

National Academies Committee on Guidance on PFAS Testing and Health Outcomes


Communities Liaison Bios (in alphabetical order by last name)

Ms. Laurene Allen, Merrimack Citizens for Clean Water

Laurene Allen, is a Merrimack, NH resident who co-founded a community group, Merrimack Citizens for Clean Water, after learning in March of 2016 that the water she and her family drank for decades was contaminated by PFAS chemicals. Laurene has been an advocate for the needs of her PFAS impacted community for the last 6 years, engaging local, state and federal officials as well as bringing together residents to work together on both a local and national level. After working to gather health data in her community, Laurene co-authored the 2019 Environmental Health publication, making the Invisible Visible: Results of a Community-led Health Survey Following PFAS Contamination of Drinking Water in Merrimack, NH. She is additionally a co-founder of the National PFAS Contamination Coalition, made up of community members from across the nation working together to attain our mutual federal needs, and is on the NPCC leadership team. Laurene continues to work with her group and those in other communities who live in PFAS contaminated communities and live with the impacts on a daily basis. Together we are our own experts and collectively, along with those who have stood by us from the science and environmental communities, we will continue to work to stop PFAS exposure pathways and support the health of all.

Ms. Andrea Amico, Testing for Pease

Andrea Amico, is a co-founder of the Testing for Pease community action group. She started advocating for more answers and action for the Pease community impacted by PFAS water contamination at the former Pease Air Force Base in Portsmouth, NH in 2014 after learning her husband and two small children were impacted by highly contaminated drinking water. She is passionate about raising awareness of PFAS water contamination, providing education to impacted communities, lowering standards for PFAS in drinking water, and collaborating with others from all aspects of PFAS (communities, physicians, legislators, researchers, government agencies, etc) to achieve a common goal of reducing PFAS exposure to impacted communities. Testing for Pease's advocacy was instrumental in securing a PFAS blood testing program and two PFAS health studies for the Pease community (CDC/ATSDR Pease Study and PFAS REACH Study with Silent Spring Institute). Andrea testified at two US Senate hearings on PFAS in September 2018 and again in December 2021. She was awarded the Citizen Excellence in Community Involvement Award by US EPA Region 1 in November 2018. She also attended the President's State of the Union Address as Senator Jeanne Shaheen's guest in February 2019 to raise awareness on PFAS contamination. She is a co-founder of the National PFAS Contamination Coalition (NPCC) that formed in June 2017 to bring PFAS advocates from all over the country to organize for change at the federal level. She helped to organize the first two National PFAS Conferences held at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts, in June 2017 and June 2019. In September 2019, she gave a TEDx talk on PFAS titled: PFAS and a Mother's Journey to Becoming a Clean Water Advocate. And in November 2019, she presented at the CDC's first



Public Health Grand Rounds on PFAS in Atlanta, Georgia. Andrea serves on the Pease Community Assistance Panel (CAP) with ATSDR and has been a member since the CAP formed in 2016. She is the community co-chair of the Pease Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) with the US Air Force. Andrea also is a community co-chair on the City of Portsmouth Safe Water Advisory Group (SWAG). She is a community partner on the PFAS-REACH health study researching PFAS levels and immune function in children in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and Hyannis, Massachusetts. Andrea has a Master's Degree in Occupational Therapy and works for a neurological rehabilitation hospital where she works as a clinical liaison and helps facilitate rehab for patients impacted by strokes, brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, and other major illnesses to recover and regain their functional independence..

Ms. Stel Bailey, Fight 4 Zero

Stel Bailey is the Chief Executive Director of Fight For Zero, Co' Facilitator of the National PFAS Contamination Coalition, certified in wildlife monitoring, and is a content administrator behind several online publications. Bailey's life took a dramatic turn in 2013 when her father, brother, the family dog, uncle, and herself were diagnosed with cancer. Her family's case was so unique that a genetic counselor invited them to do genetic testing, which showed no mutation genes, indicating they did not have an increased risk of developing the disease. Determined to find answers, she began to crowdsource other cancer cases in her hometown on Florida's space coast. As she spoke out about her family's case, she connected with many others affected by diseases in unusual ways. As a cancer survivor and military dependent, Bailey is passionate about helping families and veterans prevent disease by sharing her insights about harmful toxins and their health effects. Her broad knowledge in coordinating community engagement projects has resulted in various opportunities, such as contributing to local publications and speaking at events sharing environmental health education. She has led additional efforts that focus on harmful contaminants, such as assisting in getting a state health assessment, collecting water samples for countywide projects, and partnerships that will help better understand the burdens of PFAS contamination and related chronic diseases. Since 2014, she has worked on protecting military families and communities from these unnecessary exposures. Bailey is known for outstanding leadership, environmental health advocacy, organizational skills, and her powerful testimony of overcoming illness and losing her family members. As a mom of two, she strives to transform her children's future by providing communities with knowledge and resources to take on these challenges.

