

Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee
John S. Johnson
Connecticut Port Authority

Good morning Senator Duff, Representative Janowski, Senator Kane, Representative Buck Taylor and members of the Executive and Legislative Committee. My name is John S. Johnson, and it is an honor and privilege to be appointed to serve on the newly formed Connecticut Port Authority by Governor Dannel P. Malloy.

I thank you for the opportunity to appear before you to speak of my desire to serve on the CPA.

As you will see from my resume, my entire 55-year business career has been centered around the Marine and Maritime Industries both professionally and on a volunteer basis serving the Industry. I was born on the south shore of Long Island into a family who themselves made their early living on the Great South Bay fishing and hunting. A brief stay on Long Island led to cities where my Dad was called to work including, Washington DC, Gross Point Michigan, and then ultimately to Mamaroneck, New York where I graduated from Mamaroneck High School. College and graduation from Tufts University in 1961 followed. In the summer of 1960, I truly began my waterfront career, working for a Terminal Operator in Baltimore and returned to Baltimore in the summer of 1961, where I worked for a stevedoring company as a timekeeper on the piers of Baltimore.

More schooling followed in year 1962-63 at the Thunderbird School in Phoenix. A short-term international banking career at Citi Bank of 18 months followed. I was not cut out to be a banker and went to work for a small family owned marine hardware store in Mamaroneck. That store – Brewer Hardware led me into a 25-year partnership with my then brother-in-law. We bought and operated our first marina together in 1969. In 1993 I sold my interest in Brewer Yacht Yards, and at that time we had 15 shipyards throughout New England and New York with 3,000 slips and hauled 5,000 boats in the winter seasons.

The rest of my career is shown on my resume. But you will see that after my involvement with Brewer Yacht Yards as a founding partner, I have continued in phases of the Industry from manufacturing, real estate, and real estate development. Presently I specialize in waterfront development and management of waterfront based real estate holdings from Stonington to Norwalk. I have in my portfolio some 240,000 feet of commercial and residential space. My most recent acquisition (closing is set for April 2016) is Saybrook Junction, the site of the AMTRAK and SHORELINE EAST railroad stations.

Having served on the CT MARITIME COMMISSION from its origin, I have long been an advocate of a Port Authority. Connecticut has 80 miles of shoreline, much of which

has been under appreciated and certainly underutilized. The job of the CPA will be to change that situation and to bring Connecticut into the Maritime World as a first class place for ships, yachts and boats to come and do business. It is already a \$9,000,000,000 industry and hopefully under the guidance of the Connecticut Port Authority we can double that in a decade. I think we can do that because the members who have been selected to serve are a dedicated group of men and women who in part have some experience in the marine field. That experience is what will make us successful as a port authority.

In conclusion I do believe my experience as previously discussed and my resume make me a suitable candidate for membership on the Connecticut Port Authority.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I'll be very happy to answer any of your questions.