Hunt'. After the tv appearances, he started exporting fish from Ecuador around the world. Jason Ogilvie invested in Garrett's business forming their new venture in Adak, Golden Harvest Alaska Seafoods, LLC. Email: Garrett@goldenharvestalaska.com



Troy LaRue, Statewide Aviation Division Operations Manager

Alaska DOT/PF

Mr. LaRue was born and raised in Oregon and moved to Dutch Harbor in 1987. He worked as a longshoreman, crane operator, and operations manager before joining DOT in 1997. Troy started with DOT as an equipment operator at the Unalaska Airport. He has been an equipment operator, airport manager, M&O Superintendent, and is currently the Division Operations Manager for Statewide Aviation. Troy manages three sections in the Division, Leasing, Safety/Security and Aviation Planning. Troy reports to Deputy Commissioner Binder. Email: troy.larue@alaska.gov



Human-Centered Automation

Doug Johnson, President & CEO

Professional Growth Systems

As President and CEO of Professional Growth Systems for the last 28 years, Doug has worked with every type of organization – from municipal court systems to large city hospitals to small village corporations. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Geological Engineering from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Doug is passionate about helping organizations succeed and flourish, from the early stages of entrepreneurship and development throughout the lifecycle of the company. During his tenure at PGS, Doug has helped many companies with performance improvement initiatives; served as a consultant in the launch of Alaska's first biotechnology company; worked with scientists from Stanford Research Institute to commercialize new technology; and has assisted the oil industry in becoming "safer, cleaner, better," in positioning themselves for the 21st century. Leading the PGS Product Innovation Team and, he is committed to continually educating himself in performance improvement by studying the work of "practicing masters." When not working, Doug is an avid skier, traveler, and private pilot.

Email: dougj@professionalgrowthsystems.com



Hezekiah "Ky" R. Holland, MBA, Assistant Professor of Business Administration

Alaska Pacific University

Mr. Holland provides consulting services through Holland Consulting Company on a variety of industrial manufacturing projects. He is an experienced industrial product operations manager with 25 years of experience in a variety of industries including: mining, construction, downstream petroleum distribution, water and waste-water systems, digital X-ray NDT imaging, and industrial safety. Most recently, Mr. Holland helped organize and grow an Anchorage-based industrial digital X-ray manufacturing business for a successful sale to a Fortune 150 public company. Email: kyrholland@gmail.com



Craig Tomita, Area Sales Manager – West

Universal Robots

Mr. Tomita has spent the last 30 years in factory automation, robotics, and machine vision. He was formerly the vice president of IAI America, and has worked in various managerial positions at companies including Cognex, Bosch-Rexroth, Minarik Automation, Adept Technologies, and most recently, Festo. Craig is now responsible for managing the sales of Universal Robots in the western part of United States and Canada. He is a graduate of the University of Southern California. Email: cto@universal-robots.com



Alaska's Opioid Crisis

Lieutenant Steven Adams, Deputy Commander

Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit, Alaska Department of Public Safety

Lt. Adams is a 24-year veteran of the AK Dept. of Public Safety, Div. of AK State Troopers. Lt. Adams currently exercises operational control of five drug enforcement teams dispersed geographically around Alaska. He graduated from State Trooper Recruit Class 42 in December 1993. He served in patrol as a Field Training Officer and as an Investigator in the General Investigations Unit. He has worked in the Talkeetna Post and the Palmer-Wasilla area as an Investigator with the Mat-Su Drug Team. Lt. Adams was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and assigned as supervisor of the Western Alaska Alcohol and Narcotics Team (WAANT) based in Anchorage. In 2001, he was transferred to the Anchorage Airport Detail and assisted in the creation of the Alaska Interdiction Task Force (AITF). In 2005, he became the supervisor of the DUI Enforcement Team, Highway Patrol and in 2009; he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and assigned as Deputy Commander of the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol. In 2010, he was transferred to B Detachment as Deputy Commander. In 2012, he transferred to the DPS Headquarters and assumed the duties of the Statewide Search



and Rescue Coordinator, Emergency Manager for DPS and the Alaska AMBER Alert Coordinator. Lt. Adams was a member of the Special Emergency Reaction Team (SERT), holds an Advanced Police Officer and Police Instructor certification through the Alaska Police Standards Council. He is a graduate of the 129th Southern Police Institute's Administrative Officers Course at the University of Louisville. Lt. Adams lives in Palmer with his wife and 6 children. He is a 38-year Alaskan resident. Email: steven.adams@alaska.gov

