**Regional Position Candidate Personal Statements**

**Region 3 Negotiator**

**Claudia Hochstein**

I’m Claudia Hochstein, a Rule Coordinator at MPCA. I’ve been a state employee for seven years and a MAPE member for five years. If elected, I will bring a level-headed, fair, and deliberate approach to the negotiations process and stand up for the concerns of our region. I have a 360-degree view of negotiations from my time in management at the Minnesota Zoo and as a MAPE member. As a former lobbyist and member of MAPE’s Government Affairs Committee, I am equipped to navigate a variety of complex political concerns. I appreciate your support, and I will fight for you.

**Kristen Kirchoff-Franklin**

My name is Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin, and I work at the MPCA in St. Paul. I’ve been a State employee for 13 years and a MAPE Steward for 3 years. I recently became the Chief Steward for Region 3 and am excited for this new role! My passion is to help people and defend our contract. As the Regional Contract Negotiator, I would gain access to the best information available to further serve and represent Local 301 as their Chief Steward. I’m ready to fight for our next contract and get the best contract we can! Thank you for your vote!

**Region 4 Negotiator**

**Carolyn Murphy**

Hello, I’m Carolyn Murphy, current MAPE Contract Negotiator for Region 4. During the last round of negotiations, as Revenue’s Contract Manager, I brought my skills of negotiation and strategy to the table. As we’ve seen with COVID-19 and the State’s response to it, we can make the seemingly impossible, possible. I’ve been an active voice for Paid Parental Leave, Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives, and Student Loan Debt Reimbursement. It was a pleasure to stand up and provide a collective voice for these causes. I would like to continue this work on your behalf and would appreciate your vote. Thank you.

**Tristan Frankus**

As Negotiator of the Local 401, I would do my best to strongly represent the interests important to my fellow MAPE colleagues. I have been a MAPE member for over 4 years and the MAPE Local 401 Secretary for nearly 2 years. I am a true believer in the power that relational organizing can generate and have been involved in MAPE’s efforts to organize over the past 4 years. MAPE’s efforts to improve membership unity resulted in stronger contracts last round and will be integral to obtaining strong contracts in the future. Thank you for your time.

**Region 5 Negotiator**

**Daniel Kelly**

My name is Daniel Kelly. I work for the Department of MNIT, Partnering with the Minnesota State Patrol, in Saint Paul. I have been a State employee for over 20 years. I am currently a Steward and the President of Local 502. I feel our work as State employees deserves greater respect and appreciation and needs to be rewarded with compensation that truly makes a difference in our lives and the lives of our family thus making us better productive workers and that benefits us, our families, our employers and our state.

**Maureen Dunaway**

My name is Maureen Dunaway.  I work for Unemployment Insurance at DEED.  I have worked here for nine years and have been a MAPE member the entire time.  I am the chief steward from region five and I was the Negotiations Representative for the last round of contract negotiations.  If you return me to that role I pledge to represent region 5 at the table. I will solicit your opinions and fight for our goals.  I ask for your vote so I can do this.  Thank you.

**Region 6 Director**

**Nathan Hierlmaier**

My name is Nathan Hierlmaier, I am a senior research analyst for the Minnesota Department of Health, and proud MAPE member for nearly 11 years. As union members and public servants, we face threats from all sides—anti-union forces pushing to divide us, anti-government ideologues that want to privatize our jobs, and a pandemic that threatens our very lives. To address these problems, I bring a fresh perspective, first-hand experience in union and faith-based organizing, and a data-driven mindset that will help grow membership and build new allies in our shared struggle. As Director, I will place our members first by actively listening to their needs and celebrating their successes. As Director, I will also clearly communicate an expectation for steady, forward momentum to overcome any internal and external challenges. My personal philosophy is the same as what I have been trying to teach my two young daughters: ask yourself each day—how am I helpful, how am I grateful, and how am I hopeful? I will bring this approach to the Board to renew confidence in our ability to enforce our contract, discover untapped talent among our coworkers, and bring your voice to the table.

**Tabatha Ries-Miller**

I want to be your Regional Director because I have the passion and experience to lead change for a better MAPE. With 6 years as a MAPE leader, I understand the complexity of our organization and our mission. I have served in roles at all levels of MAPE involving organizing, contract enforcement and negotiations, including chief steward and regional director. More importantly, I've had hundreds of one-on-ones and heard what issues members need addressed.

MAPE is facing a number of challenges that threaten our organization’s future, including those from anti-labor activists and politicians. Yet, our biggest threat is our inability to strategically plan and organize internally. Consequently, we cannot build the power to combat even basic contract issues, let alone make progress on the more complex problems.

As the state’s professional workforce, we have the skills, talents, and expertise needed to demonstrate effective democracy. I want to help MAPE refocus our efforts where it matters most and stop replicating the problems we opposed in our workplaces. You entrusted me with that responsibility in the last election, but unfortunately, due to health issues, I had to step down. Now that I've improved, I'm looking for another chance to make a difference.

