

BMC Raphael F. Amabile
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I, Raphael Amabile, submit my nomination for CPOA National Board of Directors. This with all respect and honor for the traditions, duties, and purpose of the United States Coast Guard and the duties and responsibilities expressed in the Bylaws of the United States Coast Guard, Chief Petty Officers Association:

- our duty to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America,
- our responsibility to assist and save distressed seamen and others,
- our responsibility in the enforcement of the laws of our country.

Serving the Coast Guard for 36 years and now living in Seaside Park, NJ, I am reminded that Chiefs have served with honor, respect, and devotion to duty in the finest traditions of the U.S. Coast Guard for over 80 years. Seaside Park, NJ, is the location of U.S. Life Saving Station No. 14. The station was built in 1894 and added to the National Register of Historic Places on January 30, 1978. The 1915 merger of the Revenue Cutter Service and the U. S. Life Saving Service into the Coast Guard added this building to one of 200 stations across America.

Notably, the first Coast Guard Chiefs were the former Station Keepers of Life Saving Stations. These lifesaving stations were manned by full-time crews. The crewmen had to perform dangerous open beach launchings. Specifically, they launched their boats from the beach into the surf. This gave rise to the rescue crew's unofficial motto, "You have to go out, but you don't have to come back".

Likewise, the anchor is the identifying authority of the Chief Petty Officer and is emblematic of a Chief, representing stability and security. It reminds Chiefs of their responsibility to keep those they serve safe from harm's way. I identify with the Creed of the United States Coast Guardsman "I shall endeavor to be a model citizen in the community in which I live."

Today, I serve on the Town Council of Seaside Park, NJ (housed in the former Life Saving Station) and in that capacity oversee the beach control and patrol.

Please include my name to serve on the CPOA National Board of Directors.

Respectfully,
Raphael Amabile

p.s. attached is a photo of myself in front of the former lifesaving station, after I arranged to have the Coast Guard Ensign raised on its flagpole.