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WELCOME

to the 2024 InsiderNJ Labor List



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Worried that it would make Democratic leadership look good in an election year, Donald Trump, the 2024 GOP nominee for president, prevailed on cowardly GOP House members to kill a bipartisan deal for a United States-Mexico border wall, another bullet point in the ongoing evidence of Trump's woeful lack of fitness for office.

Thankfully, the labor movement is poised to play a significant role in this year's presidential election, and Vice President Kamala Harris can run on the considerable labor record of the Biden-Harris Administration. Consider alone the \$461 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which funds over 60,000 projects nation-

wide, among them a \$16 billion dollar, long-delayed Hudson Tunnel connecting New York and New Jersey. Other projects, according to the White House, "range from repaving roads and water system upgrades funded through formula grants to states to competitive funding for massive bridge and transit projects. This map of signature projects is illustrative and is intended to showcase the far-reaching impact of the law from coast to coast." This is good news for Building Trades Labor, where, to paraphrase New Jersey Labor Leader William Mullen, "All we do is build."

AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler continues to highlight Labor's critical role in this year's presidential contest, not-

ing that union workers make up one in five voters in swing states. According to a report by NPR's Suzanne Nuyen, "Keep in mind that nationwide only one in 10 U.S. workers are union members. That statistic suggests a far higher concentration of such workers in states where the election will be decided."

Trying to summon populist nationalist fervor on a hateful message, Trump by contrast to Harris has no recourse but to spew mud to distract from his lousy working families record. We know the score only too well in New Jersey. From Mother Jones: "Trump's company encouraged its employees to invest their retirement savings in company stock, according to a class-action lawsuit filed by employees against Trump Hotels & Casino Resorts following its 2004 bankruptcy. Then, when the stock price was near its nadir as bankruptcy loomed, the company forced the employees to sell their stock at a huge loss. More than 400 employees lost a total of more than \$2 million from their retirement accounts, the lawsuit states. The lawsuit was ultimately dismissed when a judge found no illegal actions on the part of Trump's company. But the conflict shows how

Trump's exploitation of bankruptcy laws for his personal gain did end up hurting his employees."

Says Donna DeCaprio, President of UNITE Here Local 54 in Atlantic City: "Trump and his supporters would like people to believe that he'll be a good president because he's been a good businessman, but that's just not true. I've been working in Atlantic City for 37 years, and over that that period, Trump owned five casinos. Trump bragged that the city was a 'cash cow' for him, but his Atlantic City casino companies refused to pay bills and Trump businesses claimed bankruptcy four times while he owned and operated casinos in Atlantic City, hurting small businesses and their employees. We don't need that kind of person running the country."

It's important for those swing state workers to understand the stark contrast here, and if New Jersey is to play a role in this historic election, may it tell that brutal cautionary tale about Trump, his pull-out from our state and how it devastated workers, against the backdrop of historic infrastructure investments undertaken by the Harris-Biden Administration, including new train tracks and new

tubes at a critical commuter choke point, rising at this very moment by the grace of American Labor.



*Max
Pizarro*

Editor, InsiderNJ

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1. WILLIAM T. MULLEN

President of the New Jersey Building Trades



Joined the Ironworkers Union in 1968. Since 1990, spokesman and director of the activities of the statewide trades, comprised of 15 international building unions and 13 county councils, representing some 150,000 members. One of the key labor figures in New Jersey, an occupant of his throne by

virtue of organization priority, and simple old-fashioned organization. “All we do is build” is Mullen’s mantra, the line he saves for Democratic Party (or GOP) functions when people want to talk about their stubbed toes and pet peeves. Is there work? Is there union work? Does it pay? Are our people getting

paid a just wage? These are the pre-occupations of Mullen, who runs a real statewide operation, with the other strong building trades leaders loyally under his auspices. It is important to note that Mullen remains a key, lifelong ally of former Senate President Steve Sweeney, a 2025 candidate for governor.



Pictured above:
Sean M. Spiller, President (center)
Steve Beatty, Vice President (left)
Petal Robertson, Secretary-Treasurer (right)

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2. ROB ASARO-ANGELO

Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Labor



Son of an Atlantic City labor organizer and himself formerly an organizer with the Laborers International Union, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and the Service

Employees International Union Local 111 and formerly executive director with the Democratic State Committee, Asaro-Angelo from 2010 to 2017 served as Eastern Regional Representative for the

U.S. Department of Labor in the Obama Administration. Key member of the Murphy Administration, who maintains strong relationships within the byzantine world of both private and public sector labor.

