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.