



## THE ENGINEERING SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE, INC.

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING & OFFICIAL BALLOT

PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IX OF THE BYLAWS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ENGINEERS CLUB TO BE HELD ON **THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024 IN PERSON MEETING AT 6:00 PM** FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS AND OTHER BUSINESS. PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XI OF THE BYLAWS, MEMBERS ARE RECEIVING THE FOLLOWING SLATE OF CANDIDATES AND BALLOT. BALLOTS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE CLUB 7 DAYS PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL MEETING TO BE VALIDATED. THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Nominating Committee for 2024, as specified in the bylaws, consisted of two past presidents and five voting members who are currently not serving on the board as follows: Marco Legaluppi (Chair), Harry Stephen, Rosanna La Plante, Charles Mitchell, Tim Rye, Frank C. Filmore, and Michael Dick.

### NOMINEES

**Frederick (Fritz) Meyer, P.E. (President)** is currently retired. He has 40 years of geotechnical and environmental investigation, engineering design and construction experience for federal, state, municipal, and private sector clients. His last position was as an Executive Vice President at EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC (EA) where he was responsible for identifying and positioning to win the contracts that were essential to providing work to the 750 employees of EA. EA is a 100% owned public benefit corporation whose mission is to "Improve the quality of our environment one project at a time". EA does this by providing skilled engineers, scientists, and construction professionals to solve the environmental problems of our clients across a broad spectrum of environmental issues. When Fritz retired EA had an active backlog of work valued at over \$400 million dollars to perform hazardous waste remediation, munitions response services, ecosystem restoration and compliance work in all 50 states and territories of the United States. As an Executive Vice President in charge of EA's Client Programs group, Fritz ensured that EA's clients were satisfied in the safe, timely, cost effective, ethical execution of their projects. Fritz was a Board member of EA and actively served on their Corporate Social Responsibility Committee whose CSR program was graded in the top 1% of companies audited by EcoVadis. EcoVadis has a client list of 30,000 companies that include Nestle, Heineken, Michelin, BASF, Renault, DuPont. The first half of Fritz's career was spent in the geotechnical investigation, design, and construction of civil & commercial projects. Projects included major dam, landfill, pump station, power generation, tunnel, & building construction. He spent seven years as a Program Manager for geotechnical work associated with the construction of the Washington, D.C. subway system. This work provided valuable experience in working in a changing urban & suburban settings within a complex geologic setting that included many innovative excavations, dewatering, support of critical structures, and construction means and methods. Fritz lives with his wife, Thecla, son Ted and their cat Macha, at 1825 Eutaw Place in Bolton Hill in a brownstone built in 1897 that they took two years to restore to a single-family residence. He is on the Board of the Midtown Community Benefits District and sits on their Finance and Greening Committees. He also is a member of the Bolton Hill Community Association Greening Committee, the Eutaw Place Conservancy, and the Bolton Hill Architectural Review Committee. Fritz is also a member of the Country Club of Maryland. Thecla is retired and had been the owner of a jewelry retail business for over 30 years that had stores in Maryland and DC. They have two other sons, Dietrich (Berlin, DE) & Alex (Anaheim, CA) and a daughter, Annette (Hampden, Baltimore).

**Dan O'Leary (1st Vice President)** ESB member since 2019, is a Senior Engineer with ESD Associates in Baltimore. Dan has 40 years of experience in Maryland as a civil / water resources engineer as an agency representative, a regulator, and, currently, a consultant. Dan has held leadership positions on several of Maryland's largest projects including the Inter-County Connector (ICC) and the Purple Line Transit Project. Dan specializes in environmental permitting, stormwater management, erosion & sediment control, drainage design, floodplains & dams. Dan is recognized as an expert in water resources engineering by several local zoning bodies & two district courts in Maryland. Dan holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Lowell and is a registered Professional Engineer in MD and VA. Dan is currently an active Board member of the Garrett Jacobs Mansion Education Foundation, Executive Committee Member for Engineer's Week, president of ASCE's Chesapeake Bay Environmental & Water Resources Institute, former Board Member of Blue Water Baltimore - a local non-profit dedicated to cleaning up and protecting Baltimore Harbor & tributaries, and Board Member of the Jones Falls Watershed Association. When he's not working Dan enjoys family, the beach, ice hockey, golf, boating, fixing stuff, and building things.