Dr. Kyla Bennett, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER)

Kyla Bennett is the Director of Science at Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), a national non-profit protecting public employees who protect our environment. PEER is a service organization for environmental and public health professionals, land managers, scientists, enforcement officers and other civil servants dedicated to upholding environmental laws and values. Prior to working at PEER, Dr. Bennett was an environmental scientist and attorney for the Environmental Protection Agency for ten years. Dr. Bennett has a PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Connecticut, and a law degree with a certificate in Environmental and Natural Resources Law from Lewis and Clark Law School. Her



work at PEER includes the investigation of sources of PFAS contamination, where she discovered PFAS in artificial turf and pesticides, and on endangered species such as the North Atlantic right whale, manatee, and Louisiana black bear. Dr. Bennett is currently working on exposing effects of aerial pesticide spraying, sources of PFAS contamination, and investigating faulty risk assessments of pesticides and other chemicals at EPA.

Ms. Karen Blondel, Public Housing Civic Association


Karen Blondel is an Environmental Organizer/Advocate for the Fifth Avenue Committee. She has conducted field trainings and has a background in health and engineering. A native of Brooklyn, Ms. Blondel has led the Gowanus Neighborhood Coalition for Justice activist group to demand the city include the neighborhood's NYCHA houses in its development plan. During her tenure with AmeriCorps, she coordinated a women's history event at the Red Hook Library, started a volunteer program to escort seniors on their errands and launched a summer Safe Streets program facilitated a shutdown of local roads for recreational use for local residents. In 2018, Ms. Blondel began a "Know Your Rights" workshop for Red Hook public housing residents to inform them on bylaws, requirements, and deadlines. In her current role as an environmental organizer, Ms. Blondel educates public housing residents on environmental burdens within and near NYCHA housing developments that are often overlooked by the city.

Dr. Phil Brown, Northeastern University

Phil Brown is University Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Health Science at Northeastern University, where he directs the Social Science Environmental Health Research Institute and co-directs its PFAS Project Lab, which has grants from NSF to study social policy and activism concerning PFAS, and from NIEHS to study children's immune responses to PFAS and community response to contamination, and to develop a nationwide report-back and information exchange. He directs an NIEHS T-32 training program, "Transdisciplinary Training at the Intersection of Environmental Health and Social Science," heads the Community Outreach and Translation Core of Northeastern's Children's Environmental Health Center (Center for Research on Early Childhood Exposure and Development in Puerto Rico/CRECE) and is Research Translation Director and Community Engagement Core co-Director of Northeastern's Superfund Research Program (Puerto Rico Testsite to Explore Contamination Threats/PROTECT). He is a past member of NIEHS Council. His books include *No Safe Place: Toxic Waste, Leukemia, and Community Action*; *Toxic Exposures: Contested Illnesses and the Environmental Health Movement*; and *Contested Illnesses: Citizens, Science and Health Social Movements*. He earned his PhD in Sociology from Brandeis University.

Dr. Alberto Caban-Martinez, University of Miami

Dr. Alberto Caban-Martinez is a public health board-certified (CPH) faculty member in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Miami (UM) with an educational background in medicine (DO), epidemiology (PhD) and public health (MPH) with over 10 years of domestic and international practice experience and research expertise in environmental and occupational health. He is an Associate Professor of Public Health Sciences and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine and Deputy



Director of the Firefighter Cancer Initiative at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and Co-Director and Principal Investigator of the national FEMA-funded Fire Fighter Cancer Cohort Study, collecting integrated survey, biological (urine, blood, saliva), and exposure (exhaled breath, silicone wristband) samples. He is a former Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences' Gulf Research Program and in 2014, he was appointed to the Institute of Medicine's (IOMs) Committee of Gulf War and Health for two years to provide scientific expertise on occupational exposures and work-related health conditions. His research work with first responders and construction workers led him to an appointment on the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) committee, setting the national research agenda on worker health and safety. He served four years as a standing member of the NIOSH study section and one-year as chairman. He has articles published in the American Journal of Public Health, Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM), Preventive Medicine, the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and Neuropharmacology. He has published over 122 peer-reviewed publications and presented over 216 scientific presentations on a wide range of occupational health and safety topics.

Ms. Cheryl Cail, South Carolina Indian Affairs Commission/SC Idle No More

Cheryl Cail is a small business owner in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, the Vice Chief of the Waccamaw Indian People, and the Chairperson for SC Idle No More, a Committee within the SC Indian Affairs Commission. She received associate degrees from Horry-Georgetown Technical College in both Legal Studies and Human Services and was a recipient of Phi Theta Kappa Society's All-State Academic Team award.

In December 2018, after her 20-year-old son was diagnosed with Testicular Cancer, Cheryl became aware of PFAS contamination in the groundwater at the former Myrtle Beach AFB and later learned of the extent of contamination from the use of AFFF at other DOD sites throughout the state. She joined the National PFAS Contamination Coalition in 2019 and is currently working to raise awareness of the impact of PFAS contamination to both the environment and people within the state of South Carolina.

