



RAFAEL ABREU is an innovative professional with 30 years of Management and Marketing expertise in the Tour and Travel industry. He is a proactive, bilingual leader/manager with experience in multi-cultural and global environments.

Rafael has held several positions in the Tour and Travel industry including Controller's Assistant, Operations Manager, Director of Business Development and Director of Operations. In his current

role with Statue City Cruises as the Vice President of Sales and Marketing he is responsible for the administration and efficient operation of the Sales departments, while maintaining focus on Statue City Cruises' strategic goals. Rafael is responsible for relationships with the National Park Service, NYC Parks and Recreation, NJ Department of Environmental Protection and numerous government agencies and not for profit partners.

He is the main point of contact for the following travel related organizations: American Bus Association, National, Student Youth Travel Association, US Travel Industry Association, Ontario Motorcoach Association, Pennsylvania Bus Association and NYC & Company. He has also received citations and awards from the Office of the Hudson County Executive for his commitment to the growth of the tourism industry in New Jersey.



RICHARD AYSON is the Chief Growth Officer for Aramark Destinations. Richard has 20 years' experience as a Global Hospitality Executive having worked in multimillion-dollar revenue growth enterprises generated significant shareholder value. He excels as a change agent within customer-centric environments and has established strong professional networks across several industry sectors.



RAJ BASI is Vice President of Sustainability at POWDR. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Natural Resources Management and a Juris Doctorate with a certificate in Natural Resources and Environmental Law. With a lifelong commitment to sustainability, he has worked extensively on environmental initiatives with Native American tribes, NGOs, and businesses across the United States, Africa, and Asia. Throughout his career, Basi has focused

on fostering and leveraging collaboration among diverse stakeholders to achieve mutual objectives.





GILL BECK is the Director of Hotel Operations at Grand Teton Lodge Company. After graduating from Clemson University, Gill began his hospitality career with Vail Resorts. Over the last 20 years he worked at multiple locations in a variety of leadership roles, including time in National Parks, ski resorts, beach resorts, and luxury city center properties. He has spent 13 years with the Grand Teton Lodge Company, including the last eight as the

Director of Hotel Operations.



JEFFERY BRAULT is the Vice President of Public Affairs of Hornblower Group. Jeff develops and leads robust community engagement, communications, and public affairs strategies to ensure Hornblower's diverse portfolio of public transit, offshore wind, and public-private partnership operations each reflect, engage with, and benefit the communities they serve.



MICHAEL BURKE is the Chief Operations Officer, Concessions & Park Services at Hornblower Group. As COO, Concessions and Park Services, Michael K. Burke oversees Alcatraz City Cruises and Statue City Cruises operations. In this position, Burke is responsible for relationships with the National Park Service, U.S. Coast Guard, NYC Parks & Recreation, Port of San Francisco, and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, along with other government agencies and not- for-profit partners.

Prior to his current position, Burke served as CFO at BillyBey Ferry Company from 2005 to 2008. Burke was also President and CEO at Circle Line-Statue of Liberty Ferry in 2000 and 2001, where he served as its first non-owner chief executive.

Burke is an active Board and Committee Member of NYC & Company, the Friends of Governors Island, and various other organizations. He holds a U.S. Coast Guard 100 GRT Captain License and is a Certified Public Accountant.



SASHA DAY is President and CEO of Aramark Destinations. Sasha joined Aramark in 2003 as Director of Finance for Aramark Conference Centers, which then merged with the company's Parks division, now known as Destinations. In 2005, she became the Director of Business Development for Destinations and Harrison Lodging and excelled in that role for three years.

In 2008, she joined Sports & Entertainment (which included Destinations the time), serving as Vice President of Compliance, and then Vice President of Consumer Strategy.



She left Aramark for five years, serving in executive positions at Sylvan Learning, first as Chief People Officer and then Chief Product Officer, responsible for the operational performance of over 500 learning centers.

Rejoining Aramark in 2018, Day took on the lead growth role in Sports & Entertainment, and most recently, served in the same role for Collegiate Hospitality, where she was responsible for driving the business's growth strategy, leading the business development team, and fostering client relationships.

Before joining Aramark, Sasha held a variety of positions in both finance and strategy for Fannie Mae, Mercer Management Consulting, and Arthur Anderson.



KELLY DOYLE is vice president of business development for Parks and Resorts at Delaware North, where she leads the execution of growth strategies to strengthen the company's diverse portfolio. She brings deep expertise in developing and implementing business plans, identifying growth opportunities, and executing complex transitions across the hospitality and public lands sectors. Kelly returned to Delaware North 2024 in

this role after serving as senior director of business development at Elior North America, where she led sales efforts in the cultural attractions and corporate dining segments.

Kelly previously held progressive leadership roles within Delaware North from 2007 to 2020, directing business development initiatives across national and state park systems, hotels, resorts, and tour operations. Her experience includes acquisition sales, due diligence, and the transition of key properties and contracts. She holds a bachelor's degree in hotel administration from the Rochester Institute of Technology and is based in Western New York.



