

June, 2023

The NewsPAGR

Pennsylvania Association for Government Relations

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by **Brittany Mako**



Dear Colleagues,

First, thank you to all of you able to make our New Legislator Reception! I am happy to inform you we had 13 new legislators in attendance. I hope you were able to network with the legislators, as well as your fellow PAGR members. Be on the lookout for more in-person events as the year progresses. Thank you to sponsors AFSCME Council 13, Capital Blue Cross and Columbia Gas for their support of the event.

Next, I want you to know that we are continuing to work on gaining back lobbyist badge access to the Capitol as well as the use of the Senate and House galleries. With the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency officially coming to an end, it is safe to say we are in a post-pandemic world and back to business as usual (more or less) bringing with it a bustling and busy Capitol building. While I am happy to see our Capitol alive and groups visiting the majestic building, long lines make our jobs and getting to meetings with legislators on time more difficult. Keep in mind during our membership meeting with Legislative Secretary Mike Vereb we learned that COVID-19 isn't the sole reason we don't have our badges – part of the reason is the PA Legislatures' response to the occurrence in Washington, DC's capitol on January 6 and their desire to keep members, staff and guests safe in Harrisburg's Capitol building. If you have a point of contact you believe I should meet with on this issue, please share it and I will reach out.

Recently, the PAGR Board was made aware of an unfortunate case involving some of our members. I bring this up to tell you we are looking at finding the best way to make you all aware of it and try to prevent it from happening to more members of the lobbying community. Please stay tuned because PAGR is exploring having a separate event to discuss what these other PAGR members are experiencing that may effect how you do your jobs everyday and brainstorm regarding possible solutions. I also bring it up to you to remind you all that the PAGR Board is here to listen to any and all lobbying related issues you face. While PAGR prides itself in being a great networking organization, we are first and foremost an advocacy organization looking out for our industry.

Finally, we are so close to meeting our membership goal for the year! If you know of anyone that you believe should join PAGR please reach out to our Membership Chair, Amal Mahrouki (amahrouki@aiapa.org) or myself (Brittany.Mako@capbluecross.com) and we will be happy to get in touch with them.

Thank you for your time and work. I look forward to seeing you all in the Capitol this budget season! ☺



Friday June 2—11:30 am
Membership Meeting

Friday October 13
LOBBYPALOOZA 2023

Friday December 1—11:30 am
Membership Meeting

New Members



Ed Damico
National Fuel

Brandon Flood
CEASEFIREPA

Brianda Freistat
ProPeople Policies LLC

Adam Friscia
Saxton & Stump

Amy Kaminski
Mulberry Public Affairs

Nathan Koble
National Fuel

Natalie Krak
The Hershey Company

Matt Leonard
PA Rural Electric Association

Sarah Miller
PA Builders Association

Jill Pento
PA Builders Association

Sean Schafer
Schafer Government Affairs

Kristen Tullo
Humane Society of the US



Want to be more involved in PAGR?

Want to share your ideas and experience?

Please consider joining one of our committees.

CATEGORIES OF COMMITTEES

Membership and Member Services Committee – shall be responsible for recruitment and retention of all classes and categories of members and the development and implementation of a program of benefits and services to the members.

Nominating Committee - shall nominate candidates for the required offices and directorships of the Association as provided in these Bylaws and report such nominations to the President at least ten (10) days before the Annual Meeting. Said nominations shall be voted upon at the Annual Meeting by active members as these Bylaws prescribe.

Professional Standards and Ethics Committee – shall be responsible for enforcing the Standards of Conduct, investigation any and all complaints filed against members for violations of the Standards, recommending sanctions against members found to have violated the Standards, and conducting professional development and continuing education programs for members and non-members.

Program Committee – shall be responsible for developing and running the programs at all regular meetings of the Association, at the Annual Meeting, at any special meetings and for any social events approved by the Board.

Public Affairs Committee – shall develop and implement a campaign to represent the Association to the general public and the state government through whatever means are proper and are approved by the Board, including press releases and press conferences, and testifying at public hearings when necessary.

Committees will be meeting soon. If you would like to participate, please reach out to Christine at info@pagr.org.

Meeting Notice

Friday, June 2

11:30 am —12:30 pm

ZOOM

PAGR Membership Meeting

Guest Speaker:

Charlie O'Neill

Communications Director

House Republican

Appropriations Committee Chair,

Seth Grove



PAGR MEMBERS ONLY

Please RSVP by
COB Thursday, June 1
to 717-939-1900 OR INFO@PAGR.ORG.

*Meeting materials and zoom coordinates
for the meeting will be sent
after 5pm on Thursday June 1.*

2023 PAGR Board



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Vice President.....Alex Halper
Secretary.....Jim Willshier
Treasurer.....Ted Mowatt

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At Large.....Amal Mahrouki
At Large.....Mike Maguire

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vacant

Executive Director
Christine Corrigan

MISSION STATEMENT



The mission statement of the Pennsylvania Association for Government Relations, Inc. (PAGR) is to promote the purpose and effectiveness of the lobbying profession consistent with the public interest. Further, association members encourage high standards of personal and professional conduct among all lobbyists. ±