Dr. Shane Coleman, Medical Director, Behavioral Services Division

Southcentral Foundation

Dr. Coleman is a Medical Director for the Behavioral Services Division in Southcentral Foundation's Malcom Baldrige-award winning Nuka System of Care. Shane's role includes working directly with the VP to provide direction, support and oversight for all Behavioral Services programs. Primary responsibilities include clinical innovation, quality improvement, quality assurance, accreditation, grant selection, external representation and relationship building, and data/measurement development. This includes ensuring program alignment with SCF's mission and vision. Email: scoleman@southcentralfoundation.com

Dr. David Lessens, MD, MPH

Medical Director, Primary Care 1 West

Dr. David Lessens joined Southcentral Foundation in 2013 and is a primary care provider and a medical director. Beyond his clinical responsibilities as a part of an integrated primary care team, he serves on multiple committees, has co-authored institutional guidelines, and has written several chapters in primary care textbooks. He received his medical training at the University of Michigan Medical School and completed a family medicine residency and academic integrative medicine fellowship at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. In addition, he completed an MPH with a focus on nutrition and environmental sustainability at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. David is passionate about enabling healthcare systems to address determinants of health and focus on all dimensions of wellness. Email: DLessens@southcentralfoundation.com

Carol Wren, Vice President of Shareholder Development

Bristol Bay Native Corporation

Ms. Wren is of Inupiaq heritage, born and raised in Alaska. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Pacific Lutheran University, a Master's Degree in Vocational Education from the University of Alaska Anchorage and is a graduate of the Alaska Native Executive Leadership Program at Alaska Pacific University and the Leading People and Investing to Build Sustainable Communities Program through Harvard Business School. She is married to Eric Wren and has two children, Jade and Kenny. Carol is a recognized leader in the development and implementation of innovative and effective training, education, and employment programs that benefit adults and youth. Ms. Wren has dedicated her professional life to improving the lives of whole families by helping to establish financial independence through stable employment, job training, education, and coaching that increase opportunities for parents and their children. She has been instrumental in developing integrated approaches to services and training through partnerships and coordination amongst multiple service providers. Carol serves on the advisory board at AVTEC, is a Junior Achievement Volunteer, and is a recipient of the *Top 40 under 40* Alaska Journal of Commerce Award. Email: cwren@bbnc.net



Federal Issues for Southwest Alaska

Jerry Ward, State Director, USDA

Rural Development, Alaska Region

Mr. Ward is an Athabascan Indian from the Caribou Tribe, born and raised in Alaska. Ward has a record of public service, including the U.S. Navy Seabees in Vietnam, Rural Affairs Coordinator with the Department of Corrections, and Legislative Liaison for the Alaska Energy Authority. Ward has also served as a member of the Alaska State House of Representatives, with a seat on the Finance Committee, and in the Alaska State Senate as Vice Chairman of the Finance Committee addressing rural Alaskan issues. Email: jerry.ward2@ak.usda.gov



Steve Wackowski, Senior Adviser

Alaskan Affairs at Department of the Interior

Mr. Wackowski grew up between Anchorage and Ninilchik. Steve served as the Campaign Manager for Senator Murkowski's 2016 reelection. He managed remote sensing operations for Fairweather Science focusing on survey work and mapping on the North Slope. He is also an Air Force Reserve officer assigned to the 611th Air Operations Center at JBER. In his Air Force career, he served in contingency operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Haiti. Steve's graduate school research focused on national security impacts of an ice-free arctic with a focus on intelligence capabilities in the Arctic domain. To conduct research, he deployed on the joint US/Canadian 2011 Extended Continental Shelf Mapping mission onboard the Icebreakers HEALY and LOUIS S St-LAURENT and conducted the first ever SUAS flights from underway icebreakers in the high Arctic. Steve served as a Professional Staff member on the US Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation committee. He also served as Senator Ted Stevens' Press Secretary. In 2005, Steve graduated from Saint Mary's College of California with a BS in Computer Science.