LANNI DUONG is a Senior Environmental Compliance and Safety Program Manager for EEC Environmental, a full-service environmental, engineering, and compliance consulting firm. As a Certified Safety Professional (CSP), Lanni has practiced environmental health and safety for more than 25 years. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Applied Ecology from the University of California, Irvine (UCI), and certifications in Project Management and Occupational Health and Safety from UCI School of Continuing

Education.

Lanni and EEC's compliance team have supported hospitality concessionaires at more than a dozen National Parks and recreation areas across the United States. Lanni's expertise in audit preparation and performance, storage tank compliance, and her previous experience as an environmental compliance regulator have helped concessionaires prepare for and exceed regulatory inspections and audits. She is skilled in developing Environmental Management Plans, training plans, and ensuring



compliance with EPA, OSHA, and Fire standards. She specializes in simplifying complex regulatory requirements and tailoring programs to meet the unique needs of EEC's clients.



MAX FELTY has been the President and Owner of Gettysburg Tours, Inc. since 2011 and of TRF Concessions Specialists of Florida since 2012. He is an active board member of Destination Gettysburg, the local DMO having served as board President and on the Executive Committee for many years. Max is a member of the High Center for Entrepreneurship and Family Business and serves as a director for the Industrial Development Authority and

Gettysburg Water Authority for Adams County, PA. In 2024 Max was the recipient of the James Getty Spirit of Gettysburg award bestowed on behalf of the tourism community for leadership, dedication, contribution to the community, and a champion of the local tourism industry. Max is a 2008 graduate of Elizabethtown College, and lives in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, with his wife Genevieve, son Reid and daughter Cecily. When not at work, you can find Max perfecting his grilling and gardening techniques in the backyard, coaching his son in lacrosse, or traveling with the family.



NICO FORIS was appointed to Chief Executive Officer of Guest Services, Inc. on January 1, 2022. Since joining the Company in 2012, he served in several executive positions including as Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer. Under his leadership, Foris has cultivated many of the key relationships and growth opportunities throughout the major divisions of the Company, including partnerships with National and State Parks,

recreation, hotels and lodging, contract food services, and condominium management. Foris led the acquisition efforts for the Lodge at Breckenridge, Boston Outdoor Recreation and several other strategic projects which has expanded the depth of the overall hospitality portfolio.

Prior to joining Guest Services, Foris started his career within the banking and capital markets audit practice at PriceWaterhouseCoopers, servicing prominent clients including Bank of America, PNC, and The Federal Reserve Bank of the United States. Foris was subsequently hired as Chief Financial Officer in 2008 by the Washington Commanders, one of the largest National Football League franchises, responsible for the financial activities and oversight within the organization.

Mr. Foris holds a B.S. in Accounting from The Pennsylvania State University and is a Certified Public Accountant. He has been involved in several community initiatives including an active role in Guest Services' Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives and Our Planet sustainability platform, an advisory board member for a youth sport's start-up company called Soccer Studio, and a member of the AICPA. He created the



Guest Services Culinary Forum, a collaborative group of leading chefs exploring improvements within culinary operations. Nico has been on Guest Services' Board since January 1, 2020. He resides in McLean, Virginia with his wife Heather and three daughters.



GERARD GABRYS joined Guest Services in 1986 as Vice President/Treasurer and served as Chief Executive Officer from 2001 to 2021. Prior to joining Guest Services, Mr. Gabrys served as Senior Vice President of the Washington Commanders and also Treasurer and a member of the Board of Directors of the Baltimore Orioles. He had previously served on the Board of Trustees of Guest Services, as well as Chairman of the Audit Committee while

a member of the Board. Prior to that, he was with the public accounting firm of Arthur Andersen and Co. He is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, a Certified Public Accountant, and is fully accredited as a Certified Hotel Administrator. Mr. Gabrys is a fellow of the Culinary Institute of America and a member of the Finance Committee of its Board of Trustees.



KEVIN GARDEN is the Managing Director of The Garden Law Firm, P.C., which has its offices Alexandria, VA. Kevin works with both large and small National Park Service (NPS) concessioners located across the country regarding all aspects of their concession contracts. This assistance includes advice and representation related to responding to prospectuses, resolving issues related to contract operations including leasehold surrender interest (LSI) values, completion of CFIPs and transfers

of ownership. He also assists concessioners in litigation related to protests of award decisions, NPS management decisions and contract claims related to their National Park concession operations. Kevin has 35 years of experience in government contracts law, environmental law, and administrative procedure, which brings together the three key facets of law related to NPS concessions. Kevin has also testified before Congress in his work on behalf of NPS concessioners.



BRAD HILL is the President of Evelyn Hill Inc., providing leading hospitality services at the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Islands in New York, the Gateway Arch, and Fort McHenry National Monuments. Evelyn Hill is the oldest family-owned exclusive concessioner for the National Park Service.