“

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3. CHARLIE WOWKANECH

President of the New Jersey AFL-CIO



A second-generation member of International Union of Operating Engineers Local 68, Wowkanecch worked on a startup crew at a Newark airport. Elected AFL-CIO President in 1997, he leads an organization that serves one million members, which functions as a critical rallying point for all labor sectors.

4. GREG LALEVEE

Business Manager, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825



Started working as a crane operator in 1984, elected business manager of the 7K-strong men and women in 2010. Maintains strong political ties around the state of New Jersey; prevailed on Governor Murphy to include roads and bridges in PLA agreements totaling over \$5 million, a boon to his union. Like Mullen, ever alert to the off-the-reservation messaging by both parties, Lalevee retains the right to go with whichever party most immediately or consistently serves his members' needs.



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5. WAYNE DEANGELO

Assistant Business Manager at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 269, Assemblyman



DeAngelo oversees the organizing activities of 1200 members throughout Central New Jersey and Bucks County, PA. He also serves as president of the Mercer-Burlington County Build-

ing and Construction Trades. A former Hamilton Councilman, DeAngelo has served as a Democratic Assemblyman in the 14th District since 2008. Chairman of the Assembly Telecommuni-

cations and Utilities Committee. With Steve Sweeney (and now Joe Egan) gone from the legislature, DeAngelo occupies a vital labor strongpoint in the state of NJ.



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6. RAY GREAVES

Amalgamated Transit Union, International Vice President



Former Chairman of the New Jersey State Council of the Amalgamated Transit Union, Greaves joined ATU Local 819-Newark, NJ in 1985 after hired on to the NJ Transit Newark Shops Maintenance Department. Serving as

Shop Steward from 1989 to 1994, he later served as Recording Secretary, Legislative Representative, and an Executive Board member. In 2011, he was elected Chair of the ATU New Jersey State Council and served until 2019, when he

became International Vice President. Former Bayonne Councilman. Represents over 7500 New Jersey Transit workers, and over 30,000 between New York and New Jersey.

7. FRAN EHRET

New Jersey State Director for the Communications Workers of America, District 1



Leader of one of the most powerful unions in the state, former toll collector Ehret leads an organization that represents more than 70,000 working families in the Garden State — including 40,000 state workers, 15,000 county and municipal workers, and thousands of workers in the telecommunications, airlines, health care and direct care industries. Succeeded Hetty Rosenstein.

8. EDDIE DONNELLY

President, New Jersey Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association



A firefighter for the Union Fire Department for 21 years, Donnelly heads NJ's largest Firefighter/EMS/Dispatcher union. With over 6,000 members and relationships state-wide, he provides his members with a loud and clear voice on the issues that matter most. Chairman of the PFRSNJ board of trustees. Possesses a strong understanding of public sector pensions systems.

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9. DONALD NORCROSS

Congressman, 1st District



Former assistant business manager of the IBEW Local 351, and former president of the Southern New Jersey Building Trades Council, Norcross served in the state senate with his old labor buddy Steve Sweeney prior to assuming office in Congress in 2014.

10. MIKE HELLSTROM

LIUNA Vice President and Eastern Regional Manager



The organization's former business manager, Hellstrom last year replaced veteran presence Ray Pocino. Hellstrom oversees activities impacting 40,000 laborers in New Jersey, Delaware, New York City, and Long Island.

11. KEVIN BROWN

Former New Jersey State Director of 32BJ Service Employees International Union (SEIU), and Vice President of the union



Brown began his organizing career with SEIU in 1987, when he helped organize cleaners in Washington, D.C. Moving to New Jersey in 2001 after a successful organizing run in Connecticut,

Brown worked to organize and expand to 13,000 the ranks of unionized commercial, residential, public school contracted, and airport private sector service workers throughout New Jersey.

Significantly, successfully spearheaded the moment to land a \$19-per-hour by 2023 for half of all Newark International Airport workers.

12. SEAN SPILLER

President, New Jersey Education Association (NJEA)



Former Captain of the two-time championship Rutgers Hockey Team, by trade a high school science teacher in the Wayne Public Schools, Spiller became vice president of the NJEA in 2017, and president of the 200,000-member-strong union in 2021. A 2025 Democratic candidate for governor.

13. WILLIAM SPROULE

Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters (EASRCC)



Former President and Regional Manager of the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters, dissolved and merged into Keystone/Mountain/Lakes Regional Council of Carpenters on May 30, 2018. EASRCC represents more than 41,000 members in Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the Territory of Puerto Rico.