U.S. Census Bureau

Charmaine V. Ramos, Partnerships Specialist

U.S. Census Bureau

Ms. Ramos is Tlingit. She is Raven moiety, Copper River Clan, and from the Owl House. Her father is Coho Clan. She was born and raised in Southeast Alaska and currently lives in Anchorage. Charmaine works for the U.S. Census Bureau as a Partnerships Specialist and is tasked with building and maintaining relationships with governments, businesses, and organizations in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho to prepare for the 2020 Census. She loves to travel with her daughter, Nirvana. They recently attended the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang. Email: Charmaine.V.Ramos@census.gov



Broadband in Southwest Alaska

Dan Boyette, Vice President and General Manager

GCI, Inc.

Dan Boyette joined GCI in 1989 and has worked primarily in network expansion roles throughout his tenure with the company, with a primary focus on extending GCI's network and services to the communities of rural Alaska. He was appointed Vice President in 2007 when taking on the challenge of extending GCI's cellular network to Alaska communities off the Alaska road system. His current assignment, Vice President and General Manager of the TERRA-Aleutian Program, is to lead the effort to extend broadband services to the communities along the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Chain all the way to Unalaska.

Email: dboyette@gci.com



Kristina Woolston, Vice President External Relations

Quintillion

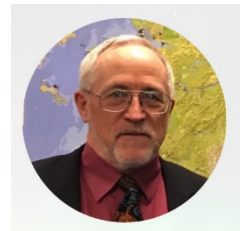
Ms. Woolston dedicates her time and attention to government affairs, community outreach, and engagement for the Quintillion project. Headquartered in Anchorage, Quintillion is the owner-operator of the Quintillion Subsea Cable System. Kristina has two decades of experience in government and public affairs, including more than a decade at the leadership level with Chenega Corporation where she led their government and external affairs related to government contracting as a professional services provider across a diversified business portfolio. Prior to Chenega, Kristina led community outreach for the Donlin Creek during the early days of development prior to permitting and EIS stages of the project. Kristina was raised in Naknek and grew up commercial fishing in Bristol Bay each summer. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Government from Dartmouth College. Kristina and her husband Tim have four children. Kristina and Tim are owners of Fat Ptarmigan restaurant, SMW Coffee Co, KTM Construction, and have helped their youngest daughter start her own all-natural dog treat business, Charlotte's Canine Creations. Email: kwoolston@qexpressnet.com



Tom Brady, Chief Technical Officer and Founder

Pacific Datapoint

Mr. Brady joined Microcom in 1994 after retiring from the US Air Force. As Chief Technology Officer he was responsible for overseeing the company's international operations in Russia for several years and specifically the joint venture operation on Sakhalin Island. In addition, Mr. Brady took on the technology leadership role for the Alaska operation. His primary role includes management of the technical work force, overseeing commercial satellite service installations, and the development of new business ventures in wireless systems and data services for the company. Prior to joining Microcom, Mr. Brady spent 22 years on active duty in the Air Force. He managed telecommunications and computing systems installation, operation, and maintenance.



