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Maurice Cobb Unanimously Elected PA AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer

George Piasecki Stepping Down to Pursue Advocacy Work

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HARRISBURG, PA (April 23, 2024) —The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Executive Council unanimously voted to elect Maurice Cobb as its Secretary-Treasurer to fill the unexpired term until the next convention, succeeding George Piasecki as Secretary-Treasurer. Piasecki was designated to the position when Angela Ferritto was elevated to become Pennsylvania AFL-CIO President in 2020. Piasecki recently resigned his position with the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO.

“The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO is grateful to George Piasecki for his service,” said Angela Ferritto, PA AFL-CIO, President. “George has been a dedicated union member and leader his entire career and was willing to serve when we called upon him.”

“I commend our Executive Council on electing Maurice Cobb as our new Secretary-Treasurer,” said Ferritto. “As a fourth-generation member of the United Steelworkers, Maurice understands our union values. He is known as a dynamic and thoughtful leader who tirelessly fights for the rights of steelworkers statewide – he will bring his passion and expertise to this important role. I look forward to working with Maurice and am energized by the possibilities he brings to his new position as unions across PA continue to expand and succeed.”

Cobb worked as an overhead crane operator at ArcelorMittal (formerly Bethlehem Steel), the same plant where his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather worked. The four generations of steel workers were all proud members of United Steelworkers, AFL-CIO (“USW”). Cobb was first involved in its Local Union 1688, where he held several positions on the Executive Board and was involved in the Union’s political action and education activities.

“My family taught me the value of hard work and the value of unions in safeguarding the rights of workers,” said Cobb. “Throughout my career, I have worked to advance our Union’s goals through

legislative advocacy, collective bargaining, and arbitration. I am grateful to the Executive Council for electing me to this position and placing their trust in me. Together, we will build on our Commonwealth's strong Union history as we build Union membership by welcoming new members who represent the rich diversity of our movement.”

In 2019, Cobb was appointed as a USW international staff representative. In this position, he worked among multiple industries including manufacturing, aggregate, chemical, and transportation. He handled contract negotiations and disputes as well as grievances and arbitrations.

Cobb was appointed to serve as the USW District 10 Rapid Response Coordinator in 2022. In this position, he handled the district's legislative needs and led the rapid response program, a grassroots legislative education initiative. Cobb was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Central Pennsylvania Area Labor Federation in 2022 and Vice President of the Harrisburg Region Central Labor Council in 2023.

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO represents 700,000 workers from 51 International Unions, and 1,422 Locals in all of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

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