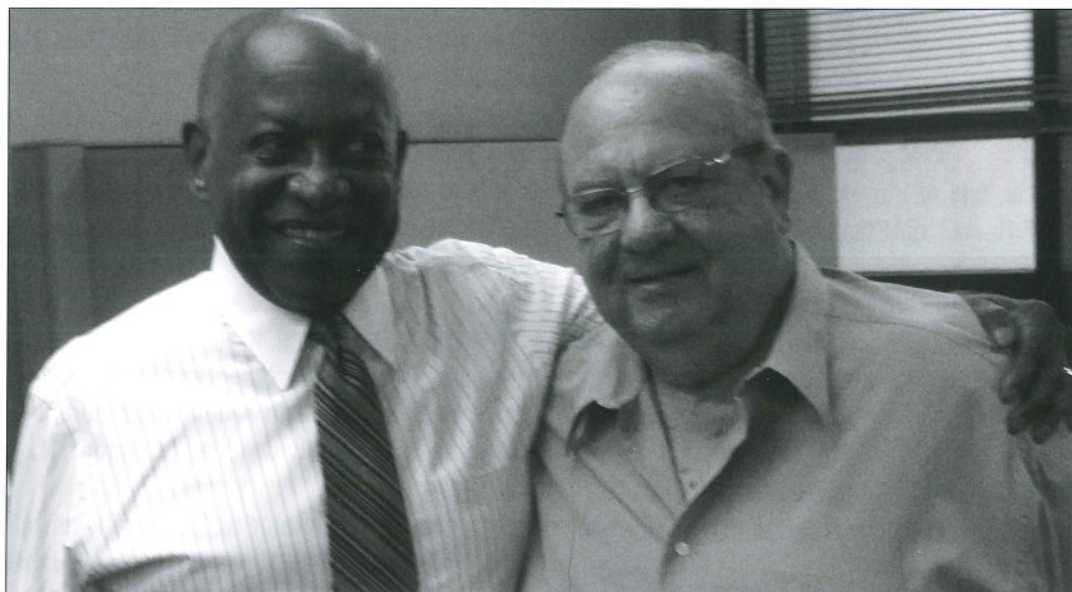


# JOINT MEETING NEWS

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VOLUME 22, ISSUE 2  
FALL 2017



## Retirements

We are sad to see our friends leave us, but realizing they will enjoy themselves in retirement is great to know. Those leaving are **Anthony Terrezza** and **Zygmunt (Ziggy) Szczesny**.

Anthony had been an important part of Joint Meeting prior to his start as Director of Administration and Finance. He was a member of the Joint Meeting Board of Directors for 10 years. In his more than 20 years representing the Township of Union, Anthony served as a Committeeman as well as the Mayor of Union for five terms. Prior to his public service, he was the President and Chief Financial Officer for Planet Honda auto dealership in Union, NJ.

Anthony and his wife Nancy are looking forward to spending more time with their children and grandchildren. We wish Anthony and his family all the best and we thank him for his service.

Pictured above are Executive Director **Samuel McGhee**, on the left, and **Anthony Terrezza**, on the right. Please see page 3 for continuation of *Retirement*.

## Upcoming Events

**November 14-16, 2017.** 102nd Annual New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference at the Atlantic City Convention Center, Atlantic City, NJ.

**November 14-15, 2017.** New Jersey Association of Environmental Authorities (AEA) at Caesars, Atlantic City, NJ.



A newsletter of the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties, a wastewater treatment plant serving eleven member municipalities:

East Orange  
Hillside  
Irvington  
Maplewood  
Millburn  
Newark  
Roselle Park  
South Orange  
Summit  
Union  
West Orange

Also serving:

Elizabeth  
Livingston  
New Providence  
Orange

### 2017 Joint Meeting Board of Directors

#### Officers

Howard Levison  
*Chairperson, South Orange*  
Joseph Florio  
*Vice Chair/Secretary, Union*  
Mayor Victor DeLuca  
*Treasurer, Maplewood*

#### Members

Quilla E. Talmadge, *East Orange*  
Donald DeAugustine, *Hillside*  
Renee C. Burgess, *Irvington*  
Dianne Eglow, *Millburn*  
Gayle Chaneyfield Jenkins, *Newark*  
Eugene Meola, *Roselle Park*  
Stephen Bowman, *Summit*  
Gerard Guarino, *West Orange*

#### Executive Director

Samuel T. McGhee

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# Employee News

## Family Achievement

**Charles Guest** of our Site Services Department is a very proud dad. His daughter, Imani Guest, was selected out of 500 students to attend a summer internship at the University of Hawaii. Imani was fortunate enough to work with Dr. Michael Garcia, one of the world's top volcanologists. She had a choice of Hawaii or Stanford and ultimately chose Hawaii. Imani is a senior geoscience major at Rider University. According to Dr. Jonathan Husch, the chair of Geological, Environmental and Marine Sciences at Rider, "Imani is an outstanding student, one of the best I've ever known in my 37 years at Rider."