Governor's Welcome

Bill Walker, Governor

State of Alaska

Gov. Walker was born in Fairbanks and raised in Delta Junction and Valdez. His parents, Ed and Francis Walker, were Alaskan pioneers. As a family, the Walkers celebrated Alaska Statehood in 1959, survived the 1964 Earthquake, and worked together in the family construction and hotel businesses. Governor Walker also worked as a carpenter, teamster and laborer on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline construction to pay for his education. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in business management from Lewis and Clark College and his juris doctor from the University of Puget Sound School of Law (now Seattle University). Prior to taking office, Governor Walker and his wife, Donna, owned a law firm that focused on municipal and oil and gas law. The Walkers have four children, and five grandchildren.



Legislative Update

Gary Stevens, Legislative District P

Alaska State Senate

From Alaska State Senate to Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute and Rotary International, Gary Stevens has been involved with a variety of institutions in both the public and private sector. He served in the Alaska House of Representatives from 2001-2003 and in the Alaska State Senate from 2003-present. Stevens was the Senate President from 2009-2013.

Email: senator.gary.stevens@akleg.gov



Louise Stutes, Legislative District 32

Alaska State House

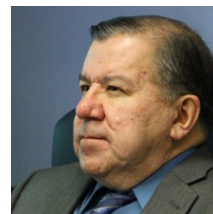
Representing coastal communities from Tyonek to Yakutat, Seldovia, Cordova, and Kodiak Island, Louise Stutes understands the importance of transportation infrastructure and the fishing industry for rural Alaskans. She is a retired business owner and previously served on the Kodiak Assembly, regional fisheries advisory boards, and SWAMC's Board of Directors. Louise is the Chair of the House Fisheries Committee and member of the House Committees on Transportation and Public Facilities; Economic Development, Tourism, and Arctic Policy; Health & Social Services; and State Affairs. Email: rep.louis.stutes@akleg.gov



Lyman Hoffman, Legislative District S

Alaska State Senate

Senator Hoffman graduated from Bethel High School and obtained a degree in Business Administration from the University of Alaska. Past work includes: co-Chair - Senate Finance - 2007-2012; co-Chair - House Finance - 1989-90; State Representative, 1986-90 & 1993-94; and City Manager, Bethel, 1977-85. Hoffman served as State Senator from 1991-92, and from 1995-present. He has also been Deputy director of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation. Hoffman has been a former owner of North Star Gas; owner of Bethel Drilling & Welding; Finance committee member of Orutsararmiut Native Council; and Member of the Lower Kuskokwim Development Corporation. Hoffman is married with two children. Email: senator.lyman.hoffman@akleg.gov



Bryce Edgmon, Legislative District 37

Alaska State House

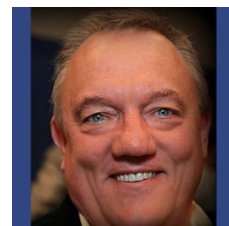
Representative Edgmon has represented the 37th District since 2007. He is the first Alaskan Native in the history of the state to hold the position of Speaker of the Alaska House of Representatives, a position he has held since 2017. Rep. Edgmon serves as vice-chair of the Health & Social Services Committee and chair of the Committee on Committees. He is also a member of the Commerce, Community & Economic Development Committee; Legislative Council; and Arctic Policy and Economic Development & Tourism Committee for the 30th Legislature. Prior to the 30th Alaska Legislature, Edgmon was seated on the House Finance Committee, with chairmanships of the Department of Public Safety and Department of Corrections Budget Subcommittees. Email: rep.bryce.edgmon@akleg.gov



SWAMC 30 Years Later

Paul Fuhs, former Mayor of Dutch Harbor, Alaska

Mr. Fuhs, as owner of Aleutian Explosives, was a commercial diver specializing in port construction, emergency response, and the use of explosives underwater. From 1990 to 1994, he served as Alaska's Commissioner of Commerce and Economic Development, responsible for Alaska's economic development and international trade initiatives. He is currently President of the Board of the Marine Exchange of Alaska which provides vessel tracking services for the Coast of Alaska, Executive Director of the North Slope Port Authority, and works as a maritime consultant specializing in Arctic port development, emergency response, and Northern Sea Route development. Email: paulfuhs@earthlink.net