Under Brad's leadership, Evelyn Hill has increased the company's focus on their environmental impact, providing healthy dining

options to visitors, and utilizing locally sourced and organic foods in their cafes.





STACEY HUTCHINSON is the Vice President at POWDR, where she plays a pivotal role in driving strategic communications across all of the company's businesses, including ski resorts, national parks concessions, and Woodward. With close to two decades of experience in strategic communications, political campaigns, and government relations, Stacey brings a wealth of knowledge that spans multiple platforms and industries.

Before joining POWDR, she was a principal at Monument Advocacy, a bi-coastal firm specializing in public relations and government affairs for leading corporations and associations globally. Her background also includes senior communications roles in successful congressional and gubernatorial campaigns, as well as serving as press secretary to the 71st governor of Virginia, where she built strong media relationships and crafted impactful messaging for diverse audiences.

Stacey served as deputy chief of staff to a prominent member of the U.S. House of Representatives overseeing communications and legislative initiatives. Additionally, as the Director of Strategic Partnerships at the U.S. Chamber's Technology Engagement Center, she developed strategic programming and communication strategies focused on emerging technology policy.

Her comprehensive experience positions her as a key asset in fostering collaboration and enhancing strategic initiatives across business ventures.



AMY KENNEDY is Co-Executive Director with A Christian Ministry in the National Parks.

Prior to her time in the office, she served in three national parks and spent a season recruiting for the national office. Originally from Idaho, Amy earned her undergraduate degree in Communications and Business from Northwest Nazarene University. She earned her Master of Nonprofit Management

degree from Regis University in 2018. Through her graduate studies, Amy was recognized as an Opus Student Scholar and was invited to join an international nonprofit honor society called Nu Lambda Mu. She is also a certified Master Trainer with The Lions Lead leadership development organization. Her experience working with World Vision, Love INC, Musana CDO and ACMNP gave her a strong love for nonprofit organizations and equipped her to carry out the impactful ministry occurring in the national parks each season. Amy has been married to her husband, Bobby Kennedy, for the past eight years. He is 2nd grade teacher. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, swing dancing, singing jazz music, kayaking, and playing with her golden retriever pups Chloe and Tucker.





ALEX KLEIN is the Vice President and General Manager of Grand Teton Lodge Company (GTLC) and Flagg Ranch Company (FRC), a position that he has held since 2013. He also serves as the Vice Chairman of the National Park Hospitality Association, Board Member and Past President of the Wyoming Restaurant and Lodging Association, Past Chairman of the Jackson Hole Travel and Tourism Board, and serves on the Jackson Hole Air

Improvement Board. Mr. Klein began his career working line-level positions in the hospitality field in his hometown of Evanston, IL. At the Cornell University School of Hotel Management, Mr. Klein earned his bachelor's degree of Hospitality Administration with a concentration in operations. He served his internship working at Grand Teton Lodge Company during three consecutive summer seasons. Mr. Klein then held senior-level positions for several leading hotels and resorts in Salt Lake City, UT, Sacramento, CA and Santa Fe, NM, and Savannah, GA, before returning to GTLC in 2004 as the Director of Operations. From 2010-2013 Mr. Klein served as the Corporate Director and later Vice President of Operations for Vail Resort's Lodging Division, the parent company of GTLC and FRC. During this time, Mr. Klein supported the company's RockResorts brand of hotel located throughout the United States and Caribbean. In this role Mr. Klein led the division's quality and brand assurance programs as well as supporting sustainable initiatives. Mr. Klein is an active outdoor enthusiast and spends his free time hiking, climbing, fishing, and skiing in the Grand Teton National Park where he lives with his wife, Dawn and daughter, Evelyn, a competitive gymnast. Mr. Klein routinely leads and participates in volunteer activities in the Park and surrounding community and is a former volunteer member of the Teton County Fire Department.



CHASE LEONARD is the Director of Business Development at Guest Services, Inc. Mr. Leonard joined Guest Services in 2017 following seven years working in professional sports in business development. His career has encompassed various roles in special events, strategic partnerships, and marketing where he has proven track record of successfully managing key clients and generating new sales opportunities. He is a graduate of James

Madison University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Sports Management and Business Administration.





SUSAN LISTON serves as Senior Vice President, Performance Excellence at Aramark Destinations. Susan is an innovative leader supporting Aramark Destinations portfolio of public lands, unique attractions and hospitality destinations. She provides leadership in the areas of contract compliance, strategic planning, capital projects and sustainable support of public lands. Susan is interested in parks, conference center/hotels, food & beverage,

recreation, and retail innovation. Susan is the Past President of IACC Americas Board, 2024.



BILL McGRATH is a Shareholder at Brownstein. Bill McGrath's legal and government experience is foundational to his skill navigating the private sector through the most challenging and dynamic legislative, regulatory, and congressional oversight processes. He deploys proven strategies to overcome the toughest obstacles that arise when government and industry converge, and leverages his expertise to proactively identify

business opportunities and forge pathways to profitability.