**Alan H. Straus (2nd Vice President)** is a Senior Vice President and Chief Growth and Strategy Officer for AECOM's East Region on the East Region. He is responsible for risk management and program growth across five distinct Business Lines: Buildings and Places, Water, Transportation, and Program and Construction Management. The East

Region includes states from Maine to Florida and Latin America. In addition, he was recently the Chief Operations Officer for AECOM's nationwide Disaster Relief program which provides emergency, resilience, and response recovery services throughout the United States and its territories. Prior to serving in his current role, he served in several other leadership positions at AECOM and its legacy companies including Chief Growth Officer, Chief Operations Officer for the DC Metro Region, Mid-Atlantic Area Manager, and Baltimore area Office Leader. Prior to my leadership positions, he has managed and led numerous highway, bridge, toll, transit, freight, marine, and aviation projects. Prior to AECOM, he was an Assistant Division Chief at the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) as part of his 11-year career in the public sector. He is also proud to be an active member & leader for many professional organizations. He currently serves as Immediate Past President of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) - Maryland and has held positions and been involved with WTS, ASHE, TRB, & IBTTA.

**Kim Nelson, P.G. (Treasurer)** is a Senior Vice President and Director, Federal Programs for EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC where she supports marketing and project execution for EA's federal portfolio. She also currently serves on EA's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. She is a licensed Professional Geologist in Wyoming with 38 years of management (project/program/executive) and technical experience in site characterization and remediation for Department of Defense, Department of Energy, EPA, state, and private sector clients. Prior to her tenure at EA, she served as President and COO for a small radiological remediation firm where she established and managed regional operations from a local office in the Mount Vernon neighborhood. She has been a proud resident of Mount Vernon since 2008 and is an active member of the ESB Affiliate, the Society of American Military Engineers, as well as the Mount Vernon Belvedere Association. Ms. Nelson holds a BA in Geology and English Literature from Augustana College in Rock Island, IL and completed graduate studies in Geology at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN.

**Keith Karas (Secretary)** currently serves as a Vice President, Human Resources Business Partner for TranSystems (formerly known as Whitney Bailey Cox and Magnani, [WBCM], a full service, multi-discipline engineering firm headquartered in Kansas City, MO). In his role, Keith oversees the HR functions for the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions of the United States. Keith earned a bachelor's degree in business administration magna cum laude from Concordia University. He also possesses the Professional in Human Resources (PHR) and Senior Certified Professional (SHRM-SCP) HR credentials. Keith is a 20-year member of the Society of Human Resource Management and a current member of the Chesapeake Human Resources Association. Prior to his civilian HR career, Keith served in the United States Army and Army Reserves for a total of 20 years, retiring at the rank of Sergeant Major (E-9). During his career in the military, Keith served both stateside and overseas, seeing assignments as a paratrooper, drill sergeant, chief instructor at the drill sergeant academy, first sergeant, and chief administrative sergeant. Keith was honored as the 1991 Drill Sergeant of the Year for the 80th Division and is the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal, six Army Commendation Medals, five Army Achievement Medals and numerous other awards and decorations. Keith's dad was a land surveyor, and when Keith was a teenager, he accompanied his dad on surveys in the Baltimore area. As a byproduct of his work with his dad, Keith developed a love for monuments, historical markers, and research. These foundations developed into a love for the City of Baltimore, more specifically the architecture, building uses, and stories of Baltimore during the period 1850-1950. When not working at TranSystems, Keith can be found on the weekends exploring the streets around Mount Vernon/Howard Street corridor, collecting memorabilia from Baltimore's by-gone hotels and former vaudeville houses, or roaming the final resting places of those whose contributions to Baltimore serve as its legacy. Keith is a member of the Maryland Center for History and Culture and a supporter of Baltimore Heritage. Interesting tidbit: Keith is also a professional entertainer, and as "Charm City Keith" he performs a vaudeville-inspired act geared toward senior citizens offering a history lesson on Baltimore using artifacts and scenes which evoke pleasant memories. Keith is a graduate of the Red Skelton School in Vincennes, Indiana (on scholarship) and has trained and performed alongside world-renowned performers from Big Apple Circus, Cirque de Soleil, and Ringling Brothers.

