

460 Commercial Street

Portland, ME 04101

207-200-2400

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For Immediate Release: November 5, 2019

Contact: Jon Nass, Maine Port Authority CEO (207) 200-2400

### **Maine Port Authority Announces New Board Member**

PORTLAND – The Maine Port Authority (MPA) is pleased to announce the appointment by Governor Janet Mills of the Honorable Dennis Damon to the MPA Board of Directors in October.

“I have had the privilege of working with Dennis for almost two decades,” said MaineDOT Commissioner and MPA Board Chair, Bruce Van Note. “He is a dedicated public servant, and his vast experience representing the state of Maine in the Legislature and on numerous local and state boards will provide an attentive voice and strong intellect to the port authority board.”

Originally from Northeast Harbor, and currently residing in Trenton, Mr. Damon is a fourth-generation commercial fisherman and former teacher, coach, and business owner. He served as a Hancock County Commissioner from 1992 to 2002 and represented District 28 in the Maine Senate from 2002 to 2010, chairing both the Joint Committee on Marine Resources and Transportation. Notably, he was inducted in the Maine Baseball Hall of Fame in 2017.

“We are pleased to have gained a board member with broad expertise in developing maritime, working waterfront and economic development policies that address the issues facing Maine’s coastline,” said Jon Nass, CEO of the Maine Port Authority. “Mr. Damon’s leadership will be instrumental as the MPA continues to expand commercial maritime development and educational initiatives across the state.”

Mr. Damon’s experience includes past service as a legislative commissioner on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and board member on the Maine Jobs Council, Maine Rural Development Council, and One Maine, a nonprofit organization founded to promote civil discourse on Maine issues. He currently serves on the boards of the Maine Seacoast Mission, the Great Harbor Maritime Museum, the Maine State Ferry Service Advisory Board, the Maine Historical Society, and the Eastern Maine Development Corporation. He also chairs the board of the Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries and is President of the Jay Ramsdell Foundation.

“I am honored to be appointed by Governor Mills to the MPA Board and am excited about the opportunity to be part of the organization that spearheads commercial port development and maritime education programs in Maine,” said Senator Damon. “I have long thought a strong transportation infrastructure is vital to Maine’s economic future. Our ports are a vital piece of that infrastructure. I look forward to leveraging my experience and insight with public input to create policies that positively impact maritime waterfront infrastructure and aid economic development needs in our communities, with our residents and for our businesses throughout Maine.”

The MPA is non-partisan, quasi-governmental entity that was established for the purpose of acquiring, financing, constructing and operating port terminal facilities in Maine. The MPA owns and operates the International Marine Terminal in Portland and owns the wharf and other assets at Mack Point in Searsport. The mission of the MPA is to “plan, develop, maintain and promote port and intermodal facilities across the State to stimulate commerce and enhance the global competitiveness for the future wealth and prosperity of Maine.”

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