As a member of the firm's Energy, Environment & Resource Strategies (EERS) Group, he drives complex natural resources and infrastructure projects through the federal permitting process and streamlines them by providing strategic insight in the early planning stages and by engaging agency officials to generate and preserve momentum. Bill's methods deliver results; his representation has contributed to the successful permitting of multiple largescale infrastructure ventures, from mining to renewable energy. He also positions clients looking to contract with the federal government on recreation projects, and navigates competing third-party interests to prevent roadblocks.

Prior to joining the firm, Bill served as the staff director for the Interior, Energy and Environment Subcommittee of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. There he engaged on some of the country's most high-profile natural resources issues. In addition to his tenure in government, Bill worked as legislative counsel for a non-profit organization, representing the group on environmental and administrative law cases.



JACK MCNEILL serves as Chief Corporate Affairs Officer for Delaware North, working at the company's global headquarters in Buffalo, N.Y.

McNeill represents Delaware North in legislative and regulatory matters with national, regional, and local governments and agencies. He provides policy direction, coordinates government



affairs initiatives at Delaware North locations, and advocates for the company's interests.

Among many responsibilities, McNeill collaborates with senior executives to ensure that governmental affairs strategies are properly aligned with the company's business goals. This includes developing Delaware North's policy positions regarding federal, state, and local legislation and regulations and acquiring and maintaining relationships with appropriate legislators, regulators, and trade associations toward advocating those positions. He also works closely with Delaware North's business development teams to formulate request-for-proposal response strategies.

McNeill has more than 25 years of experience in successfully improving and managing programs involving government relations, public affairs, health care, gaming, lottery, business development and public policy. His career includes serving as a senior political staffer on two U.S. presidential campaigns—McCain for President in 1999-2000 and Dole/Kemp in 1996—and founding The Barra Group LLC, a public affairs and governmental affairs consulting firm for which he served as president from 2002 to 2010.

Prior to joining Delaware North in 2017, McNeill spent six years at Scientific Games Corporation in Washington, D.C.—most recently serving as senior vice president of global government affairs. In that role, he led the 24th largest domestic government affairs program in the United States and also oversaw a global government affairs program that was active in more than 60 countries.

McNeill earned a bachelor's degree in political science at Villanova University in Pennsylvania.



MELINDA MEADE MEYERS is the Executive Director of the National Park Hospitality Association and is Of Counsel at Van Ness Feldman. Her practice focuses on federal regulatory law and policy as they pertain to concessions, public lands, natural resources, and Native communities.

Mindy provides strategic counsel to concessioners and others on regulatory compliance matters, corporate governance, and

strategic business decisions related to land use, permitting, and economic development. She helps clients navigate the complexities of compliance and advises companies on legislative and regulatory changes impacting their businesses. Mindy has experience advocating for clients before various federal courts, Congress, and administrative agencies in matters involving various natural resources statutes.

Before attending law school, Mindy served as NPHA's Director of Communications and worked in various capacities at the American Recreation Coalition, where she collaborated in the development and implementation of nationwide programs and initiatives promoting outdoor recreation industries.



Mindy is originally from Anchorage, Alaska, and is a graduate of Cornell University and George Mason University School of Law. She and her husband currently live just outside Washington, D.C., where they enjoy connecting their two small children to the great outdoors.



CAROL METZLER is Secretary/Treasurer of TRF Concession Specialists of Florida, Inc., which operates a concession contract in Everglades National Park. She is also Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer of Gettysburg Tours, Inc., Gettysburg Heritage Enterprises, Inc., and Garden Spot Gifts, Inc. These companies operate in the tourism industry in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Her responsibilities for these companies

include overseeing administrative and financial reporting aspects of the businesses. Carol is also the owner of accounting firm Felty & Co LLP, which provides tax and accounting services to small businesses and individuals in the Central Pennsylvania area. Carol is a CPA and serves as Treasurer and sits on the Board of Directors of the National Park Hospitality Association.



RUSSELL MOLARI is a Principal at Directed Award. He has been a business and proposal consultant assisting NPS concessioners for over 15 years, since first teaching a proposal-development seminar on the 1998 NPS concession law in 1999. As a Principal in the Directed Award consultancy, Mr. Molari applies his experience of over 30 years as a federal contractor proposing and winning large federal contracts, and his 40-year career in

technical, executive, and consulting positions. As a Division President at Sterling Software's 600-person Scientific Systems Division, he managed large-scale scientific professional services contracts to NASA, EPA, the Department of Commerce, and other federal clients, and was an industry leader in developing and promoting effective quality assurance and continual improvement systems at the line level and corporate level. As Vice President of worldwide consulting services organizations at Sterling Software and other Information-technology companies, he also managed corporatelevel systems deployments and organizational-improvement projects to Fortune 500 commercial clients and public-transportation organizations. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from MIT and Master of Science degree from the University of Washington, in Chemistry and Physics.





