

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2018/496

Robert Sewell as the 2018 Labor Leader of the Year.

WHEREAS, Life-long Contra Costa resident Robert Sewell attended Richmond Unified Schools, graduating high school in June 1977 and beginning his journey as a plumber and labor leader; and
WHEREAS, Bob began his proud career as a plumber with Lescure Company and in July 1979 he joined Plumbers and Steamfitters UA Local 159; and
WHEREAS, Bob completed his apprenticeship in June 1984 and became a journeyman. His first apprenticeship was with Antioch Plumbing, but he soon returned to Lescure Company and spent the next 18 years as a Foreman, General Foreman and then Field Superintendent; and
WHEREAS, Bob ran many jobs over the years such as the Concord Police Station, Martinez/Richmond/Walnut Creek Kaiser, Alhambra High School and Hercules Bio-Rad, to name just a few; and
WHEREAS, an active Union member, Bob served on many committees and taught classes to Local 159 journeyman and apprentices; and
WHEREAS, asked by then-Business Manager, Kelly Anschutz, to become a teacher for Local 159, Bob taught Medical Gas installation to the journeyman from 1989 to 2002. He also taught backflow testing from 1994 to 2002; and
WHEREAS, in 1997, he attended the United Association Instructor Training Program in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and graduated in 2001. With the UA Training, Bob taught Steam, Heating and Cooling, to the Local 159 apprentices; and
WHEREAS, Bob was bound for leadership within his Local and his first officer position was on the Building Fund Committee where he served from 1986 to 2002. He also served on the Local 159 Credit Union Supervisory Committee from 1994 to 2004, and was elected to the Executive Board from 1992 to 2001; and
WHEREAS, Bob has served as the Apprentice Coordinator since 2011; and
WHEREAS, in 2001, Bob was elected to become Vice President and in 2002, he was elected as the Assistant Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer. In 2016, Bob was elected to the office of Business Manager; and
WHEREAS, in addition to serving his Local, Bob has been the Recording Secretary of the Building Trades Council since 2009. He has served on the West Contra Costa Unified School District Bond Oversight Committee for 2 terms. Bob became a member of IAPMO (International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials) in 2002 where he has now served on the Plumbing and Mechanical Technical Committee since 2016; and
WHEREAS, he has negotiated numerous contracts and Project Labor Agreements, which have provided prevailing wage jobs and apprenticeship opportunities for local residents and veterans; and
WHEREAS, Bob lives in Hercules with his wife Valerie of 40 years. He is a proud father of his 2 adult sons, Jason and Eric.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby honor and congratulate Robert Sewell as the 2018 Labor Leader of the Year.

KAREN MITCHOFF
Chair, District IV Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN
District II Supervisor

DIANE BURGIS
District III Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER
District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an
action taken
and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on
the date
shown.

ATTESTED: September 18, 2018

David J. Twa,

By: _____, Deputy