**Julia Cooke (Director)** An innovative force in opera, Julia Cooke has served as Artistic and General Director of Opera Baltimore (formerly Baltimore Concert Opera) since 2019, having originally served as a founding board member and then as Executive Director. Under her leadership, OB has increased its budget 366%, added four staff positions, increased the number of annual events from 10 to 103, and grown total revenue by 229% since 2020. The company's long track record of routinely sold-out performances paired with a deep and genuine dedication to its community led to a major expansion in 2022, when the company added fully staged opera productions to its already successful concert programming. Guiding the company from its grassroots beginnings, Julia has led the creation and launch of OB's successful programming both on and beyond the traditional opera stage, innovating in the areas of new audience development, civic practice work, and vibrant education programs for all ages. A self-taught opera executive, Julia has consistently sought to supplement her skillset - being accepted into and completing competitive training programs such as Michael Kaiser's DeVos Institute, Bloomberg Philanthropies' Arts Innovation Management Consultancy and Opera America's Leadership Intensive. Prior to her career as an arts executive, Julia maintained an active dual career in performing and teaching. Her professional singing career took her throughout the U.S. and overseas in leading operatic roles and as a concert soloist. As a passionate educator, she spent 25 years teaching in many capacities, including as a professor of classical voice at Morgan State University, Towson University, and the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, conductor for the Chicago Children's Choir and Maryland State Boychoir, and private voice teacher to dozens of rising singers. She is also a sought-after guest judge at voice competitions, as well as a guest lecturer and master class facilitator. Julia holds a Master of Music degree in opera performance from

Indiana University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in music and psychology from the University of Rochester.

for the ESB Education Foundation Fund. Jeff has lived and studied in Germany and holds a bachelor's degree from Towson University.

**Marco V. Ávila, P.E. (Director)** r (P.E.) in the State of Maryland. He has been practicing his Civil Engineering Profession for over 37 years (25 Years with WSP/Parsons Brinckerhoff). He has experience providing engineering and program/project management services for major infrastructure projects in the public and private sector, including transit, highways, bridges, Public-Private Partnership (P3) and telecommunications. He has a consistent track record of cost-effective project delivery under demanding circumstances. Marco is fluent in Spanish and speaks Portuguese. While working as a Vice President/Civil Engineer/Program Manager for WSP-USA, Marco has gained the trust of his clients and peers. Apart from loving engineering, Marco is an active member of local chapters of several societies: including the American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE), American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC/MD), The Engineering Society of Baltimore (ESB), Maryland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (MDHCC), MD Governor's Workforce Development Board, Maryland Auto Insurance Fund (MAIF). Apart from the engineering world, Marco dedicates his free time to volunteer in other organizations. Marco is currently the President/CEO & Chairman of the Board of the MDHCC. He took over MDHCC in February 2019. With the help of the new leadership at the Chamber, Marco has grown MDHCC from 89 to 1100 members. The new programs that he is planning to implement and offer to the members of the MDHCC are Mentoring, Educations, Growth, Partnership, Promotion/Marketing, Procurement Advisory, International Business Marketing and Networking. Marco also leads the ESB Engineers Week Council program, in 2024 nearly 1000 students from all over Maryland participated in this program. In 2025 he expects to have over 1500 students once he adds additional days to the program that will include: Energy Day, Manufacturing Day, DOE Day, MDTA Day, Health Engineering Day, Aviation Day. Marco is the Co-Founder and CEO of the Healing Hands Foundation. He organized Medical Mission all over the world to provide free surgeries for children with birth defects (i.e., Clef Lips, Hernias, Burns, etc.). Marco also serves as a Trustee of the ESB Education Foundation and helps with the Engineering Scholarships annual program. Marco is also the Founder and CEO of the Golfers for Charity, Inc. Foundation (GFC). GFC provides funding for local charitable organizations annually. He always shares his unique slogan as follows: "The greatest gift you can give to someone, is the example of your own life".

**Barry W. Casanova (Director)** is an attorney in private practice in Ellicott City working in Wills, Trusts, and Estate law as well as assisting small businesses in their legal needs for more than 40 years. His practice also offers Mediation services for business disputes. Mr. Casanova attended Baltimore City Schools and graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. He graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and political science and received a commission in the US Army. He then obtained an M.A. in Middle Eastern history from the University of South Carolina. After Active military duty, he received his Juris Doctorate from George Mason University Antonin Scalia School of Law. Barry is active in several other area charitable educational and fraternal organizations including the Board of Directors of the Baltimore Philatelic Society and the Board of Directors of the British North American Philatelic Society, and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Baltimore Virginia Tech Alumni Scholarship Committee, Inc. He is an active member of the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Casanova retired from the U.S. Army as a Lt. Colonel after 28 years of active and reserve service as an Intelligence Officer at the highest Joint Service levels and as a faculty member of the Joint Military Intelligence College, D.I.A. As a Life Member of the Engineers Club, Barry has served on several committees, the Board of Directors and as Past President providing leadership in the era of Club innovation and challenges.