SASCHA OHLER is the Senior Vice President of Recreation Solutions at Tyler Technologies. In this role, he has helped integrate recent acquisition and scale the organization in preparation for significant organic and inorganic growth and expansion across the local, state, and federal outdoor recreation market.

Prior to joining Tyler Technologies, he served as the Executive Vice President of R&D at NeuAnalytics. He is responsible for driving the company's overall product and solutions strategy and provides guidance and leadership to the Engineering, QA, and Architecture teams. Prior to joining NeuAnalytics, Ohler was Vice President of R&D at CivicPlus, a private-equity-backed GovTech company headquartered in Manhattan, KS. Prior to CivicPlus, he served as VP Product Strategy & Go-To-Market at Pramata, a growth-equity backed data company in Brisbane, CA, and spent 10 years at Perceptive Software, a Lexmark company serving as Director of Product Management – International, where he was responsible for international product strategy and led the integration of a recent acquisition, Saperion AG, into the overall organization.

A native of Germany he studied Public Administration at the Universität Konstanz.



TREY OVERDYKE is the Chief Legal Officer for the Xanterra Travel Collection®. Prior to joining Xanterra, Trey was a partner at Holland & Hart (Jackson, WY), where he helped form and lead the firm's Environment, Health & Safety team and represented companies operating in industries across the western United States. In the process, Trey developed a passion for waste reduction operations and served as Chief Operating Officer and

General Counsel for Terra Firma Organics, an organic waste recycling company. Trey started his legal career clerking for Chief Judge William F. Downes, USDC Wyoming District, but his interest in sustainable operations began as a field instructor for the National Outdoor Leadership School in the early 2000s.



SHANNON PATCH serves as Vice President of Government Affairs at Delaware North. Shannon has considerable experience working in local, state, and national politics. A former adviser to both U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer and State Senator Tim Kennedy, Shannon now brings her expertise in government affairs, public policy, communications, and advocacy to Delaware North - a global leader in hospitality. In her current role, she represents the company in legislative and regulatory matters

across the country. She also strategizes with the business development teams on current requests for proposals, and forward-thinking projects.



On the side, Shannon writes creative fiction and is the author of Blood Bound, available on Amazon.



FRANK PIKUS is the Chief Executive Officer of ExplorUS, formerly known as Ortega National Parks. He has been with the company since 2019. Prior to joining the company, he has spent nearly 10 years as Chief Operating Officer for Towne Park. Frank has also served as Chief Executive Officer for Avascend Healthcare Hospitality.

Frank is a strategic business leader with extensive experience in corporate, operational, sales and business development functions. He is a lifelong entrepreneur and a teacher at heart who thrives on helping people improve themselves, both personally and professionally.



CJAY ROBERTS is the Chief Financial Officer for Stokely Hospitality Enterprises, the concessioner for LeConte Lodge in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. He became a Certified Public Accountant in 2010 and has spent 12 years in public accounting providing tax, audit, and advisory services for a variety of businesses. Originally from Unicoi, Tennessee, CJay graduated from East Tennessee State University in 2004, with a degree in

accounting and finance.

CJay and his wife Claire live in Tennessee with their three kids – Livi, Ryder, and Nathaniel - and enjoy traveling, hiking, camping, and exploring new places. When not working, he can be found traveling or on an outdoor adventure with his family.



TODD RUTLEDGE is the Managing Partner of Mountain Trip Alaska, the largest climbing concessions operator in Denali National Park and Preserve. He planned a career in academia – until encountering the Andes and the Alaska Range during a break in the 1990s. In 2004, after a decade of guiding for the company, Todd assumed co-ownership of the company. He has personally guided Denali 17 times and has led teams to Mount Vinson,

Aconcagua, Nepal, Russia, and other areas in South America. Mountain Trip offers expeditions around the world to the greatest mountains from its Telluride, Colorado headquarters.

Todd served as the Mayor of Ophir, Colorado for four years – a role he gave up to spend more time with his young sons and his business. Mountain Trip started guiding Denali in 1976 and has led climbers up the mountain every year since. In 1981, Mountain Trip received one of the original Concession Contracts in Denali National Park and Preserve and in the intervening years, has guided more climbers up more routes on the mountain than any other Denali guide service.





JOEL SAFERSTEIN is Partner at the American Park Network and a travel engagement and media professional, with more than 20 years' experience developing "win-win" programs that connect marketers with consumers in parks, public lands, and other iconic destinations. As a principal at American Park Network, Joel has helped transform a traditional media company into a digital and communications innovator, overseeing the development of the

company's award-winning app, Oh, Ranger! ParkFinder[™], and the expansion of its captive Wi-Fi networks in parks, campgrounds, and other public, high-traffic locations. These include Olympic National Forest, Venice Beach and Griffith Park in Los Angeles, Palm Beach Zoo, and many others. American Park Network was recently selected to be the exclusive Wi-Fi provider for New York State Parks. Prior to acquiring American Park Network, Joel held various management positions in the internationalization industry, including stints at Berlitz and eTranslate, where he helped Fortune 500 clients develop their global marketing platforms. Joel lives in Washington, DC with his wife, Amy, and sons, Jason and Andrew. He has a BA in international studies from Emory University.