Imani is also the recipient of the McNair Scholarship, named after the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program.

## New Arrivals

**Patricia Fraga** and her husband Manuel welcomed their daughter Elena Rose Fraga into the world on September 5, 2017. Elena Rose arrived weighing 9 lbs.



## Promotions

**Roger Marques Jr.** has been promoted to the position of Operations Shift Supervisor. Roger started at Joint Meeting in July 2015. He possesses his S-1 License.

**Eric Dowhan** has also been promoted to Operations Shift Supervisor. Eric began with Joint Meeting in September 2016. He brings with him more than 10 years of experience in water and wastewater treatment. He possesses his S-2 license.

## Internal Movement

**Frank Osty** will be moving from Security to his new position as Maintenance Mechanic.

**James Foy** will be moving from Boiler Operator to his new position as Electrician.

## New Employees

**Timothy Brown**, Site Services Worker, joins the team after working with Asbury Locksmith for 18 years. Tim is a resident of Elizabeth, NJ.

**Shelton Colbert**, WW Operator in Training, comes to us after spending the last 11 years employed by Gentek in Avenel and Electrum in Rahway, NJ. Shelton resides in Rahway, NJ.

**Marlon Echeverria**, WW Operator in Training, comes to Joint Meeting after working for nine years with a nationally recognized massage therapy provider. Marlon also served as a life guard for the city of Elizabeth for six years. He resides in Linden, NJ.

**Matthew Ellis**, WW Operator in Training, is a resident of Hillside, NJ. Prior to Joint Meeting, Matthew worked locally for several years in warehousing and five years in Arnet's Restaurant in Newark, NJ. He attended Union County College in Cranford, NJ.

**Andres Gallego Sanchez**, WW Operator in Training, joins our team after spending 10 years with RPM Warehouse and, most recently, three years with Natural Systems Utilities. Andres possesses his S-1 and C-1 licenses and is pursuing his S-2 license. He is a resident of Elizabeth, NJ.

**Yuval Ghitelman**, WW Operator in Training, joins our team after 10 years with the Wakefern Corporation. Yuval attended the Anthem Institute in Jersey City for computer networking. He is a resident of Elizabeth, NJ.

**Paul Hunt**, WW Operator in Training, is a resident of Cranford, NJ. Paul has worked in the personal banking industry as well as being a fitness trainer. He graduated from Kean University with a BS in Business Management.

**Paul Orazi**, Boiler Operator, brings with him over 20 years of experience in the maintenance industry. Paul has worked for companies such as Ferraro Foods, Genesis Healthcare, Thermo Fisher Scientific and Harlan Laboratories. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a Staff Sergeant supervising boiler maintenance and operation. Paul is a resident of Piscataway, NJ.

**Sujay Patel**, Laboratory Technician, is our most recent hire. He comes to us from the Linden Roselle Sewerage Authority where he was a lab Technician for the last four years. Prior to that, Sujay



was employed by SGS US Testing as a chemist. He received his BS from Stockton College and his MS in Chemistry from NJIT. Sujay is a resident of Parlin, NJ.

**Rupert Pineda**, WW Operator in Training, resides in Haskell, NJ. Rupert has worked for the past six years at the Wanaque Center in the support services department. Prior to joining Joint Meeting, he had completed his Introduction to Water & Wastewater classroom training.

**Coyyona Smallwood**, WW Operator in Training, comes to Joint Meeting after several years in the retail industry and, most recently, working for Amazon Fresh. Coyonna resides in Elizabeth, NJ.

**Nicholas Vargas**, Electrician, joins the Electrical Department after several years working in the solar energy industry. Nicholas attended the Everest Institute in South Plainfield, NJ where he majored in Electrical. He resides in Elizabeth, NJ.



Joint Meeting's newest employees are, left to right, **Yuval Ghitelman**, **Paul Orazi**, **Andres Gallego Sanchez**, **Coyyona Smallwood**, **Paul Vargas**, **Timothy Brown**, **Paul Hunt**, **Shelton Colbert**, **Rupert Pineda**, **Matthew Ellis**, **Fredy Gamboa**, and **Marlon Echeverria**.

## Help for Texas

**J**oint Meeting Employees contributed donations to assist the victims of Hurricane Harvey. The money collected will be forwarded to the Red Cross.

In addition, our Assistant Safety Officer **Donald Heminghaus** was dispatched to Texas as part of his long-standing commitment to the military. We thank Don for his service and commitment.

