



January 26, 2021

**C. James Patti**  
Chairman

**R. Christian Johnsen**  
Secretary Treasurer

**USA MARITIME STATEMENT ON THE APPOINTMENT  
OF  
DEPUTY MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR LUCINDA LESSLEY**

The USA Maritime Coalition congratulates Lucinda Lessley on her appointment to the position of Deputy Maritime Administrator, U.S. Department of Transportation. USA Maritime represents shipping companies operating U.S.-flag vessels in our nation's foreign trades, the maritime labor organizations representing the licensed and unlicensed American mariners who crew these vessels, and their related maritime associations.

We are extremely pleased with the appointment of Lucinda Lessley who has a proven track record and extensive background in support of the U.S. maritime industry as a longtime Professional Staff Member on the House Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee on Coast Guard & Maritime Transportation. Throughout her career, Ms. Lessley has been a champion of the U.S.-flag industry, just like her mentor the late Representative Elijah Cummings, a dear friend and outspoken advocate for the American mariner during his time in the United States Congress. The Maritime Administration is charged with the promotion of the U.S.-flag merchant marine, improving maritime infrastructure, and supporting our nation's sealift capabilities for national security. As such, we are confident Ms. Lessley's leadership will help ensure our nation has the U.S.-flag vessels and American mariners needed to provide the commercial sealift readiness capability relied upon by the Department of Defense and to enhance the military, economic and homeland security of the United States.

We believe it is extremely important that the Maritime Administration is led by individuals who have the unique background and expertise necessary to implement the maritime policies put forward by President Biden. We look forward to working with Deputy Maritime Administrator Lessley and the Maritime Administration to strengthen and expand the U.S.-flag maritime industry and to preserve and create American maritime jobs.

American Maritime Congress  
American Maritime Officers  
American Maritime Officers Service  
American Roll-on Roll-off Carrier, LLC  
American President Lines LLC  
Bold Ocean LLC  
Hapag-Lloyd USA, LLC  
International Organization of Masters, Mates  
and Pilots

Liberty Maritime Corporation  
Maersk Line, Limited  
Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association  
Maritime Institute (MIRAID)  
Sailors Union of the Pacific  
Seafarers International Union  
Transportation Institute  
U.S. Ocean  
U.S. Shipping Corp  
Waterman Logistics, Inc.