

## Donna Neumeister - For Our Union Secretary

Many of you are aware that I have been a Baltimore County 911 Center employee since 1989 and am currently serving as an Emergency Communications Supervisor. I have always been a union member, but truly committed myself to service there by accepting a board position in the mid 1990's. I have served in a number of capacities over the years, holding several different board positions, being a member of the negotiations committee several times, and always as a trained Shop Steward. Our goal is always to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of all of the employees that we serve. Having been actively involved in the union for so many years I have had the opportunity to observe quite a variety of people that have served with me. Based on my experience I would like to endorse:

### **The Proven Leaders Our Union Deserves- John Ripley & Adam Hendrix!**

[http://bcfpe.md.aft.org/sites/default/files/article\\_pdf\\_files/2020-09/jripley\\_2020bio.pdf](http://bcfpe.md.aft.org/sites/default/files/article_pdf_files/2020-09/jripley_2020bio.pdf)

[http://bcfpe.md.aft.org/sites/default/files/article\\_pdf\\_files/2020-09/ahendrix\\_2020bio.pdf](http://bcfpe.md.aft.org/sites/default/files/article_pdf_files/2020-09/ahendrix_2020bio.pdf)

Additionally, I would like to endorse **Kasia Gatchalian for Area 3 Vice President.**

[http://bcfpe.md.aft.org/sites/default/files/article\\_pdf\\_files/2020-09/kgatchalian\\_2020bio.pdf](http://bcfpe.md.aft.org/sites/default/files/article_pdf_files/2020-09/kgatchalian_2020bio.pdf)

I have known Kasia since she began her career here 18 years ago. She earned a promotion to Emergency Communications Assistant Supervisor in 2014 and has been assigned to both 911 and Police Dispatch throughout the years. She has been a Certified Training Instructor at the 911 Center Training Academy since 2003 and also teaches CPR. Kasia took on the difficult task of becoming certified by the Maryland Police Training Commission as an Academic Instructor and later as a METERS Instructor. This past year she stepped into a more active role in the Union and served on the Negotiations Committee, which did an amazing job in these incredibly tough economic times. At a point where many unions throughout the country were forced to “give back” in terms of pay freezes, layoffs, and furloughs they were able to advocate for COLA's and other monetary benefits in the near future, with no “give backs.” Specific to the 911 Center, when we were asked to defer the addition of the Memorial Day Holiday Pay again, Kasia was quick to suggest that we trade Memorial Day for Labor Day, which resulted in us seeing the benefit of an additional Holiday Pay in September of 2021 rather than having to wait until May of 2022. We need people like Kasia, who think quickly on their feet for the benefit of the 911 Center. It should be noted that for the first time ever, the Chief of the 911 Center was present at the negotiations table, so Kasia has proven that she is willing to negotiate for your benefit directly to the Center Chief. Kasia also volunteered to help with the AFL-CIO Community Services of Central Maryland and distributed food to households that have dealt with layoffs over the past several months. She also stepped up and filled the position of Area 3 Vice President when Arley Scott retired in March.

Kasia completed her Bachelors of Science in Mass Communications with an emphasis in Public Relations in 2017. On a more personal note, these are some of her many other accomplishments:

### **Worked with Foundation for Aid to the Philippines: 1999-2017**

- Participated in numerous fund raising events to raise awareness and funds for the foundation. o Organized events with venues and caterers
- Established a budget

- Created ideas for themes
- MC'd an event thus creating entertainment and fluidity of the event
- Spoke with congressmen/women and various philanthropists in procuring donations
- Spoke with hospitals for medical equipment donations

#### **Provided support on 3 medical missions to the Philippines**

- Assisted physicians with patient organization
- Assisted surgeons with set up of Operating Rooms
- Organized shipment of medicine overseas costing thousands of dollars
- Assisted pharmacists in handing out medicine to patients.

#### **Alumnae Board – Garrison Forest School: 2019-present**

- Attend monthly meetings to discuss community and student engagement
- Participated in speed interviewing with 10th graders to help them develop skills for college/employment interviews
- Contribute to planning career day and speak to other alumna, including CEO's, physicians, professors, business owners, lawyers, scientists and many other women in various career fields
- Help setup service related projects and gather donations for House of Ruth
- Support and guide young women in their education to help them focus on their confidence and intelligence so they may succeed in any aspect of their lives
- Work with the Parent Association, Board of Trustees, and Teachers to help with fund raising for the school – participated in the Garrison Forest Love Week seeking donations from my class.

#### **Volunteer Fire Fighter/EMT**

- Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company 2001-2006

Kasia has been entrusted with positions in service and leadership throughout her life. She has proven herself by fulfilling those roles responsibly. Kasia conducts herself professionally and has been successful working with Local, State, National and even International government and politicians as well as private industry in her many roles over the years. She brings experience and sense of decorum that are essential to our future success as a Union.

This is the kind of Proven Leadership you deserve.