## Retirement *(continued from page 1)*

Ziggy began his career at Joint Meeting as a Maintenance Mechanic in 1991. He formerly worked for GAF Chemicals in Linden, NJ until the plant closed. Ziggy worked as a Mechanic for approximately ten years before he moved into the position of Electrician, where he remained for the rest of his tenure. During his time with Joint Meeting, Ziggy was called upon, especially in emergency situations, to respond and render his expertise. During the blackout of 2003, when the plant lost all power from the utility company, his response was professional and critical to a successful resolution. In the power failure on Christmas of 2004, his response again was above and beyond the call of duty. Ziggy continued to demonstrate his dedication with the storm event in 2005, the snow emergency in 2010 and Hurricane Irene in 2011. He understood the importance of relying on coworkers on a daily basis. As a result, Ziggy was cited on numerous occasions throughout his career for his Perfect Attendance. We thank Ziggy for his day-to-day dedication, in addition to his response to emergencies.



Pictured above, **Steve Dowhan**, left, and **Ed Patterson**, right, congratulate Ziggy on his retirement from Joint Meeting.

## Help is Available

Joint Meeting maintains an Employee Assistance Program administered by Barnabas Health. The program provides assistance to employees and their families. The program is called **ONESOURCE** and can be reached at **1-800-300-0628**. The service is confidential and is available 24 hours, seven days per week, 365 days a year. The clinicians offer referral, counseling and crisis intervention. Employees needing assistance obtaining these services may also contact Human Resources.



## Administrative Professionals Day 2017

Executive Director **Samuel McGhee** and members of the senior management team had the pleasure to host the members of the administrative staff at a luncheon to celebrate Administrative Professionals Day. The administrative staff includes **Grace Quintero**, **Miriam Ledee**, **Theresa Teti**, **Malika Johnson**, **Beatriz Rubio**, **Diane Burkowski** and **Pat Rufolo**. The administrative staff does a tremendous job throughout the year and we always look forward to celebrating their accomplishments.

Thank you all for the great job you do.



Pictured standing behind Executive Director **Samuel McGhee** are, left to right, **Grace Quintero**, **Malika Johnson**, **Beatriz Rubio**, **Pat Rufolo** and **Miriam Ledee**. Unavailable at the time the photo was taken are **Diane Burkowski** and **Theresa Teti**.

## Banking Opportunity

Joint Meeting has entered into a business relationship with the North Jersey Federal Credit Union. Employees can set up savings club accounts for vacations and holidays and become eligible to apply for low interest loans for autos and mortgages.

Employees may go online at [www.njfcu.org](http://www.njfcu.org), call 973-785-9200, or see Human Resources.

## Hot Dogs, Burgers and More

Joint Meeting was pleased to be able to serve up a barbeque for the staff on June 30, 2017. The return of Assistant Superintendent **Francis Bonaccorso** as Chef made the event a huge success. Fran takes great pride in cooking and puts in a lot of effort in the preparation for this event. Special thanks go to **Mike Maffia** and the Site Services Department, **Mike Foster**, **Matt Bodzioch**, and **Glen Riscen**, for the setup and breakdown. As always, we would to thank Executive Director **Samuel McGhee** for his generosity and support.



Pictured clockwise, from left to right are **David Viera**, **Grace Quintero**, **Allyson Rooke** of CME Associates, **James Bunkiewicz**, **Adewale Akinokun**, and **Rick Stafford**.



Pictured clockwise, from left to right are **Sorin Astalus**, **Don Jantas**, **Marcelo Kofman**, **Adris Hariprasad**, **Christopher Stafford**, **Christian Acosta**, and **Humbertt Mortola**.

**Fran Bonaccorso** showing off his culinary skills.





## Celebrating Milestone Years of Service

Congratulations to the following dedicated employees for their years of hard work and for reaching service milestones.

### 20 YEARS

**James Paluch**, Collections Department

### 15 YEARS

**Keith Kilgore**, Boiler

**Humbert Mortola**, IT

**Jessie Ordner**, Operations

**Rick Stafford**, Administration

### 10 YEARS

**William Anderson**, Operations

**Maurice Clark**, Operations

**Joseph Osborn**, Operations

### 5 YEARS

**Patricia Fraga**, Lab Technician

**Joseph Mancino**, Site Services Worker

**Chris Stafford**, Wastewater Operator



Pictured above are many of Joint Meeting's employees and retirees at the NJWEA Annual Conference and Exposition.

## Perfect Attendance

**E**leven employees have achieved a perfect attendance record for the 2nd Quarter of 2017. Those individuals achieving a record of no lateness, no sick time and no absences are:

**Joseph Branche**, Site Services

**Fuquan Brownridge**, Boiler Department

**Anthony Dinardo**, Site Services

**Harby Guerrero**, Operations

**Charles Guest**, Site Services

**Louis Lawson**, Security Department

**Brian More**, Operations

**Manisha Patel**, Laboratory

**Thomas Shanks**, Mechanical Maintenance

**Christopher Stafford**, Pretreatment Department

**Robert Surman**, Collections

Seven employees have achieved a perfect attendance record for the 3rd Quarter of 2017. Those individuals achieving a record of no lateness, no sick time and no absences are:

**Melanie Follmer**, Laboratory

**Harby Guerrero**, Operations

**Don Jantas**, Pretreatment

**Louis Lawson**, Security

**Joseph Mancino**, Site Services

**Thomas Shanks**, Mechanical Maintenance

**Robert Surman**, Collections

Congratulations to all of the above listed employees for their excellent attendance records.