**Jeffrey Caldwell (Director)** is Vice President of James Posey Associates, Inc. Jeff has been with JPA since 1997, having earned both a Master of Science in Architectural Engineering and Bachelor of Architectural Engineering from Pennsylvania State University. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Maryland and several other states and is a LEED Accredited. In 2009, he was made a Vice President and Principal. Jeff is responsible for overseeing mechanical engineering operations for government and higher education clients.

**James Dorf (Director)** is a business development and marketing professional in Baltimore and has been a member of the Club since 2004 and is active in networking activities to boost membership in the Club. He served on the membership committee prior to his nomination to the Board. He attended Johns Hopkins University and University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Community activities include being Vice Chairperson of the Baltimore City Chamber (Board of Directors) and the Maryland Senior Olympics Commission. He has also served on the Greater Baltimore Chamber board of Directors.

**Jeff Lange (Director)** is currently the Vice President of Quality Solutions, LLC, a Baltimore-based consulting firm providing clean room testing, compliance, validation, project management and technical services to the healthcare, biotech, and pharmaceutical industries. His principal areas of involvement are cleanroom environmental monitoring solutions, cleanroom design, business development and corporate development. Jeff is also the Chairman and Founder of the Global Pathways Project, a Baltimore Non-Profit dedicated to preparing our youth for the challenges of globalization. Prior to joining Quality Solutions, Jeff served as Director of IAESTE United States and a U.S. representative to IAESTE professional and educational organization for internationally minded engineers and scientists. Jeff has also served on a number of international boards, advisory committees, and interest groups in the field of international engineering and science education. Most recently serving as chairperson for the IAESTE international conferences in Cartagena, Colombia and Warsaw, Poland. Jeff also serves as a Trustee

**Richard Sienicki (Director)** is a Senior Account Executive for Johnson Controls, Inc. with 18 years of experience marketing Johnson Controls solutions to customers where he was awarded the Masters of Sales Excellence for ten years of his tenure, served as project account executive for advanced sales and implementation of the JCI NAE-S cyber security encrypted automation engine in the Washington Naval District and developed LEED silver, gold, and platinum projects with owner/developers, engineers, and contractors. Richard served as a naval aviator from 1992 to 2001 as an officer and combat pilot with eight years of excellence in military, leadership, management, and team building and flew wartime missions into hostile territory from aboard United States aircraft carriers and received the Meritorious Unit Commendation Medal. He has been a member of ESB House Committee for many years and serves on the Mount Vernon Belvedere Association Business Development Committee. Richard received his Bachelor of Science degree from The Georgia Institute of Technology in 1992.

**Harry Stephen (Director)** Recently retired from Century Engineering where he worked in their Hunt Valley office. He has over 40 years of experience in the planning, design, and management of transportation systems throughout Maryland. Harry graduated from the University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree in 1973 and is a Registered Professional Engineer in Maryland. He is a past president and Fellow of the American Council of Engineering Companies/Maryland (ACEC/MD), a past president and on the Board of the Engineering Society of Baltimore, a member of the Maryland Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the Maryland Association of Engineers (MAE). Harry and his wife Joanne live in Fallston.

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**OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR ELECTION OF BOARD – JUNE 2024**

**PLEASE NOTE: THE RIGHT TO VOTE IS VESTED IN FULL MEMBERS ONLY. THIS INCLUDES INDIVIDUAL, CORPORATE & VISION SPONSORED, SENIOR, PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY, EMERITUS, LIFE, PRESIDENTIAL GUEST, ARMED FORCES, JUNIOR EXECUTIVE, AND YOUNG EXECUTIVE MEMBERS. This is an uncontested ballot. Please place a check mark by each candidate to signify a yes vote. You may return your signed ballot with your account payment (mailed separately) or scan and email it to [director@esb.org](mailto:director@esb.org). It must be received no later than 6:00 pm on Thursday, May 30, 2024, to be validated and recorded.** Refer to Article XI of the bylaws for more information.

_____	Fritz Meyer	President
_____	Dan O’Leary	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
_____	Alan Straus	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
_____	Kim Nelson	Treasurer
_____	Keith Karas	Secretary
_____	Marco Avila	Director
_____	Barry Casanova	Director
_____	Jeff Caldwell	Director
_____	Julia Cooke	Director
_____	James Dorf	Director
_____	Jeff Lange	Director
_____	Richard Sienicki	Director
_____	Harry Stephen	Director

Member Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_