Lamar Cotten, Consultant

Mr. Cotten is a consultant providing strategic planning and management services to Alaska communities. He has worked for a series of cities, boroughs, tribes and CDQ organizations throughout the state. Mr. Cotten served as borough manager for Lake and Peninsula Borough from 2008-13. He was also the borough administrator for Aleutians East Borough from 1987-91, and city administrator for the City of Sand Point from 1984-87, and as city manager for the City of King Cove from 1984-86. Mr. Cotten was rural development manager and deputy commissioner of the Dept. of Community and Regional Affairs from 1995-2002. He currently serves as the chairman of the state Local Boundary Commission. Mr. Cotten has a master's degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Oregon and a bachelor's degree in political science from Northern Arizona University. He is a military veteran and a former VISTA volunteer. Email: ljcotten@gci.net

**Supporting the Fishing Industry with Diminishing State Budgets****John Whiddon, Founder*****Kodiak Fish Market***

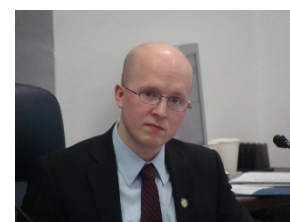
After a twenty-year career as a Coast Guard search and rescue pilot Mr. Whiddon founded the Kodiak Fish Market, a small seafood market and custom processing operation on Kodiak's waterfront. He spent the next 16 years expanding the business to include full commercial production. As production increased, the processing plant worked with a large fleet of salmon, halibut and cod fishermen, buying, processing, and selling seafood. Commercial markets expanded from local to domestic including major grocery chains and box stores and eventually to markets around the world. Email: jbwhiddo52@gmail.com

**John Gauvin, Fisheries Science Director*****Alaska Seafood Cooperative***

In his work for the Alaska Seafood Cooperative and the North Pacific Fisheries Research Foundation, John has focused on development of viable solutions to conservation and fishery management mandates for Alaska fisheries. The standards for these innovations to fishing practices are that performance is scientifically demonstrable and economically viable for the fishing industry. Examples over the last 25 years include trawl modifications to reduce halibut bycatch, development and implementation of careful handling procedures to reduce bycatch mortality, redesign of flatfish trawls to reduce seafloor impacts, and modifications to pollock trawls to allow Chinook salmon escapement. The above listed work has been done through research collaborations between the fishing industry and NMFS/university scientists in partnerships structured around knowledge/skill sharing and mutual respect and trust. Email: gauvin@seanet.com

**Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins, Representative*****Alaska House of Representatives***

Representative Kreiss-Tomkins represents Sitka and 21 other rural Southeast Alaska communities in the Alaska House of Representatives. He is the youngest member of the Legislature. He cares deeply for rural Alaska and the issues its small communities face. Jonathan was born and raised in Sitka. He attended Yale College for three years before leaving school early to run for the Alaska Legislature. Legislative focuses include growing Alaska's fishing economy, sustainable rural economic development, growing Alaska's knowledge economy, and celebrating and revitalizing Alaska Native culture and language. His 2014 legislation enshrining Alaska's 20 Native languages as official languages of the State of Alaska attracted national attention. Jonathan was recognized by The Washington Post in 2014 as one of its "Top 40 under 40" in American politics. Jonathan has started programs to bring young people to Sitka. Together, these programs have brought over 200 people to volunteer, work, or live in Sitka, and have led the Yale Office of Career Strategy



to identify Sitka as the number one worldwide destination for Yale undergrads seeking OCS summer opportunities. Email: Representative.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov

Shannon Carroll, Deputy Director

Alaska Marine Conservation Council (AMCC)

Mr. Carroll works for the Alaska Marine Conservation Council, an Alaska-based organization that is dedicated to protecting the long-term health of Alaska's oceans and sustaining the working waterfronts of our coastal communities. He is an attorney and former commercial fisherman. Email: shannon@akmarine.org



Managing a \$4.2 Billion Fishing Industry in Times of Change

Glenn Merrill, Assistant Regional Administrator

NOAA Fisheries; Anchorage, AK

Glenn Merrill is the Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries in the Alaska Region of NOAA Fisheries. Sustainable Fisheries has the primary management responsibility for Federal fisheries off Alaska. Glenn has been with the Alaska Region since 2001. Prior to his work at NOAA Fisheries, he served as Chief Resource Analyst for the Aleutians East Borough, a Legislative Fellow with the U.S. Senate, and worked as a Federal fishery observer. He holds a Master of Marine Affairs from the University of Washington.