Dr. Courtney Carignan, Michigan State University

Courtney Carignan is an exposure scientist and environmental epidemiologist at Michigan State University whose research helps protect reproductive and child health by investigating exposure to contaminants in food, water, consumer and personal care products. She's currently helping lead biomonitoring studies funded by EPA and NIH investigating PFAS exposure and immunotoxicity for communities impacted by drinking water contamination (PFAS UNITEDD and PFAS REACH). Dr. Carignan is on the organizing committee for the National PFAS Conference and helps lead MSU's Center for PFAS Research. She received her PhD in Environmental Health from the Boston University School of Public Health and completed postdoctoral training at Dartmouth College and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Ms. Tracy Carluccio, Delaware Riverkeeper Network

Tracy Carluccio is Deputy Director of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN), where she works as an environmental advocate since 1989. Delaware Riverkeeper Network is a nonprofit membership organization working throughout the entire length and breadth of the Delaware River Watershed to defend its outstanding values and restore them where needed. Carluccio works for the Watershed's protection in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, and Delaware addressing issues that include water quality; healthy habitats and communities; environmental regulation and policy; clean, efficient and renewable energy; and biodiverse ecosystems. Carluccio has worked on PFAS issues since 2005 and has commented and written extensively on community and regulatory matters related to these compounds in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. Carluccio serves on the NJ Department of Health CDC Bio-monitoring Advisory Committee on PFAS.

Ms. Charlotte Cisneros, Galveston Bay Foundation


Charlotte Cisneros is the Community Programs Manager at Galveston Bay Foundation (GBF), a role which includes the management of numerous grant and cooperative agreements, and oversight of a variety community programs addressing environmental issues impacting Galveston Bay. Prior to joining the GBF team, Charlotte worked as a project manager and environmental engineer specializing in site assessment and remediation projects. She has also worked previously at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality as an environmental investigator for the stack testing and hazardous waste compliance and enforcement teams, and served in the Peace Corps in Ghana as an Education Volunteer. Charlotte is on the executive board of the Citizens Environmental Coalition where she also serves as chair of the Programs Committee. She has also held regular volunteer positions with a variety of other organizations, including the Houston Arboretum and the California Academy of Sciences. She earned a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and a master's in Environmental Engineering, both from Carnegie Mellon University.

Dr. Jamie DeWitt, East Carolina University

Jamie DeWitt is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology of the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. Dr. DeWitt's research focuses on effects of environmental contaminants on the adult and developing immune systems as well as on interactions between the immune and nervous systems. She is PI/Co-PI/Co-I on several funded studies concerning the immune effects of PFAS, especially those PFAS that are considered "novel" or "understudied." She received her PhDs in Environmental Science and Neural Science from Indiana University-Bloomington and completed postdoctoral training in immunotoxicology at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under a cooperative training agreement with the University of North Carolina.

Ms. Emily Donovan, Clean Cape Fear

Emily is co-founder of Clean Cape Fear. She is a tireless advocate for clean water, spending her free time educating the public on the dangers of PFAS and other toxins in our drinking water and




environment. She has testified before Congress twice regarding DuPont/Chemours poisoning the drinking water supply for a quarter of a million residents downstream of the Fayetteville, NC facility; including giving testimony during the first ever congressional hearing on PFAS contamination. She participated in a Washington Post Live panel discussion with actor Mark Ruffalo and lawyer Rob Bilott. Most recently, she worked to secure reverse osmosis filling stations within 49 public schools impacted by PFAS contamination in Brunswick and New Hanover counties. She regularly travels the country sharing her personal impact story, as well as those of her friends and neighbors. She frequents Washington, DC and Raleigh, NC pressuring lawmakers and regulators for swifter responses to the growing PFAS public health crisis. Emily lives in Brunswick County with her husband, David, and boy/girl twins. She's been a resident of Brunswick County since 2009.

Dr. Alan Ducatman, unaffiliated

Alan Ducatman MD MS is clinician researcher. He is a Mayo Clinic-trained internist and occupational physician, currently professor emeritus in the West Virginia University School of Public Health and School of Medicine. His clinical career has focused on medical screening related to environmental exposures. His research addresses environmental disease and disease prevention, including health communications to affected populations. He has designed community studies and published actively concerning population aspects of exposure to perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Many of the more than 30 publications concerning PFAS are highly cited. Dr. Ducatman also has worked actively with a variety of community groups to provide information concerning PFAS clinical science. He is a clinical consultant to industry, labor, nonprofit organizations, and government organizations. In addition, Alan Ducatman has an active research program in quality assurance concerning clinician laboratory orders and interpretation, which informs his community service. Other public service has included Chair of the external science advising committee to the National Center for Environmental Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Chair of the Residency Review Committee in Preventive Medicine for the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