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14. LAUREL BRENNAN

Secretary-Treasurer of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO



Secretary-Treasurer of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO since 1997, Brennan is the first woman to serve in this office in New Jersey and is one of only seven to do so across the nation.

15. MATT CALIENTE

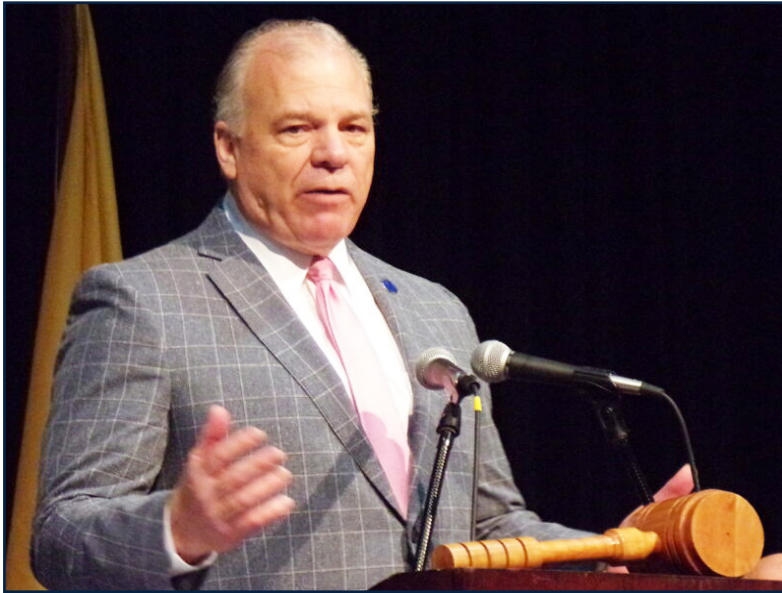
President of the Professional Firefighters of New Jersey



Notched a critical win this year when Gov. Phil Murphy signed legislation that mandates access to periodic cancer screening examinations for firefighters who are not enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP), but who are eligible for enrollment in the SHBP by public employment.

16. STEVE SWEENEY

Gubernatorial Candidate



A former state senate president, the lifelong ironworker maintains a deep and vital political connection to his brothers and sisters in the Building Trades as he seeks to generate statewide 2025 support.

17. ERIC RICHARD

Legislative Affairs Coordinator NJ AFL-CIO



With over 20 years of experience in this particular job, Richard serves as the mammoth organization's veteran point person on legislation impacting working people. Known as a standup guy.

18. JULIE DIAZ

Labor Deputy Commissioner



Veteran legislative operator, grassroots political organizer (Obama 2008) and labor organizer (32BJ SEIU) Diaz played critical roles on behalf of battleground Democratic incumbents in Union County, prior to going to the Murphy Administration in 2017.

19. JUDY DANELLA, RN

President of USW Local 4-200



A critical warrior-leader in the fight for under paid and overworked nurses at New Brunswick's Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

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20. ANTHONY VERRELLI

Assemblyman, Legislative District 15



A carpenter by trade and past President of Carpenters Local Union 254, Verrelli serves as the Assemblyman in the Mercer-based 15th Legislative District and serves as the vice chairman of the Assembly Labor Committee.

21. RAHAMAN MUHAMMAD

Deputy Mayor for Employment, City of Newark



An organizer out of the South Ward for SEIU, Muhammad operated with a central principle when it came to Newark: “You need five votes on the city council, and who’s the mayor.” His union work led him to forge a close relationship with fellow South Warder Ras Baraka, and when Baraka became mayor in 2014, Muhammad went to the cabinet to head workforce development. He’s been there ever since. Muhammad will prove a critical political presence for Baraka as the mayor runs for governor in 2025.

22. TOM GIBLIN

Essex County Labor Leader



The former Assemblyman from the 34th Legislative District is a union officer with Local 68 Operating Engineers, former Essex County Democratic Chairman, and former New Jersey Democratic State Committee Party chair.

23. ANTHONY ABRANTES

Assistant Executive Secretary-Treasurer for the Eastern Atlantic State Regional Council of Carpenters



NJ native Abrantes represents 43,000 Union Carpenters from, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina & Puerto Rico, providing invaluable leadership and oversight and playing a pivotal role in day-to-day management of the regional council. As a delegate for Carpenters Local 254, he represents nearly 4,000 men and women in NJ. Additionally, he is an Executive Board Member for the Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters, Vice Chairman of the EAS Carpenter Technical College and the EAS Carpenter Benefit Fund, serves on the Choose New Jersey Board, and is President Emeritus for the Northwest Jersey Central Labor Council.

