



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
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CHRIS CHRISTIE
GOVERNOR

Via Overnight Mail

Eileen Sobeck
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910
March 11, 2016

Attn: Brian Fredieu

Dear Mr. Fredieu:

Enclosed please find the completed nomination materials for New Jersey's at-large seat on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC). The New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council, the Garden State Seafood Association, numerous commercial fishing docks and all major commercial fishing ports throughout the State were solicited for nominations. Efforts were made to solicit applications from qualified women and minority candidates. The candidates below belong to or are affiliated with some of these organizations and each has been active in both state and federal level fishery management issues. They are all highly respected within the commercial industry and recreational sector.

New Jersey At-Large Seat:

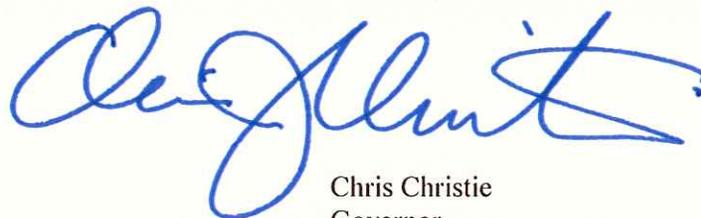
- **Jeffrey H. Kaelin**—Mr. Kaelin is the incumbent in this seat, currently nearing completion of his first term. He has been involved in various aspects of the commercial

fishing operations for the last 35 years. Currently, Mr. Kaelin is the Government Relations Coordinator at Lund's Fisheries, one of New Jersey's largest commercial fishing companies. Additionally, he serves as the Chair of the Industry Advisory Board for the Science Center for Marine Fisheries and as an Advisor on a number of MAFMC and New England Fishery Management Council committees. He is a former member of the U.S. Coast Guard and the Maine House of Representatives. It is recommended that Mr. Kaelin remain as New Jersey's at-large representative.

- **Peter Hughes**— Since 1990, Mr. Hughes has been the Director of Sustainability at Atlantic Capes Fisheries, a significant seafood dealer in a wide variety of commercial fisheries products in Cape May. He is also the Fishing Industry Coordinator at Fishermen's Energy. Additionally, he is an advisor to the Fisheries Survival Fund, the Science Center for Marine Fisheries, the Garden State Seafood Association, the Cape May Seafood Association, and a number of New England Fishery Management Council committees.
- **Ernie Panacek**—Mr. Panacek is the General Manager at Viking Village, a major commercial port and dealer in Barnegat Light, New Jersey. He maintains the fishery permits, informs fishermen on all aspects of the commercial fishing industry rules and regulations, and handles seafood sales. He has been working at Viking Village since 1989 and has been in the commercial fishing industry for over 35 years. Mr. Panacek is also the President of the Garden State Seafood Association, and the Bluewater Fisherman's Association.

Thank you for your consideration of my nominees. If you have any questions, please contact Matthew McDermott, Director of Appointments, at (609) 777-2203.

Sincerely,



Chris Christie
Governor