TIM SCHOONOVER is the Chief Operations Officer at Xanterra Travel Collection and is responsible for Hospitality Operations in Xanterra Travel Collection®'s Parks & Resorts, including Retail, Food & Beverage, Lodging, other park related operations, as well as corporate Supply Chain, and new business development opportunities in national parks.



ANTONETTE SESPENE is the General Manger of Alcatraz City Cruises. Over Antonette's 18-year career with Alcatraz City Cruises and prior to becoming General Manager, she was the Director of Sales & Marketing and responsible for all community outreach efforts. Aside from being responsible for the Alcatraz Tour selling out 97% of the year, Antonette has also created several programs that give back to the community including

Educational Bay Cruise programs creating partnerships with community non-profit organizations and visitation for Bay Area title one schools. This allowed thousands of local residents the opportunity to learn about our cutting-edge vessel technology, the Bay's precious ecosystem, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the many layers of history on Alcatraz Island. In 2020, Antonette was promoted to General Manger where she has led her team through the challenges of the pandemic pacing to fully recover in early 2023.





JEFFREY SHAW is the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) as Senior Advisor for Outdoor Industry and Experiences. He leads the Office of Outdoor Industry and Experiences launched last year to grow Connecticut's outdoor recreation economy.

Jeff previously spent twelve years as Senior Advisor/Director of Public Policy for the CT Community Nonprofit Alliance, a

statewide association of community nonprofits specializing in advocacy, capacitybuilding and community engagement. He also worked at the Connecticut General Assembly for eight years on a variety of public policy issues.

Jeff has recently served on the Board of Directors, last year as Vice President, for the Connecticut Outdoor Recreation Alliance (CORA), advocating for the outdoor recreation community.

Jeff is a proud graduate and avid fan of the UConn Huskies and Fairfield University Stags.



LAURA SHERMAN serves as Vice President, Hospitality Division at Guest Services, Inc. Laura joined Guest Services in 2009 supporting and leading multiple projects, properties and various efforts within the Hospitality Division. Before joining Guest Services, she spent 22 years in leadership and management roles overseeing several Hilton brands including the Doubletree Hotels as General Manager in Orlando, Boca Raton, Atlanta, and several

other cities. She is a graduate of Stockton University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Finance. She is credentialed as a Community Association Manager in Florida and has served for 17 years as part of the Executive Committee of Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association. Laura is a Skal Orlando and Southwest Florida member. She was Rotary International's past president.



JUSTIN SIBLEY Justin Sibley is the Chief Executive Officer of POWDR, a Utah-based adventure lifestyle company that inspires every human being with cool experiences in awesome places. POWDR's portfolio of businesses include nine ski resorts across the country, Woodward, a collection of camps and mountain resort experiences, Sun Country Tours rafting company in Oregon and Stovepipe lodging and concessions in Death Valley

National Park, and Zion National Park concessions beginning January 2025. Prior to being named CEO in November 2021, Sibley served as co-president of POWDR as well as chief financial officer.

Before joining POWDR in 2014, Sibley was with Backcountry.com, serving first as Director of Financial Planning & Analytics and then as Vice President, Finance. Earlier



career highlights include Manager, Corporate Development at eBay and various other finance and accounting positions at eBay, Calpine Corp. and PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Sibley holds an MBA from The Fuqua School of Business at Duke University and a BS in Accounting from University of Oregon. He lives in Salt Lake City, Utah with his wife and two sons.



JONATHAN SIMON is a partner with Van Ness Feldman, LLP where he serves as co-coordinator of the firm's Public Lands and Natural Resources practice and provides strategic counsel and legal representation on a broad range of matters involving natural resources, environmental, and energy law. With a particular focus on the management and use of federal lands, Jon has significant expertise assisting entities that operate or are

interested in operating visitor services under concession contracts, permits, leases, commercial use authorizations, and other arrangements in the National Parks, National Forests, and other federally-managed land areas. He offers a wide range of experience in this area, including legislative and administrative advocacy; prospectus responses; leasehold surrender interest and possessory interest; sales and transfers; preferential right issues; and litigation. Jon currently lives just outside of Washington, D.C., enjoys serving on the Cornell Outdoor Education Advisory Board, and has a passion for travel, skiing, scuba diving, and the outdoors.



MATT SKINNER is Vice President of Finance for Parks and Resorts at Delaware North. His role is based at the company's global headquarters in Buffalo, N.Y.

Delaware North is a global leader in hospitality and entertainment with operations at high-profile places such as sports and entertainment venues, national and state parks, luxury resorts, restaurants at landmark locations, major airports and regional

destination casinos.