Email: glenn.merrill@noaa.gov

Sam Cotten, Commissioner

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Sam Cotten's long history of community involvement and public service includes multiple terms in the Alaska State Legislature and as Chairman of the House Finance and Resource Committees and Speaker of the House. With six years as an Alaska voting member of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, Sam has a strong fisheries background, including experience on committees and boards, such as the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission and Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association. Sam is an avid fisherman, having fished commercially with his family for 25 years in Kachemak Bay and sport fished throughout Alaska. Email: sam.cotten@alaska.gov



Adding Value to Alaska's Fishing Industry

Paula Cullenberg, Director

Alaska Sea Grant, a partnership between the NOAA and the University of Alaska Fairbanks

Through Alaska Sea Grant, Ms. Cullenberg supports research, education, and the Marine Advisory program, and focuses on the sustainable use and conservation of Alaska's marine and freshwater resources. In the SWAMC region, Alaska Sea Grant is a partner on the MAKE program supporting the seafood processing industry and has Marine Advisory agents in Unalaska (Melissa Good), in Kodiak (Quentin Fong, Chris Sannito and Julie Matweyou) and in Dillingham (Gabe Dunham) who work closely on many projects in the region. Paula also serves on the Governor's Mariculture Task Force designed to create a comprehensive plan to boost the mariculture industry in Alaska. Her family setnets in Bristol Bay, finishing their 30th season last year. Email: pjcullenberg@alaska.edu



Jeremy Woodrow, Communications Director
Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI)

Mr. Woodrow served as the communications officer for the Alaska Department of Transportation. Jeremy is a born and raised Alaskan whose family has commercially fished in Southeast Alaska for five decades. He has practiced public relations in Alaska for over 15 years. Jeremy received his Bachelor's in public relations and Bachelor's in advertising from Northern Arizona University. Email: jwoodrow@alaskaseafood.org



Garrett Evridge, Economist
McDowell Group

Mr. Evridge, a life-long Kodiak resident, plays a significant role in a wide variety of McDowell Group's fisheries and maritime projects. During his five years with McDowell Group, Garrett has been project manager or lead analyst on numerous studies including the Modernization of the North Pacific Fishing Fleet, The Economic Impact of the Seafood Industry on the Kodiak Island Borough, and Trends and Opportunities in the Alaska Maritime Industrial Support Sector. Garrett holds a Master's in Natural Resources and Applied Economics from University of Alaska Fairbanks. He has fished commercially for salmon, halibut, cod, shrimp, and crab in the Bering Sea, Kodiak, Prince William Sound, and Southeast. Email: garrett@McDowellGroup.net



Stefanie Moreland, Director Government Relations and Seafood Sustainability
Trident Seafoods

Stefanie Moreland is the Director of Government Relations and Seafood Sustainability for Trident Seafoods. Trident operates a fleet of modern catcher-processor and catcher vessels, shore-based primary processing operations, and support services for independent fishermen in coastal communities throughout Alaska. Trident Seafoods is one of the largest seafood companies in North America, headquartered in Seattle, Washington, with secondary processing, research and development, and sales offices around the globe. Stefanie previously worked on fisheries, ocean policy, and Arctic issues for the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Office of the Governor, and Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, and in Washington, DC, for U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski. She represented the State of Alaska on two Regional Fishery Management Councils, with jurisdiction over the Alaska region and U.S. West Coast federal fisheries. Email: smoreland@tridentseafoods.com