## Always Learning

**T**he New Jersey Water Environment Association (NJWEA) held its 102nd Annual Conference and Exposition in Atlantic City in May 2017. The conference is held over a four-day period and is designed as a source for professional development and an opportunity to earn necessary credits toward certification and licensing. Attendance by staff to these conferences would not be possible without the support of Executive Director **Samuel McGhee**. Mr. McGhee has been an ongoing supporter of professional and educational development for his staff.

The New Jersey Water Environment Association is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing the water environment. Founded in 1915, the Association is the oldest organization of its kind in the United States. With a membership of 2,800 engineers, operators, scientists, students and other professionals, the NJWEA is an environmental leader in New Jersey.

## Safety

A reminder that monthly safety meetings are scheduled on the second Thursday of the month in the Training Trailer. Employees are encouraged to submit safety suggestions to their supervisor or to Safety Officer Rick Stafford.



## Joint Meeting Welcomes a New Board Member

Joint Meeting is pleased to welcome **Stephen Bowman** from Summit to the Board of Directors. Mr. Bowman replaces **Richard Sun**. We thank Mr. Sun for his service to the Board of Directors.

## Employee Bowling Night

Once again, Joint Meeting sponsored an evening of bowling for the employees. The event took place in May 2017 at Jersey Bowling Lanes in Linden, NJ. Each event brings out the talent and spirit of the staff.

There were many highlights from that evening. Bowlers and their scores were: **Reneece Porter**, 225/214/236; **Darius Mayes**, 188/201/215; **Matt Bodzioch**, 146/180/188; **Ron Helco**, 169/225; **Steve Pascucci**, 180; **Bob Surman**, 177/160; **Lenny Bucher**, 203/183; **Glen Schoenig**, 166/169; and **Bob Barry**, 185/179.

More highlights include: best split spare was made by **Will Anderson**; most improved bowler was **Manisha Patel**; and best "Two Person" bowling team was **Patricia Fraga**.



Enjoying bowling are, left to right, front row **Manisha Patel**, **Beatriz Rubio**, **Miriam Ledee**, and **Patricia Fraga**; middle row **Don Heminghaus**, **Rick Stafford**, **Julio Cabrera**, **Willie Negron**, and **Ray Jimenez**; and back row **Darius Mayes**, **Matt Bodzioch**, **Sorin Astalus**, **Bob Surman**, **Ron Helco**, and **Will Anderson**.

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### Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties

Wastewater Treatment Plant  
& Administrative Offices  
500 South First Street  
Elizabeth, NJ 07202  
(908) 353-1313  
FAX (908) 353-7925

### Joint Meeting Administrative Staff

*Executive Director*  
Samuel T. McGhee

*Deputy Executive  
Director/Chief Engineer*  
Position Vacant

*Superintendent*  
Stephen Dowhan

*Director of Admin. and Finance*  
Position Vacant

*Director of Human Resources*  
Robert Barry

*Industrial Pretreatment Manager*  
Michael Phillips

*Project Manager*  
Jason Kohlhepp

*Purchasing Officer*  
Michelle DeFrancis

*Asst. Board Secr./Financial Asst.*  
Position Vacant

*Asst. Superintendent  
Operations/Maint.*  
Francis Bonaccorso

*Asst. Superintendent  
Collection System*  
Jim Paluch

*Operations Manager*  
Roger Marques

*Maintenance Manager*  
Roman Wisniewski

*Safety Officer*  
Richard Stafford

### Board Committees 2017

The Board of Directors committee assignments for the 2nd half of 2017 are:

#### Operations Committee

*Chair:* Dianne Eglow  
Renee C. Burgess  
Gerard Guarino  
Eugene Meola

#### Public Relations Committee

*Chair:* Renee C. Burgess  
Gayle Chaneyfield Jenkins  
Dianne Eglow  
Eugene Meola

#### Finance and Budget Committee

*Chair:* Joseph M. Florio  
Stephen Bowman  
Gerard Guarino  
Quilla E. Talmadge

#### Personnel and Procurement Committee

*Chair:* Gayle Chaneyfield Jenkins  
Renee C. Burgess  
Victor DeLuca  
Joseph M. Florio

## Correction

Please be advised of the following corrections:

Years of Service

Humbertt Mortola-10 Years

Jessie Ordner-10 Years