**Region 9 Negotiator**

**Carly Baade**

My name is Carly Baade. I work for the Department of Health in St Paul. I have been a state employee and MAPE member for four years. I view this nomination as an opportunity to grow my knowledge of MAPE and the negotiations process. If elected, this is an opportunity to be a voice for our members, both local and statewide.

**Kaitlin Houlihan**

I’m Kaitlin Houlihan and want to represent you on MAPE’s Negotiations Committee. I’m a Research Scientist with the MN Department of Health, Local 901 Secretary, and a leader in MAPE’s Temporary Unclassified campaign. I’m running to be your Negotiator with two goals: align MAPE’s negotiations cycle with the state budget cycle and transform negotiations into bargaining for the common good. I will bring energy, transparency and collaboration to Region 9 to achieve this. Our power is rooted in our ability to align our values for civil service, equity and community with our union. Let’s do this together!

**Region 10 Negotiator**

**Elizabeth Stephens**

I, Elizabeth Stephens, strongly supported both MAPE and MMA unions in my 15 years of dedicated state service.

If elected to serve as a MAPE Regional Negotiator beginning 2020, I pledge to relay the opinions our local members by implanting the terms of our bargaining positions for Unit 214 during the next agreement discussion between MAPE and the State of Minnesota with accuracy. Taking action to support the guiding principles and interest of our elected leaders, as well as the MAPE organization in their duty to achieve justice, fairness and equity for the employed workers of MN is an honor.

**Michael Foster**

My name is Michael Foster, and I am running to serve as the Negotiations Committee representative. I have worked at the Department of Education for over 20 years and have been a MAPE member since day one. I have worked on the Master Negotiations Committee for the past three contracts and was MAPE’s representative on the Healthcare Joint Labor Management Committee last round that added vision coverage to our healthcare. We need to continue to bargain for wage increases and high-quality health care that is affordable, and work on new issues such as career advancement, professional development, and safety leave.

**Region 12 Director**

**Greggory Reid**

My name is Greggory Reid I work for Minnesota State Colleges, at Saint Paul College as a Financial Aid Officer. I have been a State employee twenty two years, and a MAPE member for seventeen years. I started as a steward for AFSCME, then a chief Steward, and also I sat on the executive board for several years. I have always been involved in unions starting back in nineteen seventy four. I belonged to AFLCIO (Youngstown Sheet & Tube 1974-1978), and also was a member of the Teamsters during the mid-seventies. Unions are my life’s blood as my father was a union member as well. What is most important to me is our members’ autonomy and their levels of engagement in MAPE. If I am elected, I will work hard to solicit our member’s opinions, engage them at the highest level to continue the mission of MAPE for the advancement of our communities. Finally, I completed my Master’s degree from the University of Minnesota in Organizational Leadership & Policy Development, I am currently finishing my Ed.D (Doctorate) in leadership to further assist MAPE’s leadership and our members in creating and sustaining a just and equitable work place, community and environment.

**Tess Flom**

Hello! I’m Tess Flom, and I work for the BCA. I am a Steward and VP in Local 1203, and I want to be your Region 12 Director.

Who am I?

* A veteran MAPE steward with 21 years of experience.
* A seasoned local leader, having served in the offices of President, VP, Secretary, Membership Secretary, and Treasurer.
* A skilled organizer, leading the drive to form Local 502 and serving as their first president.
* Collaborative, working to establish a multi-union coalition at MN State - Minneapolis College.
* Experienced with MAPE Board of Director meetings; having substituted for the Region 13 Director.

Why vote for me?

For over 21 years I have served MAPE members. As a long-term State employee, I have worked in a wide variety agencies, making me uniquely qualified to understand the challenges facing the diverse membership of Region 12. You will find me be a fair and dedicated representative of your interests.

I have been asked why I am a steward. My answer has always been, "Everyone deserves to have someone on their side.” As your Regional Director, you can be assured that I will, always, be on *your* side.

More at fb.me/TessInMN

**Region 17 Negotiator**

**Cheri Humphrey**

My name is Cheri Humphrey, I work for the Department of Corrections – as a Career Case Manager at the MCF Moose Lake facility.  I have worked in corrections for 28 plus years.  I have been a MAPE member and state employee for the past 15 years, first as a corrections agent and now as a case manager.  I am a Steward and Local President of Local 1701 and Co-Chair of the Corrections Statewide Meet and Confer.  I have always been interested in MAPE members rights and I hope to carry on this commitment as a Negotiator for MAPE.

**Nicholas Snavely**

My name is Nicholas Snavely and I’ve worked for the Minnesota DNR in Sauk Rapids since 2007 as a MAPE Member for 13 years.

I’ll continue to advocate that MAPE enhances state employee benefits with your support and input for:

-Fair compensation with additional salary steps

-Tuition and fee waiver program

-Sick leave pool establishment

-Optional use of sick leave hours to cover short/long-term disability premiums

I’ll listen to your needs to obtain better benefits in our July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023 MAPE contract like I did as your Region 17 Negotiations Representative during MAPE’s last contract negotiations.