Mr. Patrick Elder, Military Poisons

Pat Elder is the Director of Military Poisons, an organization that works to draw attention to the role of the military regarding the environmental contamination it has caused through the use of per-and poly fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in firefighting foams and other applications. Pat has written 200 articles on PFAS that have been published in several dozen publications, including Global Geneva, Truthout, Consortium News, Common Dreams, and LA Progressive. Many of Pat's articles may be found on the website, www.militarypoisons.org Pat has been attempting to focus public attention on food, especially seafood, as the primary pathway of human exposure for this suite of chemicals. Pat argues there is too much focus on drinking water and not enough attention on the unregulated role played by municipal wastewater treatment plants in poisoning surface water and farm fields where sewer sludge is spread. In the absence of EPA regulation, a handful of states have moved to limit several types of PFAS to 20 parts per trillion in drinking water while fish caught near the burn pits of military bases have been shown to



contain 10,000,000 ppt and they're not regulated. What's in your fish? Mr. Elder receives support from the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, (WILPF), WILPF US Earth Democracy, Patagonia Foundation, Peace Development Fund, and the Center for Health, Environment and Justice. Pat is presently working on campaigns in several New England states and Maryland, as well as in Germany and Japan, to influence policymakers to take steps to protect public health from the scourge of PFAS. Pat has toured the US and Europe several times, speaking on contamination at military bases. Pat holds an MA in Government from the University of Maryland, as well as a BA in Political Science/Education from St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Ms. Teresa Gerade, Don't Undermine Memphremagog's Purity (DUMP)

Teresa is an advisory member of a Vermont-Canadian volunteer organization in the Northeast Kingdom known as DUMP (Don't Undermine Memphremagog's Purity.) We came into being in June 2018 to appeal the application for a 51 acre expansion of Vermont's only permitted privately owned landfill in Coventry. The goal of the group is to Restore and Protect the waters and watershed of Lake Memphremagog, an international lake located in the northeast corner of Vermont. The appeal was unsuccessful due to a lack of funding for legal representation. However, the group did participate in a mediation session with the owners of the landfill, and achieved a four year moratorium on the discharge of landfill leachate (the garbage juice that is created in landfills) in the Lake Memphremagog watershed. DUMP is now actively pursuing a state legislative designation of "Lake in Crisis" to garner funding and additional support for their efforts to restore and protect the waters of Lake Memphremagog.

Ms. Hope Grosse, Buxmont Coalition for Safe Water

Hope Grosse is the co-founder of Buxmont Coalition for Safer Water and serves on the National PFAS Contamination Coalition working to establish enforceable federal and state drinking water standards for this chemical class. Hope acts as the main point of contact for community outreach and leads social media efforts. She is the community liaison updating residents about PFAS water contamination and related issues. Hope has been featured WHYY's Radio Times, Live with Marty Moss-Coane discussing PFAS chemicals health and regulations. She also serves, with Joanne, as a Community representative on the Warminster Naval Airbase Technical Review Committee charged with oversight of the environmental clean-up under CERCLA. Hope Grosse grew up directly across the street from Warminster Naval Base and also worked on the base after high school graduation. Her father died of cancer at 52 years of age and she was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer at age 25, which quickly spread to her lymph system. Other Unexplained tumors have also been removed from her body over the years. After learning that the Warminster Naval Base was named a Superfund National Priority site, she began to get involved in environmental advocacy and was committed to bringing awareness to others in her community. Although she is primarily concerned about PFOA/PFOS/PFHxS water contamination, she is also concerned with the combined and cumulative effects of the 75 other harmful chemicals she was exposed to, many of which and were found at dangerous levels in the water, soil and air.

Ms. Loreen Hackett, PFOA Project New York

Loreen Hackett has been advocating for contaminated families in Hoosick Falls, NY, since their severe contamination discovery over 6 years ago leading to issuance of the first NPL Federal Superfund Site declarations for PFOA. Learned through biomonitoring, her family has some of the highest levels of PFOA tested in the area. In June '16, she created #PfoaProjectNY, which has gone worldwide, and continues to share all things PFAS. She is Co-Chair of the Hoosick Falls Community Action Working Group established for the superfund sites, and is on the CAP committee for the CDC awarded site study. She's on the leadership committee of the National PFAS Contamination Coalition (NPCC). She has attended and submitted testimony in 2 Congressional hearings in D.C., and continues working with elected officials on bills regulating PFAS, as well as with varying environmental organizations. She is also a cancer survivor, potentially linked to PFAS exposure, and has a primary interest on health effects.

Ms. Ayesha Khan, Nantucket PFAS Action Group

Ayesha Khan is a graduate from Boston University with a BA in Applied Mathematics and Statistics. For a decade, she worked at Vitamin Water in New York City and after moving to Nantucket, MA, she worked for local surgeon, Dr. Leopre. Currently Ayesha, her husband Nate, and their two young kids live on the island of Nantucket, MA, where Nate works as a firefighter and Ayesha is a stay-at-home mom. Nate was recently diagnosed with testicular cancer. With Nate now in remission, and in researching more about his cancer, Ayesha found out about PFAS and its connections to AFFF and the firefighter gear. She co-founded Nantucket PFAS Action Group as an educational resource about the hazards of PFAS and a space for the local community members to openly discuss concerns, thoughts, and experiences.

Dr. Rainer Lohmann, University of Rhode Island

Rainer Lohmann is Professor of Oceanography and Director of the University of Rhode Island Superfund Research Center which focuses on Sources, Transport, Exposure and Effects of PFAS. His group conducts research into the sources, transport, and bioaccumulation of anthropogenic pollutants often relying on the use of passive samplers. Other than PFASs, his research covers dioxins, PCBs, legacy pesticides and emerging contaminants. Lohmann is Scientific Counselor for EPA's Sub-Committee on Sustainable and Healthy Communities, and a speaker at the NASEM Environmental Health Initiative on PFAS. Lohmann was selected as a Alexander-von-Humboldt Fellow, and as Fulbright Fellow for the 2021-2022 Arctic Initiative. Lohmann serves as Editor for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, and is on the Editorial Boards of Environmental Science & Technology and Environmental Science & Technology Letters, among others.