24. WAYNE RICHARDSON

Manager, Strategic Partnerships



Former President of Laborers Local 55, the Essex County Commissioner plays a critical role as a contact person in populated Essex County for the powerful Laborers union – and beyond. Chairman of the Central Planning Board for the City of Newark.

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25. ORLANDO RILEY

Chair of the Amalgamated Transit Union New Jersey State Council



Also a member of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO Executive Board, Riley built a reputation during the COVID era as a stout advocate for worker health and safety, and as an advocate for laws to protect public transit drivers from assault and work-related respiratory health problems.

26. VIRGIL MALDONADO

President, International Longshoreman's Association (ILA) Local 1588 39



A political player who is close to Bayonne Mayor Jimmy Davis, Maldonado in 2021, Maldonado convinced Davis to replace Assemblyman Nick Chiaravallotti with crane operator William Sampson IV there ever since.

27. DONNA DICAPRIO

President of UNITE-HERE Local 54



DiCaprio succeeded long-time Unite-Here leader Bob McDevitt, who retired from his Local-54 presidency to run the organization's national pension fund. The labor organization's veteran Secretary/Treasurer prior to assuming the presidency, DiCaprio oversees 10,000 members who depend on her negotiating skills as they labor within the casino industry.

28. SHAUN SULLIVAN

President of the New Jersey Pipe Trades



Elected to the position on June 28, 2024, Sullivan is a 40-year member of Steamfitters Local 475. Elected to their Executive Board in 1994, he became Business Agent in 2000 before becoming Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer.

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29. DEBBIE PARKS

Vice President, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)



A member since 1982, former field coordinator Parks became an International Vice President in January 2018. Formerly vice president of AFSCME Council 73, Parks represents over 20,000 workers.

30. MARIA REFINSKI

President, NJ Nurses Union



The labor leader has grounded cred as a veteran of the Saint Barnabas Medical Center's Post Anesthesia Care Unit. Representative of a professional group on the frontlines—not only of the pandemic – but of labor-employer relations.

31. DEBBIE WHITE

President, Health Professional Allied Employees (HPAE)



A registered nurse at Virtua Memorial Hospital for 27 years and a long-term Med-Surg nurse, White took over from HPAE founder Ann Twomey.

32. BERNARD CALLEGARI

Chief of Staff for the Laborers International Union of North America, Eastern Region (LIUNA).



A 22-year member of Local 79, Callegari began his organizing career as a shop steward with the union. Hellstrom's right-hand man.

33. MILLY SILVA

Secretary Treasurer at 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East



The courageous labor leader who ran on the 2013 ticket against incumbent Chris Christie when a lot of Democrats turned tail, proved an accessible and energized presence in Chicago at this year's Democratic National Convention (DNC) in support of prez nominee Kamala Harris.



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BRENDAN GILL, CEO

34. MARK LONGO

Director, Engineers Labor-Employer Cooperative (ELEC)



Longo has deep labor roots in government affairs and building trades public affairs. Formerly director of government affairs and political Action for IUOE Local 825.

35. ROBERT M. FOX

Retired President, New Jersey Fraternal Order of Police



A Member of the Fraternal Order of Police since 1973, Fox served as Cherry Hill police officer for 25 years. A union diehard, he held several offices in Cherry Hill FOP Lodge #28, including: Treasurer, State Trustee, Guard and President for 14 years.

36. PATRICK KELLEHER

President, Hudson County Building & Construction Trades Council



Kelleher stands at the heart of the matter in the implementation of President Joe Biden's and Vice President Kamala Harris' infrastructure plan, which includes the long-awaited Gateway Tunnel.

37. NICK JAYME

Political Director for the Teamsters



An electrician by trade, Jayme worked as a shop steward for 17 years where he developed the political skills that ultimately catapulted him to his current position. Very politically active in Essex and Bergen, he gets into local elections down to the school board level.



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38. LINO SANTIAGO

*Business Representative at International Union of Operating Engineers
Local 825*



Influential Essex-based labor leader. Particularly over the course of the last ten years, Santiago has managed to straddle the political terrain between the City of Newark and Essex County, not always the easiest turf during the reign of Newark Mayor Ras Baraka.

39. KURT KRUEGER, Jr.

*International Rep., United Association of Journeyman and Apprentices of the
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry.*



Former business manager and secretary treasurer of plumbers pipefitters local 322, based in South Jersey. Deep family ties to labor.

40. WAYNE BLANCHARD

President, New Jersey State Troopers Fraternal Association



Blanchard occupies a powerful position, both in New Jersey and nationwide.