In his role overseeing the finance activities of the parks and resorts division, Skinner provides strategic direction and ensures business plans are in place to optimize results and forecast performance for the entire Parks & Resorts portfolio. The parks and resorts subsidiary provides hospitality services in seven national parks, three state parks, operates Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex for NASA, owns and operates lodging in five national park gateway communities, such as Tenaya at Yosemite, a full-service resort, and owns and operates several other hotels and resorts, including The Westin Buffalo – Buffalo's only AAA Four-Diamond-rated hotel.

Skinner previously held finance leadership positions within hospitality and FP&A as a strategic partner to both the Sportservice and Travel Hospitality subsidiaries which



are also owned and operated by Delaware North. Skinner began his career with Delaware North in 2008.

Skinner has an MBA in finance from the Canisius College and an undergraduate degree in business from the University at Buffalo.



SCOTT SOCHA is group president for Parks and Resorts, Travel and Delaware North Australia. His role is based at the company's global headquarters in Buffalo, N.Y.

Delaware North is a global leader in hospitality and entertainment with operations at high-profile places such as sports and entertainment venues, national and state parks, luxury resorts, restaurants at landmark locations, major airports and regional

destination casinos.

In his role overseeing the parks and resorts division, Socha provides strategic direction and ensures that short- and long-term plans are in place to drive business and enhance the company's destination properties. The parks and resorts subsidiary provides hospitality services in seven national parks, three state parks, operates Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex for NASA, owns and operates lodging in five national park gateway communities, such as Tenaya at Yosemite, a full-service resort, and owns and operates several other hotels and resorts, including The Westin Buffalo – Buffalo's only AAA Four-Diamond-rated hotel.

Socha has overseen the expansion of the company's lodging portfolio with the addition of 50 two-bedroom cabins at Tenaya in 2019, the development of a hotel that opened in 2022 near Kennedy Space Center and the acquisition of hotels near Yellowstone National Park in Gardiner, Mont., in 2019 and near Grand Canyon National Park in 2023. Socha has also overseen Delaware North becoming the largest winter adventure tour operator through acquisitions near Yellowstone and Vail, Colorado.

In addition to serving as president of the parks and resorts division since 2017, Socha oversaw the company's travel division from 2019 to 2021 and resumed its leadership in 2023. Overall, the travel division includes 300-plus restaurants and retail outlets at 22 airports across North America, including Los Angeles International Airport, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and Boston's Logan International Airport.

Prior to his group president role, Socha served as a Delaware North vice president and the company's treasurer. As treasurer, he oversaw Delaware North's financial planning and analysis, treasury and risk management groups.

Socha began his career with Delaware North in 1999. Through the years, he has held various high-level positions in finance and business development. He has also spent a considerable amount of time with Delaware North's Parks and Resorts business as



vice president of finance and vice president of business development. He also oversaw GreenPath, Delaware North's proprietary stewardship and environmental management platform, which has won dozens of awards from NASA, the National Park Service, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Travel Association.

Socha has an MBA in finance from the University at Buffalo and an undergraduate degree in business from St. John Fisher College. He is chairman of the National Park Hospitality Association and is on the Board of Trustees at Nichols School in Buffalo, N.Y.



STEFFAN SONNEVELDT is the Chief Operating Officer of ExplorUS. With nearly 25 years of hospitality industry experience, Steffan oversees all ExplorUS operations, ensuring staff deliver on service standards.

Throughout his career, Steffan has worked with great hotel brands such as Marriott, Hyatt, and Hilton. He helped these and other top hotels overcome challenges in service and logistics to

greatly improve the arrival, departure, and in-room interactions for guests.

Now, as the Chief Operating Officer of ExplorUS, Steffan's expertise and focus on performance metrics and analytics have boosted the company's results by allowing the data to drive on-site decision-making.

Steffan has been married for 30 years, has three children, and resides on the eastern shore of Maryland.



HANNAH TURNER is the Director of Association Services for the National Park Hospitality Association. She also serves as a Legislative Assistant at Van Ness Feldman, where she provides support to the firm's government advocacy and public policy practice, including to the firm's coalition client, the National Park Hospitality Association. Hannah is responsible for evaluating, and analyzing Congressional legislation and Executive Branch

initiatives that may impact the firm's clients. She also provides clients with a comprehensive view of major actions and issues emerging on Capitol Hill through the coverage of congressional hearings and briefings in the energy, natural resources, and environment sectors.

Hannah is a graduate of New York University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in politics and Spanish.





BOB UFFER is Vice President of Food & Beverage with Evelyn Hill, Inc. A 35 plus year Hospitality veteran blessed with leading teams and overseeing services at Iconic locations including Bear Mountain Inn, Loeb Central Park Boathouse, Gateway Arch National Park, Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. Bob has been a partner with the National Park Service since 1998 and joined Evelyn Hill Inc in 2005 as the General Manager at the Statue of Liberty. Bob has also held the position as COO and is

currently the EHI VP of Food & Beverage.

His favorite statement is to tell others, when asked, that he is in the "Memory Business". After all, think about how lucky we are in helping to create memories for millions of people every year!