Ms. Samraa Luqman, Concerned Residents for South Dearborn (CRSD)

Samraa Luqman is a Yemeni-American from the southeastern area of Dearborn (commonly known as the "South End"); born to Dr Wijdan Luqman, a Korean War Army veteran who served as the Chief of Medicine in the Department of Veterans Affairs until his death, and Samira Alasbahi, one of the first female Yemeni-American activists in her community. Luqman's first job was as a volunteer at the Lake City VA Medical Center at the age of 12, followed by tutoring with the Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services. She went on to work in the public



schools while completing her Bachelor's in Psychology at the University of Michigan and now works in social services with the federal government. In her 20's, Luqman became a Board Member and Secretary of the American Yemeni Women's Association. It was around this time she noticed a multitude of community members becoming ill with cancers, asthma, and other illnesses attributable to pollution and became more specifically involved in environmental injustice, speaking at community meetings and town halls. In 2019, she joined the Environmental Health Research to Action Steering Committee, which educates High Schoolers about the impacts of pollution, and the PFAS Alliance shortly thereafter. By 2020, Luqman also joined the Clean Air Council and presented to multiple audiences the effects and existence of PFAS in both our air and waters. Luqman's latest affiliations are with the Concerned Residents for South Dearborn. She has also worked with the University of Michigan's Environmental Interpretive Center and Friends of the Rouge to raise awareness on the environmental issues of the South End. Her most recent endeavors include providing input on the enactment and enforcement of a Fugitive Air Dust Ordinance, fighting for cumulative health impact studies, and partnering with organizations, universities, and other entities to add greenspace, trees, and rain gardens to the area.

Ms. Beth Markesino, North Carolina Stop GenX in Our Water

Beth Markesino is the founder of North Carolina Stop GENX in our water. She has advocated for GENX, PFAS, and PFOS, regulations in North Carolina. With a grant from Hydroviv she provided 120 filters for low income residents in the lower Cape fear region. She has lobby against Dupont scientist Michael Dourson's appointment into the EPA. She is a participant in the first ever GENX human health study. She has multiple endocrine issues that are associated with PFAS including, a thyroid tumor, an adrenal tumor, and placenta problems during her pregnancy that resulted in the death of her son. Beth has been a huge advocate in her community for clean water, endocrine disruptor chemicals, and regulatory action.

Mr. Aaron Maruzzo, University of California, Berkeley

Aaron Maruzzo is a Master of Public Health student in the Environmental Health Science department at UC Berkeley. He joined UC Berkeley after three years of working as the Water Lab Analyst for the public utility company in the Northern Marianas Islands, serving the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. He received his BA in Biology and Comparative Literature, and a concentration in Public Health, from Williams College, developing a strong interdisciplinary approach to diverse public health issues. In 2020, he was a co-author in a green chemistry report for Berkeley Center for Green Chemistry to identify nontoxic alternatives to short-chain PFAS in molded fiber food packaging. His current interests are in community exposure to PFAS in drinking water, green technology, environmental epidemiology, and environmental justice, where he aims to leverage academic resources at Cal to benefit science and policy actions toward a PFAS-free future in the Western Pacific U.S. territories.

Ms. Tobyn McNaughton, unaffiliated

Tobyn McNaughton is a PFAS affected resident in Belmont, MI. She is a former elementary teacher and now stays home with her 2 boys. She has become an activist and voice for people affected by PFAS.

Ms. Kristen Mello, Westfield Residents Advocating For Themselves (WRAFT)

Kristen Mello, M.S., has a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry, and a Master's degree in Analytical Chemistry specializing in Chemometrics. She is the Director of Westfield Residents Advocating for Themselves (WRAFT), a community group formed in response to the PFAS contamination of Westfield's drinking water from AFFF use at Barnes Air National Guard Base. Kristen led the effort with WRAFT to get PFAS blood testing for Westfield residents and served on the MassDEP PFAS MCL Stakeholder Group. Her PFAS advocacy work, in large part, led to her being elected a Westfield City Councilor At-large in 2019 and 2021. \

Ms. Pamela K. Miller, Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT)


Pamela K. Miller is founder and Executive Director of Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT). ACAT is an environmental health and justice research, policy, and advocacy organization. She brings more than 30 years of research, education, and advocacy experience to her present work. She serves as Principal Investigator for community-based participatory research projects funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Pamela received a Meritorious Service Award from the University of Alaska and Alaska Conservation Foundation's Olaus Murie Award in recognition of her "long-term outstanding professional contributions to the conservation movement in Alaska." She holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Wittenberg University and a master's degree in environmental science from Miami University. Prior to coming to Alaska, she served as Ocean Issues Technical Coordinator for the Washington Department of Ecology and Director of a marine science education center at Nisqually Reach in southern Puget Sound. She received the Governors Award for Environmental Excellence in Washington State.

