

## 2025-2026 Nominees for the NEWWA Board of Directors

#### For President-Elect: Thomas Garrity

Tom Garrity is the Vice President of Sales at Ti-SALES in Sudbury, MA, where he leads a team supporting water utilities across New England and Upstate New York. With over a decade of experience in the waterworks industry, Tom has focused on delivering practical solutions that improve utility operations and service delivery. He earned a bachelor's degree with an individually designed concentration in Entrepreneurial Project Management from the University of Massachusetts.

A NEWWA member since 2010, Tom has been actively involved in the association's event and member support infrastructure. He previously chaired the Sponsor Services Committee through 2024, leading efforts to strengthen NEWWA's relationship with its annual sponsors and coordinate logistics for key events such as the Ski Classic and Annual Conference. He works closely with staff and volunteers to ensure NEWWA events are accessible, well-executed, and aligned with member needs.

He has a hands-on approach to association service, emphasizing clear communication, volunteer support, and operational follow-through. His focus has consistently been on maintaining the high quality of NEWWA to ensure it serves its members effectively and reliably. Tom resides in Westminster, MA, where he coaches youth soccer, skis with his family, and supports the Celtics.

"Working behind the scenes at NEWWA—planning events, coordinating logistics, and supporting volunteers—has given me a deep respect for the operational foundation that keeps our organization strong. I look forward to serving as President Elect by continuing to support the work that connects and benefits all NEWWA members."

- Tom Garrity, candidate for President Elect

#### For Vice President: Jessica C. Lynch, P.E.

Jessica Lynch has served as General Manager and Chief Engineer at Portsmouth Water and Fire District in Portsmouth, RI, for 8 years. She is responsible for ensuring compliance with rules and regulations, managing the District's staff and day to day operations, advising the administrative board, performing and reviewing engineering analysis and design, developing annual budgets, and reviewing and approving any water system construction and repairs. Prior to this role, she spent 13 years as a Project Manager and Project Engineer at CDM Smith.

Jessica received a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of New Hampshire and a Master of Science in civil engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Jessica is a registered professional engineer and holds grade D3 and T2 operator licenses in Rhode Island. She has been a NEWWA member since 2012 and the Rhode Island State Director for the past six years. She serves as President for the Rhode Island Water Works Association Executive Committee and is a Board Member of the Board of Certification of Operators of Water Supply Treatment and Distribution Facilities.

"I am honored and excited to be nominated for Vice President of NEWWA. Serving on the Board of Directors for the past six years has been an invaluable experience. Being part of NEWWA has greatly benefited my career by providing outstanding training opportunities, conferences, and the chance to build lasting connections.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue giving back to this incredible organization. I am passionate about the water industry and am eager to contribute my ideas, experience, and enthusiasm. I look forward to collaborating with the exceptional board members and NEWWA staff to help drive the association's continued growth."

- Jessica Lynch, candidate for Vice President



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#### For State Director - Connecticut: Joseph Lanzafame

Joseph Lanzafame is the Director of Public Utilities for the City of New London, CT. Joe has spent over 25 years in both the consulting and utility sectors including design, operations and management for water, wastewater and stormwater fields.

Joe graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a bachelor's degree in civil/environmental engineering and a master's degree in environmental engineering. He holds a Professional Engineering License in Massachusetts and Connecticut as well as drinking water operators licenses in both states. As a member of NEWWA for

over two decades, he would like to take on a leadership role in the organization and help others enrich their experience with NEWWA.

"As a member of NEWWA and the drinking water community, I am reminded every day of the challenges we face in this industry. I request your support and election to the role of Connecticut State Director so that we can work through some of these issues together and form lasting solutions and relationships."

- Joseph Lanzafame, candidate for Connecticut Director

#### For State Director - Rhode Island: Stephen Soito, P.E.

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Steve currently serves as the Engineering Manager for the Pawtucket Water Supply Board in Pawtucket, RI. Steve has over thirty years of engineering, project management, and operations experience in the water industry, working for both public and private water utilities and contract operations.

Steve holds a Bachelor of Science degree in civil and environmental engineering from the University of Rhode Island and is a registered professional engineer in the State

of Rhode Island. Steve is also a certified D4 Water Distribution System Operator in Rhode Island and a T4 Water Treatment Operator in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Steve is currently an active member of the NEWWA Program Committee, Filtration Committee, and Safety Committee, and has enjoyed participating in the annual Planning Session for the last two years. Steve is also an active member of the RIWWA Executive Board.

"I am honored to be nominated to represent Rhode Island on the NEWWA Board of Directors. As a longtime member of NEWWA, I have benefited from the many available training options, conferences, symposia and the many social and networking events. I am looking forward to the opportunity to give back to our organization and to serve the members, staff and board of NEWWA and share my experiences and knowledge gained over my career to help NEWWA keep evolving and provide the best resources for our industry."

- Steve Soito, candidate for Rhode Island Director



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### For Director-at-Large: Kirsten Ryan, PG

Kirsten Ryan is a Senior Project Manager and Hydrogeologist at Kleinfelder. As Kleinfelder's Northeast Drinking Water Practice Leader, Kirsten has worked closely with New England drinking water suppliers for most of her 30 years of experience and 25 years at Kleinfelder's Boston office. She has extensive and diverse experience managing water planning and infrastructure capital improvements of all types. She helps public water suppliers to understand current and upcoming regulatory compliance pressures -and funding opportunities- which may impact them. Kirsten

has been an active member of NEWWA for over 20 years. During this time, she has been a key contributor to the Groundwater Committee as a recurring presenter at the Well Rehabilitation and Sustainable Groundwater courses and helping to organize and facilitate the Committee's PFAS Symposiums. She has served on the Program Committee for over 7 years and moderated numerous technical sessions. She's a prior active member in the Water Resources Committee and prior Secretary for the Legislative Affairs Committee. She has published in the NEWWA Journal multiple times, served as a YP Mentor, and facilitates and promotes Kleinfelder's staff participation in NEWWA.

Kirsten received her bachelor's degree in geology at Cornell University and her master's degree in geology at Boston University, and she is a licensed Professional Geologist in New Hampshire. She lives in Boston with her husband and rescue dog, Vern. In her spare time she enjoys gardening and is active in her neighborhood community groups and as an Election Official.

"I'm truly passionate about NEWWA, Inc. and the water works profession – it runs in my DNA. It has been an honor to serve my first term as Director-at-Large. I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had to engage more fully with promoting the Association and I would be thrilled to continue the work during a second term. Elements of the work that are specially important to me include mentoring emerging professionals and newer members and promoting the value of drinking water investment to the public."

- Kirsten Ryan, candidate for Director-at-Large