



Attention: IBUP Members

RE: SHIP DELEGATE and DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE ELECTIONS 2017

From: Joshua Stephenson, Regional Director

Date: May 11, 2017

It is that time of year for elections on board the Alaska Marine Highway Vessels for the position of SHIP'S DELEGATE and DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE.

What does a Ship's Delegate do? The Ship's Delegate (Shop Steward) is the Union representative sailing on the vessel. Should there be problems on-board; the Ship's Delegate tries to resolve them. The Ship's Delegate assists with contract language discrepancies and, as a representative of the Union, helps to solve problems onboard the vessel. The Ship's Delegate helps in orientation of new crew member and acquaints the new mariners with their responsibility in the Union and communicates issues with E-Board members.

What is a Department Representative? The person that you can consult with in your department who will give you advice regarding the contract and the responsibilities of your job. The Department Representative will stand with you in an onboard dispute within your department. Department Representatives correspond with Ships Delegates or E-Board members regarding issues.

Please hold an on-board Union meeting with your crew to select your Ship's Delegate and Department Representative. The Union office will need to know who has been elected on each vessel and each crew. In order to better serve our membership, when we have a list of delegates, training opportunities will be provided by the Union.

These positions are extremely important in the functionality of the Union. Without Ships Delegates or Dept. Representatives there is a missing role that acts a first line of defense to protect our Union rights and contract.

Please submit the names of elected Delegates and Representatives to our regional office at [joshua@ibu.org](mailto:joshua@ibu.org); [karena@ibu.org](mailto:karena@ibu.org). Thank you and remember an injury to one is an injury to all.

Joshua Stephenson

Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific Alaska Region

Office 907-790-9644

Fax 907-790-9646