Dr. Elizabeth Neary, Wisconsin Environmental Health Network

Dr. Elizabeth Neary is a pediatrician. After practicing general pediatrics for 15 years, she has devoted herself to educating students, residents, legislators and general public about environmental health issues. She is the Co-President of the Wisconsin Environmental Health Network, part of PSR-Wisconsin. She is adjunct assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at UW Madison School of Medicine and Public Health and the Wisconsin representative to Region 3 PEHSU. For the past 5 years, she has taught environmental health to pediatric residents. She is an educator and scholar in public health and environmental health. She has testified on the health effects of PFAS to the WI state legislature and to the Madison Water Utility Board.

Ms. Laura Olah, Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger (CSWAB.org)

Laura Olah is Executive Director and co-founder of Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger (CSWAB), a community-based group organized in 1990 when the community learned a plume of cancer-causing chemicals had poisoned private drinking water wells near Wisconsin's Badger Army Ammunition Plant. A member of the Sokaogon Ojibwa Community Mole Lake Band, she



defines her role as part of a community “undefined by geography” that shares a deep concern for the human environment and the need to empower affected tribes and stakeholders in the decision-making process, ensuring powerful, long-term solutions to military and industrial toxins in our rural communities. She views the past 30-years of accomplishments as not hers alone but as shared with the many individuals who have and who continue to be at her side in the work for environmental justice. Details of this body of work are found online at www.CSWAB.org.

Dr. Jacob Park, Castleton University

Dr. Jacob Park is Associate Professor in Castleton University's College of Business who specializes in innovation, entrepreneurship, and community health issues, with special focus/expertise in emerging and developing economies in Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Caribbean islands regions. He is also a Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg (South Africa) and is a former Kevin Ruble Fellow in Conscious Capitalism at Rutgers University School of Management and Labor Relations; the Edmond J. Safra Network Fellow at Harvard University; Research Fellow, Oxford University Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, among others. He has served as the Coordinating Lead Author of the UN Environment Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6) Report, Lead Author for the United Nations Millennium Ecosystem Assessment initiative, and as an Expert Reviewer for a number of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) publications including the Sixth Assessment Report. He is a former member of the Renewable Energy and Adaptation to Climate Technologies (REACT) Investment Committee of the Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund, Nairobi, Kenya-based \$200 million+ sustainable investment fund and Chair of U.S. Sustainable and Responsible Investment Forum's International Working Group Steering Committee. Dr. Park received his Master's degree of City Planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and PhD in Social Sciences/ Public Administration from the Erasmus University of Rotterdam.

Ms. Sue Phelan, GreenCAPE

Sue Phelan is a co-founder and volunteer director of GreenCAPE, a nonprofit community advocacy organization formed to educate Cape Cod residents about the hazards of pesticides and other harmful chemicals (PFAS) being used above the Cape Cod's vulnerable sole source aquifer. (www.GreenCAPE.org). After working as a medical microbiologist/virologist, Sue returned to the UConn College of Agriculture, graduated from the Environmental Horticulture program and worked in R&D on insect pheromones and light-mediated changes in plant growth and development. Sue is a board member of the Alliance for a Healthy Tomorrow/Boston and Clean Water Action/Mass, as well as a member of the Cape Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Sierra Club Toxics Team and the National PFAS Coalition. She has served as a community project partner and member of the Cape Cod Advisory Committee for the STEEP Research Center and was one of only two community representatives invited to be on the MassDEP PFAS MCL Stakeholder Group. The focus of GreenCAPE's work is the community's exposure to PFAS via the public drinking water system and other as yet unidentified sources. A major concern remains that PFAS-exposed Hyannis residents have not been provided with blood testing and the lack of health-protective PFAS regulations nation-wide.

Ms. Andrea Rich, S.O.H2O


Andi Rich is an active participant in fighting for clean water in Wisconsin. She works with S.O.H2O (Save Our Water) to bring the impacts of PFAS to light, and share relevant information with the community in Marinette. Marinette is the third largest PFAS contamination site in the nation. Andi has been researching PFAS and its health impacts, as well as filtration methods, for several years. She is an honors graduate of Lakeland College, and holds a double major in Business Administration and Marketing. She has been an active participant in public hearings, DNR presentations, and has driven to Madison to provide testimony to Senate and Assembly committees on multiple proposed bills to regulate PFAS. Andi was also instrumental in bringing the farm fields contamination into the spotlight, and dozens of contaminated wells have been found in rural Marinette County, that may otherwise still be unidentified. Her current focus is trying to get testing for PFAS in the agricultural goods coming from the contaminated farm fields, and blood testing for the community to determine exposure levels, and possibly identify additional sources of exposure.

