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A Division of the WV State Building Trades, AFL-CIO | Chuck Parker, President | John Epperly, Secretary-Treasurer | Steve White, Director

# 2022 WV General Election Brings Wins and Losses

The 2022 general election was the first race held following legislative redistricting, caused by the 2020 US Census, and the results show not much has changed for the Trades overall.

While many labor-backed Democrats were defeated in their elections, including many incumbents, a number of trades-friendly Republicans gained seats in the House and Senate.

In the House of Delegates, the breakdown is now 88 Republicans and 12 Democrats.

In the State Senate, there will be 30 Republicans and 4 Democrats.

However, George Capel, Government Relations Director for the WV State Building and Construction Trades, says the new partisan split should not be the main takeaway from the election.

“When you consider all our friendly Republican and Democratic friends, we lost about 6 votes in the State Senate. However, our total numbers in the House remain the same,”

said Capel. “It is important to look at candidates based on their stances on our issues rather than their party affiliation.”

Over the course of the past two years, ACT has worked with Building Trades crafts to hold tours of apprenticeship training facilities and

other events to educate lawmakers, candidates, and the general public about the construction industry and

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Jeff Mullins (left) of Roofers 185 and Jamie Bostic (right) of Sheet Metal Workers 33 participate in a honk-and-wave event in support of WV State Building Trades-endorsed candidate Andy Shamblin (R-Kanawha). Shamblin was successful in his election for the House of Delegates.

## ***\$14 million lawsuit***

# Contractor Sues US Methanol Subsidiary Claiming Breach of Contract at Institute

APTIM Maintenance has filed a lawsuit against Liberty One Methanol, a subsidiary of US Methanol, for \$14 million, claiming breach of contract relating to the Altivia Industrial Estate methanol plant in Institute, West Virginia.

In 2017, US Methanol selected nonunion, German firm Bilfinger Westcon to perform mechanical work at the site.

Prior to this, US Methanol acquired a methanol plant in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil and planned to disas-

semble the industrial equipment and relocate it to Institute, building a new plant, using old equipment, in West Virginia.

Later, Liberty One ended their relationship with Bilfinger Westcon, firing the firm for insufficient work,

and hired out-of-state firm APTIM Maintenance to be the new general contractor as their replacement.

According to a complaint recently filed in Kanawha County Circuit Court, a contract was negotiated

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# Parkersburg-Marietta Building Trades Host Reps from Economic Development Office

Last month, the Parkersburg-Marietta Building Trades hosted representatives of Wood County Economic Development Office (WCED) at craft apprenticeship training centers throughout the county.

The meeting will lead to a partnership between WCED and the Trades for the purpose of jointly focusing on workforce development.

During the meeting, representatives Lindsey Piersol and Kate Marlow from WCED were taken to the IBEW, Pipefitters, Carpenters, Laborers, Ironworkers, Sheet Metal Workers, and Millwrights JATC facilities

in Wood County.

According to Parkersburg-Marietta Building Trades Council Business Manager Buddy Malone, the meeting was of the utmost importance to working together in the future.

“I believe it was educational to both the Economic Development Office and the Building Trades to see and discuss what each of us offer and the challenges we face in bringing jobs to our area and staffing those jobs once they are here,” said Malone.

Lindsey Piersol of the WCED confirmed that the tours were informative and helpful when considering

how to approach workforce development in Wood County.

“The Wood County Economic Development Office had a wonderful tour of several trade halls...I was very impressed with the halls and the extensive training apprentices go through to get prepared for the workforce,” said Piersol.

Council, are part of a larger, ongoing effort by the Trades to educate lawmakers, public officials, and the general public about the benefits of apprenticeship programs throughout the state.

“Days like this help us strengthen our relationships and work better together, providing an advantage for both of our organizations,” said

“Days like this help strengthen our relationships...”

**Buddy Malone**

*Business Manager  
Parkersburg-Marietta  
Building Trades Council*

The tours, hosted by the Parkersburg-Marietta Building Trades

Malone. ■

## Contractor Sues

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between the two parties that capped APTIM’s liability for liquidated damages that could be withheld at \$2 million.

However, the complaint explains this amount was withheld on 2 occasions for a total of \$4 million, breaching the contract.

In addition, APTIM claims that Liberty One also failed to pay \$7.38 million for services rendered as well

as \$4.41 million in what are described as indirect costs.

In total, APTIM claims it is owed \$13,794,380.20 and is suing Liberty One Methanol for this amount as well as attorney fees and other related costs.