41. BRIAN JACKSON

President of Passaic County Building Trades



Veteran of Roofers Local 10. Business manager and financial secretary treasurer for Roofers Local 10. Elected president of the Passaic County Building and Construction Trades in 2023.

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NEW JERSEY

DENNIS TRAINOR

CWA DISTRICT 1 VICE PRESIDENT

FRAN EHRET

CWA NJ AREA DIRECTOR

42. JOHN DUTHIE

PAC Director at New Jersey State Laborers



The experienced operator served as field director for the NJ Democratic Coordinated Campaign, and press secretary for the New Jersey General Assembly.

43. WILLIAM SAMPSON

Lawmaker



The 31st District assemblyman has a dirt-under-the-fingernails labor background with the International Longshoreman's Association Local 1588 as a crane operator and the union's political point of contact.

44. MICHAEL LAUGHLIN

Painters, District Council 21



Currently President of the South Jersey Building Trades and Executive at Large with District Council 21, Laughlin also serves as a trustee to the United Camden and Vicinity Building Trades. Dc 21 proudly represent the signatory contractors and members in the date of New Jersey with locations in Springfield, Brick and Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City.

45. ROBERT F. ORDWAY

President of the NJ State Firemen's Association



Ordway found himself engaged in one of the toughest challenges of his career back in 2019 when he prevailed on the Murphy Administration to safeguard \$33 million for a dedicated first responders fund.



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46. ROSHAN ROC WHITE

*Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer UA Plumbers Local
Union 24*



A military veteran with strong leadership qualities has a deep well of experience in the construction industry. Certified Instructor of Journeyworkers and Apprentices. Councilman in Scotch Plains.

47. PATRICK DELLE CAVA

Business Manager, IBEW Local 102



Grandson of Pasquale Delle Cava, who ran the Laborers Union back in 1932 out of Paterson, the Parsippany-based labor leader oversees the organizing and negotiating activities of 3,100 skilled electrical workers throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

48. RICHIE MALCOLM

Vice President, Ironworkers Local 11



This is Steve Sweeney's local, so you know it's politically connected – and influential.

49. PAUL ROLDAN

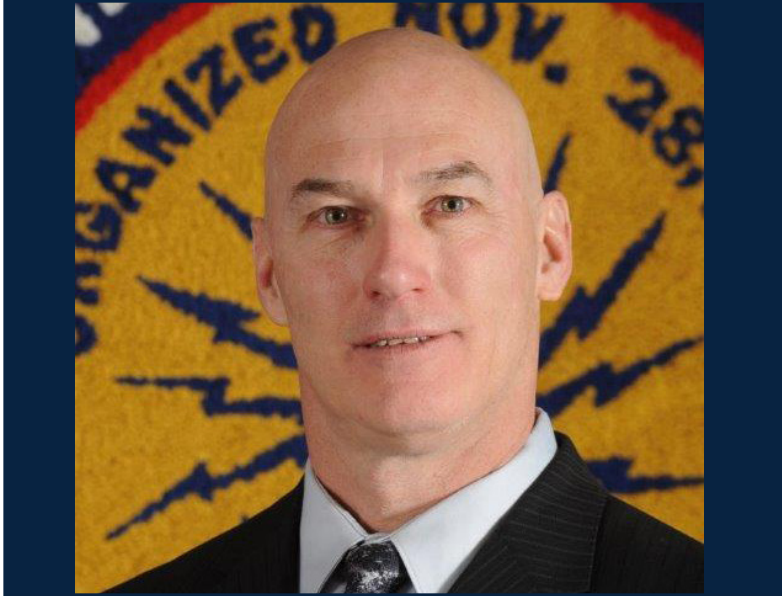
Business Administrator, LIUNA Local 3



A 39-year member of the Laborers' International Union of North America, he began his esteemed career in the construction sector in 1985 as a Journeyman Laborer. For the last 22 years of his career, he served Local 325 in Jersey City and Local 3 as an Executive Board member, President and current Business Manager of Local 3. He serves as the President of the New Jersey Building Construction Laborers District Council, President of Hudson County Chapter of LCLAA and on the Executive Board for the Hudson County Central Labor Council. He is also a Trustee for various funds including the Health and Welfare Fund and Training & Apprenticeship Fund.

50. BOB SPEER

President/Business Manager of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 827



Local 827 has represented telephone and communication workers in New Jersey for over 65 years. President Speer, a former Business Agent and Vice President was elected President/Business Manager in 2013 and has been at the helm ever since restoring pride to his 3,500+ members.