Ms. Dana Sargent, Cape Fear River Watch

Dana Sargent is the executive director of the environmental nonprofit Cape Fear River Watch (CFRW), based in Wilmington, NC, where she works to protect and improve the water quality of the Cape Fear Basin through education, advocacy and action. She holds an MS in Environmental Sciences & Policy from The Johns Hopkins University and a BA in Journalism from San Diego State University. Her work on PFAS began in 2017 when her community learned that DuPont and then Chemours had polluted their drinking water supply for 40+ years. Her organization sued the polluter and the state regulatory body, which culminated in a Consent Order, of which she, along with her partner and their legal counsel maintain oversight, ensuring the polluter abides by the Order. In addition, CFRW is a partner with academia on several PFAS research grants including the GenX exposure study, along with several ecological studies and outreach grants. Sargent has published two websites, numerous articles and op-eds on PFAS, including an op-ed in which she questions whether PFAS exposure caused the brain cancer that took her brother's life in December of 2019. He was exposed for decades, in the line of duty as a Chicago firefighter and a former U.S. Marine.

Dr. Laurel Schaidler, Silent Spring Institute

Dr. Laurel Schaidler is a Research Scientist in Environmental Chemistry and Engineering at Silent Spring Institute, where she leads the Institute's water quality research on PFAS and other contaminants of emerging concern. Her research focuses on 1) characterizing PFAS exposures from drinking water, diet, and consumer products, 2) understanding health effects associated with PFAS, 3) investigating socioeconomic disparities in exposures to drinking water contaminants, and 4) working with communities to develop research studies and resources to address their concerns. Dr. Schaidler is the principal investigator for the PFAS-REACH (PFAS Research, Education, and Action for Community Health) study, a researcher-community partnership that is evaluating PFAS exposures and immune system effects in children in communities with PFAS water contamination and developing an online resource center for PFAS-affected communities. She is also the principal investigator of the Massachusetts PFAS and



Your Health Study, one of seven projects within CDC's PFAS Multi-Site Health Study. She co-leads the Community Engagement Core for the STEEP (Sources, Transport, Exposure and Effects of PFASs) Superfund Research Program at the University of Rhode Island, including a study to evaluate PFAS levels in private wells on Cape Cod and identify contamination sources. She serves a technical advisor to ATSDR's Community Assistance Panel at the Pease Tradeport in Portsmouth, NH. Before joining Silent Spring Institute, she was a research associate at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, where she currently holds an appointment as a visiting scientist. Dr. Schaidler earned her master's and PhD in Environmental Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, and a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering Science from MIT. Dr. Schaidler served as a member of the planning committee for the 2020 National Academies Workshop on Federal Government Human Health PFAS Research.

Mrs. Linda Shosie, Environmental Justice Task Force-Tucson


Linda Shosie, is a proud Latina woman, she is a mother, grandma, wife, founder and organizer of the grassroots community organization, Mothers For Safe Air & Safe Water in Tucson, Arizona. In her fight for the Human Right to Clean and Safe Water she has dedicated her entire life to protect public health. Linda has become one of the leading voices nationally regarding PFAS exposures in Latino Barrios. Linda lost her child in 2007, due to a rare disease Linda believed was as a result of exposures to numerous toxic chemicals that contain PFAS- associated with drinking water contamination on Tucson South-Side barrio. More recently Linda has begun initiating a community-led "PFAS Health Study" in her community to assess for PFAS in human blood. Linda is also part of the National PFAS Contamination Coalition advocating for PFAS Regulations.

Mr. Lenny Siegel, Center for Public Environmental Oversight

Lenny Siegel has been Executive Director of the Center for Public Environmental Oversight since 1994. He is one of the American environmental movement's leading experts on both military facility contamination and the vapor intrusion pathway, and for his organization he runs two Internet newsgroups: the Military Environmental Forum and the Brownfields Internet Forum, as well as activist discussion lists on TCE and PFAS. He has served on several ITRC (Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council) work teams on environmental remediation and a dozen National Research Council committees addressing military environmental issues. In July 2011 Siegel was awarded U.S. EPA's Superfund Citizen of the Year award. He served as Mayor of Mountain View, California in 2018.

Cheryl Sievers-Cail, National PFAS Contamination Coalition

Cheryl Sievers-Cail is a small business owner in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, the Vice Chief of the Waccamaw Indian People, and the Chairperson for SC Idle No More, a Committee within the SC Indian Affairs Commission. She received associate degrees from Horry-Georgetown Technical College in both Legal Studies and Human Services and was a recipient of Phi Theta Kappa Society's All-State Academic Team award. In December 2018, after her 20-year-old son was diagnosed with Testicular Cancer, Cheryl became aware of PFAS contamination in the groundwater at the former Myrtle Beach AFB and



later learned of the extent of contamination from the use of AFFF at other DOD sites throughout the state. She joined the National PFAS Contamination Coalition in 2019 and is currently working to raise awareness of the impact of PFAS contamination to both the environment and people within the state of South Carolina.