The lawsuit is still pending in Kanawha County Circuit Court, assigned to Circuit Judge Carrie Webster. ■



Members of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 625, and other supporters, rally outside of the US Methanol site at Institute, WV in 2020, following the award of a piping subcontract to nonunion firm APTIM from Louisiana.



Mark Freeland (left) and Nate Beha (center back) give a tour of the WV Carpenters Union Training Center to representatives of the Wood County Economic Development Office in Parkersburg, West Virginia.

## 2022 WV Election

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the benefits of apprenticeship.

Capel says these tours have been paying off by creating new relationships and bipartisan support for the Trades.

“I believe our combined efforts have helped change lawmakers’ views of our organizations and bring more people to our side,” said Capel. “We

have to continue making inroads on both sides of the aisle and show everyone that supporting West Virginia workers is not a partisan issue.”

For detailed results of how West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades-endorsed candidates performed in the 2022 general election, see page 3. ■

# 2022 Election Results Building Trades General Endorsement List

## State Senate

- 1 – Randy Swartzmiller (D) ✓
- 2 – Eric Hayhurst (D)
- 5 – Mike Woelfel (D) ✓
- 7 – Ron Stollings (D)
- 8 – Richard Lindsay (D)
- 10 – Stephen Baldwin (D)
- 11 – Bill Hamilton (R) ✓
- 13 – Barbara Fleischauer (D)

## House of Delegates

- 1 – Pat McGeehan (R) ✓
- 2 – Ronnie Jones (D)
- 3 – Phil Diserio (D)
- 4 – Erikka Storch (R) ✓

- 5 – Shawn Fluharty (D) ✓
- 6 – Charlie Reynolds (R) ✓
- 7 – Lisa Zukoff (D)
- 13 – Scot Heckert (R) ✓
- 23 – Evan Worrell (R) ✓
- 24 – Ally Layman (D)
- 25 – Sean Hornbuckle (D) ✓
- 26 – Matthew Rohrbach (R) ✓
- 27 – Ric Griffith (D) ✓
- 29 – David Thompson (D)
- 32 – Rodney Miller (D)
- 33 – Jordan Bridges (R) ✓
- 34 – Mark Dean (R) ✓
- 35 – Adam Vance (R) ✓

- 36 – Ed Evans (D)
- 43 – Chris Toney (R) ✓
- 44 – Toney O. Martin (D)
- 45 – Christian Martine (D)
- 50 – Elliott Pritt (D) ✓
- 51 – Gabe Peña (D)
- 52 – Larry Rowe (D) ✓
- 54 – Mike Pushkin (D) ✓
- 56 – Kayla Young (D) ✓
- 57 – Doug Skaff (D) ✓
- 58 – Walt Hall (R) ✓
- 59 – Andy Shamblin (R) ✓
- 60 – Dana Ferrell (R) ✓
- 67 – Cody Thompson (D)

- 69 – Ron Watson (D)
- 70 – Ryan Deems (D)
- 71 – Laura Kimble (R) ✓
- 72 – Derek McIntyre (D)
- 73 – Mike Mannypenny (D)
- 74 – “JohnBoy” Palmer (D)
- 75 – Stephanie Tomana (D)
- 76 – Joey Garcia (D) ✓
- 77 – Bengy Swanson (D)
- 79 – Evan Hansen (D) ✓
- 80 – John Williams (D) ✓
- 81 – Danielle Walker (D) ✓
- 88 – Rick Hillenbrand (R) ✓
- 90 – George Miller (R) ✓ ■

## Trades Educate Public on Election Issues

**Verified Workers** CREATE LOCAL JOBS

PHIL DISERIO GIVES A **Thumbs Up** TO CHECKING IDs

14 ARRESTED FOR FAKE IDs WEST VIRGINIA WCHS abc 8

AUSTIN HAYNES OPPOSED CHECKING IDs

**Phil Diserio is Fighting for E-Verify**

Phil Diserio believes unauthorized workers shouldn't take our jobs! That's why he is pushing for a law to verify workers through a system known as E-Verify. Using data from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Social Security Administration, E-Verify confirms whether an employee is legally authorized to work in the United States.

As our Delegate, Phil Diserio supports a law that says workers should be verified before some professional licenses are issued by the State.<sup>1</sup> Phil Diserio supported our plumbers, electricians, HVAC and crane operator license holders, when he voted to adopt E-Verify.