In his spare time, Bob enjoys world travel with his family.



CHRIS VANDALL is Associate Principal at OZ Architecture. Chris has been with OZ since 2006. His project background includes resort master planning, hospitality developments, core and shell spaces, office space, retail and multifamily residential. He is a leader in the Resort/Hospitality/Mixed-Use Practice Area and is Chair of Social Responsibility. His passions for design, adaptive reuse, equity, and sustainability are great assets to each of his clients.



DEBORAH WARD currently serves as Managing Director, Business Development for Delaware North spearheading growth for Delaware North's Parks & Resorts, Travel Hospitality as well as the company's Australian lines of business. Deb began her career with Delaware North in 2001 where she served as VP of Marketing for the parks and resorts division for 10 years. Prior to rejoining Delaware North in 2022, she established and ran Peak Vantedge, a

boutique consulting business focused on business development and strategic growth, where she maintained a strong working relationship with Delaware North. At Peak Vantedge she also served a global roster of clients, including a Instituto Semeia – a Brazilian NGO formed to create public-private partnerships in developing sustainable business models for the country's national parks. Deb's education spans an undergraduate degree in English at the University of New Hampshire, international studies in psychology and philosophy in Vienna, Austria, and an MBA from Plymouth State University.

Deb has been a featured speaker at:

- National Park Service Tourism Annual Meeting
- National Parks Promotional Council Research Conference



- California Tourism Sustainable Tourism Conference
- TravelCom Executive Women's Forum
- Instituto Semeia Community Outreach Tour on Public-Private-Partnership Development
- TravelCom Executive Women's Forum
- Instituto Semeia Community Outreach Tour on Public-Private-Partnership Development



LANCE WELLWOOD is Vice President at Delaware North.

A seasoned executive, Lance Wellwood currently serves as regional vice president for Delaware North's parks and resorts business providing leadership for a well-known portfolio of lodging, tours, and retail offerings within the outdoor recreation and adventure sector. These locations include hotels, tours, and retail stores at the gateway to several national parks including

Yellowstone, Rocky Mountain, Yosemite, Olympic, Sequoia, and Kings Canyon. Lance also oversees operations at one of the country's newer national monuments, Nova Guides at Camp Hale, which includes lodging and tour operations.

Throughout his 30-year respected career, Lance has held several leadership roles within the company at locations across the United States.



STEVE WILLIAMS is an Executive Vice President of InterWest Insurance Services, LLC, specializing in the unique risk management and insurance requirements of government concessionaires, with a special focus on parks and outdoor recreation. Steve has acquired a solid background in commercial insurance and risk management, obtaining the Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) and the Certified Risk Manager (CRM)

professional designations.

Steve and his team enjoy partnering with concessionaires to assess their exposures and develop creative risk management solutions for their unique business risks. Keeping the best interest of his clients as his number one priority, Steve works to educate each client, to help them lower their cost of risk and increase profits, as well as maintain compliance with the insurance requirements specified in their permits and agreements.

Steve and his team have developed specialized training for those involved in managing operations to reduce claims, improve leadership, and to lower cost. The success of these trainings often leads to pricing credits by insurance company underwriters who recognize that the partnership with InterWest leads to improved results.



As active members of multiple associations in the hospitality and recreation industry, Steve and his team maintain regular communication with various agency officials and work to educate and help develop workable solutions in a most difficult business environment.

Steve is a believer in community service and giving back to those who share his commitment to helping others and working toward common goals. Steve is a leader and committed to service for multiple organizations who work toward improving the lives of others.

An active skier, hiker and traveler, Steve and his wife Nancy, love to explore new places and to learn about the history of the areas that they visit. They have two beautiful adult children together who share many of their same interests.



MARK ZEKO is President and Principal Hydrogeologist of EEC Environmental, a full-service environmental, engineering, and compliance consulting firm. Mark has 39 years of professional and supervisory experience in due diligence, contaminant investigation and remediation, and litigation support and expert witness services. He currently manages EEC's day-to-day operations, oversees the Environmental Division, and provides

technical support, strategic guidance, and ensures the technical and procedural adequacy of all key projects and deliverables.

At numerous National Park and other recreation sites, Mark has provided strategic guidance for: due diligence associated with acquisitions, underground storage tank removals and replacements, contaminant investigations, wastewater treatment, compliance, and general engineering services

Mark earned his Master of Science (M.S.) in Environmental Science / Hydrogeology and his Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Geology from California State University, Fullerton. He is a registered Professional Geologist in 19 States and Certified Hydrogeologist in California and Washington.



DEREK ZWICKEY serves as Chief Operating Officer for Delaware North's parks and resorts business providing leadership to the division's North American locations. He began his career with Delaware North Companies in 1997 as the Commissary Manager and Retail Buyer at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. Derek has provided general manager and vice president leadership throughout his career with Delaware North. Derek and

his wife Tracy live in Bozeman, Montana and have two sons in college.