Mr. Mike Watters, Grays Creek Residents United Against PFAS in our Wells & Rivers

After learning his well was contaminated with over 16 PFAS chemicals, Michael Watters set up a community outreach group. He created a Facebook group with over 2700 members and he actively goes out in the community to provide information to the community. He is ensuring wells are tested in a rapidly growing area around the Fayetteville Works Facility in NC. He has provided input at all NC Science Advisory committees since Nov 2017 to present. He leads teams as they interact with the NC PFAST Network assisting in research. He actively works with NCSU research teams. He has been working with NC Department of Environmental Quality having participated in the Granular Activated Carbon pilot test. He currently has a State PFAS air monitoring station on his property and assists the state in gathering information. He has College Degrees in Information Technology and Firearms Technology. While in the military he was trained and certified as a DOD Hazardous Materials handler that would certify loads for shipment by air, land or sea. He attends the quarterly web seminars that Eurofins conducts to enhance his knowledge and pass it on to the community. He leads presentations to the community highlighting the area impacted in NC and rights of the community. He actively engages with State and Federal authorities ensuring violations and spills documented and action taken. Two notices of violation are directly tied to his actions.

Professor La'Meshia Whittington, North Carolina Black Alliance

La'Meshia Whittington is a Professor in the Division of Sociology at Meredith College. She is also the Deputy Director for Advance Carolina and the Campaigns Director for the North Carolina Black Alliance. She is the co-convenor of the NC Black & Brown Policy Network, former National Democracy Campaigner for Friends of the Earth, Chairwoman of the FRENC Fund Administration, Founding member of Democracy Green, member of the Burke Women's Fund in Western NC and the former NC spokesperson on fair courts for The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights. Professor Whittington leads the work on intersectional democracy and environmental justice, she was a co-author of NC Senate Bill 673, prioritizing environmentally contaminated communities-of-color in voting rights, and a co-author in several Pro-Democracy North Star legislation bills. Professor Whittington is a member of the NC PFAS Team anchoring AFFF legislation, and a convenor of the Black Firefighters Fighting PFAS Collective. Professor Whittington has created and co-convened national, regional, and statewide tours and workshops on environmental justice, namely chemical contaminants and dirty corporations. Professor Whittington continually works with the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, DHHS and government agencies to ground community needs and strategies in alleviating health disparities in Black and Brown communities. Professor Whittington led the development of a statewide map to highlight the intersection of environmental justice contamination zones and the frequency in which they are located within gerrymandered Black majority voting districts. Professor Whittington is a petitioner in two active petitions to the U.S.



Environmental Protection Agency, for more information: PFAS and 1,4 Dioxane. Professor Whittington is an Afro-Indigenous woman from North Carolina, hailing from a former environmental justice settlement: The Kingdom of the Happy Land. She received her education at Western Piedmont Community College and Meredith College.

Dr. Alan Woolf, Harvard Medical School/Boston Children's Hospital

Dr. Alan Woolf is a Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School (HMS), a board-certified pediatrician and medical toxicologist, and a senior attending physician at Boston Children's Hospital (BCH). He is the Director of the Pediatric Environmental Health Center at BCH, directs its fellowship training program in pediatric environmental health and directs the Region 1 New England Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit. Dr. Woolf is a member of the Executive Committee of the Council on Environmental Health of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a past-president of both the American Association of Poison Control Centers and the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology. He is an editor and author of two books: *The Children's Hospital Guide to Your Child's Health and Development* (Perseus Publishers, Cambridge, MA) and *The History of Modern Clinical Toxicology* (Academic Press - in press) and has authored or co-authored over 300 scientific publications.

Ms. Cathy Wusterbarth, Need Our Water (NOW)

Cathy Wusterbarth is Co-Leader and a founder of NOW (Need Our Water) in Oscoda Michigan. NOW was created in 2017 to give Oscoda-AuSable and surrounding communities a voice. The mission of NOW is to be a reliable resource and catalyst for education and communication while advocating for long-term health and environmental welfare plans on behalf of those affected by the water contamination from the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda, Michigan. Through her volunteer efforts she and her group have consistently demanded the State of Michigan and the Air Force address the PFAS contamination that affects her community and now over 700 military installations. She was invited to the 2019 State of the Union by Congressman Dan Kildee to represent communities affected by PFAS contamination and support the newly created congressional PFAS Task Force. She believes the federal government should conduct epidemiological studies necessary to correlate veteran and their families' health outcomes in addition to testing and monitoring the health of Oscoda residents in relation to their PFAS exposure. Cathy is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist and is a native of Oscoda where she currently lives and works.

Ms. Sandy Wynn-Stelt, unaffiliated

Sandy Wynn-Stelt is a clinical psychologist in private practice. In 2017 she learned that her groundwater had been contaminated by PFAS from a landfill that had been used by Wolverine WorldWide to dispose of Scotchgard laden tannery waste. Since then, she has become an advocate, asking that action be taken to prevent this from occurring in other communities. She has spoken with several state and local legislators, the Michigan Attorney General and has testified in Washington at hearings on PFAS contamination. She currently participates in the local Wolverine Community Advisory Committee where she is on the leadership team, as well as on the MPART (Michigan PFAS Action Response Team). She also participates in the MDHHS Health Study as a stakeholder for both the state PFAS study and the ATSDR Multisite PFAS Study.



She participates in training with EPA staff on effective communications with community members. In 2020 she was awarded the Citizen Excellence in Community Involvement Award by the EPA for her work in the community and state in advocating for stronger regulation of this class of chemicals.