



QUESTIONS FOR CONNECTICUT PORT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES

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CONNECTICUT PORT AUTHORITY (CGS § 15-31A)

The authority:

- coordinates port development;
- pursues federal and state funds for dredging and other infrastructure improvements to (a) increase cargo movement through the ports and (b) maintain navigability of ports and harbors;
- markets port and harbor economic development and works with others to maximize their economic potential;
- supports and enhances the development of maritime commerce and industries;
- coordinates the planning and funding of capital projects promoting the development of ports and harbors;
- develops strategic entrepreneurial initiatives available to the state; and
- coordinates the state's maritime policy and serves as the governor's principal maritime policy advisor.



QUESTIONS

1. The Connecticut Port Authority is a new agency created to coordinate the development of state ports and harbors. What are the first things the board must do to accomplish its mission?
2. What can a statewide authority achieve that individual port authorities could not?
3. Each of the state's deep water ports has traditionally been administered by a local port authority. Will those authorities continue to operate? If so, what will the relationship be between the statewide authority and the local authorities?
4. What do the ports of Bridgeport, New Haven, and New London offer shippers that they cannot find in nearby, larger ports, such as New York? How can the authority help these ports market their assets to attract these shippers?
5. How will the authority coordinate its efforts with the governor's Let's Go CT transportation infrastructure plan?
6. What can the authority and the Department of Transportation do to help move cargo efficiently through the ports and the state transportation network?
7. Do you see rail playing a role in moving cargo to and from the ports and potentially reducing highway traffic? What can the authority do to encourage the development of rail connections?
8. What kinds of capital improvements are needed to maximize the use of the state's harbors as well as its three ports? What are the best ways to make those improvements?
9. The Deep Water Port Strategy Study, conducted in 2012 for the Office of Policy and Management, recommends a number of ways to make the best use of the three ports. What do you think should be done first and why?
10. What role, if any, do you foresee public-private partnerships playing in the development of ports and harbors?
11. How can the authority increase international trade? Do you think foreign trade zones should be established in or near the ports?
12. How much does Connecticut's maritime industry contribute to the state's economy? What are the challenges the industry faces? How can the authority help it meet those challenges?

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