1) HB 4155 HFA Miller RCS #181, 02/13/20; HB 4358, Industry & Labor Committee, 01/22/20; HB 2008 HFA Diserio #1 RCS #44, 02/19/21

EARLY VOTE: OCT. 26-NOV. 5 ELECTION DATE: NOV. 8

SUPPORT JOBS. SUPPORT **Phil Diserio** FOR HOUSE.

AUSTIN HAYNES

WON'T BAR UNAUTHORIZED WORKERS

Even after the West Virginia State Fire Marshal arrested workers using fake IDs to get an electrician's license, Austin Haynes voted against an identity check system known as E-Verify.<sup>1</sup> According to WCHS Eyewitness news, more than a dozen of those arrested were allegedly in the United States illegally.<sup>2</sup> Austin Haynes voted against verifying if a person is authorized to work in the United States before the state issues an electrician's license. His vote allows unauthorized workers to potentially steal good-paying jobs from West Virginians.

PROTECT JOBS BY DEFEATING AUSTIN HAYNES

Flyers like the ones shown above were sent out by the West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades (WVSBT) to educate the public about political candidates and their stances on issues important to the trades.

Some of the main WVSBT issues include local jobs for local workers, occupational licensure, e-Verify, drug-free workplaces, upholding unemployment compensation standards, and prevailing wage among others.

While Delegate Phil Diserio (D-Brooke) was not successful in his election, the West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades was proud to stand with him and thanks him for all his work. Diserio is a longtime member and former President of IBEW 246.

Delegate Austin Haynes (R-Fayette) was defeated in his reelection bid.

# Apply at [Sajac-boilermakers.org](http://Sajac-boilermakers.org) Boilermakers #667 Taking Applications

Boilermakers Local 667 (located in Winfield, WV) is accepting applications year-round at [Sajac-boilermakers.org](http://Sajac-boilermakers.org).

To apply for the Boilermakers National Apprenticeship Program, you must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent.

All applicants must provide documentation in the form of a copy of their high school diploma or GED (or DD214 if the applicant is a Vet-

eran).

Applicants must select Local 667 on the site, read the Apprentice Standards and basic requirements then submit proof of education.

All applications are valid for 2 years.

All Veterans filling out an application are encouraged to use the Helmets to Hardhats link on the site.

The Boilermakers Apprenticeship is a 4-year tuition free program consisting of 4 years of on-the-job train-

ing, 3 weeks of class and shop time annually and monthly online class modules.

Apprentices start out at a very competitive pay rate with excellent benefits. Pay raises are earned by class level and hours worked but accelerated pay raises may be achieved

and scaffolds or on top of large vessels. Boilermakers receive extensive safety training and wear personal protective equipment, including hardhats, harnesses, protective clothing, safety glasses and boots, and respirators to reduce the chance of injuries.



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## Trades Councils Receive National Safety Awards



Representatives from WV Trades Councils and the National Maintenance Policy Committee (NMAPC) pose for a picture after being recognized at the 22nd annual Zero Injury Safety Awards Ceremony at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC.

The annual event is the most prestigious safety award ceremony in the construction and maintenance industry, which recognizes an elite group of union contractors, labor representatives, and customers from across the country each year.

This year's award recipients contributed a combined 27 million injury-free workhours in the industry over the past year.

In order to be eligible for an award, you must have a written company safety program; all work hours submitted must be under the terms of the National Maintenance Agreements; work hours must be comprised of at least 80% direct hire craft hours on a single NMAPC project for a specific owner; and your project must have zero OSHA recordable injuries.

The individuals in the picture above are (from left to right): Fred Chandler, Business Manager for Charleston Building Trades; Daniel Hogan, Impartial Secretary/CEO NMAPC; John Holbrook, Business Manager for Tri-State Building Trades; and Buddy Malone, Business Manager for Parkersburg-Marietta Building Trades. North Central Building Trades and Upper Ohio Valley Building Trades also received awards as well.

by earning various welding certifications.

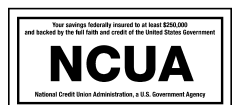
Field construction boilermakers work on construction sites, sometimes at great heights or where working conditions may be hot or extremely cold. Boilermakers often operate potentially dangerous equipment, such as acetylene torches and power grinders.

Work will also include handling heavy parts and working from lad-

Boilermaker work is physically demanding and maybe in cramped quarters inside boilers, vats, or tanks. The size of materials, tools, and equipment handled by boilermakers require excellent physical strength and stamina.

Boilermakers are highly skilled workers and receive excellent wages and benefits for their hard work. It is not a job but a career, apply now at [Sajac-boilermakers.org](http://Sajac-boilermakers.org). ■

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