

## James H. I. Weakley

James H. I. Weakley has served as President of Lake Carriers' Association since January 16, 2003. As chief spokesman for U.S.-flag Great Lakes carriers, he represents the industry on a wide range of issues affecting vessel operations. His maritime experience is therefore naturally extensive. A 1984 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, he sailed aboard the USCG Cutter MIDGETT as an Engineering Officer. Shoreside assignments included Pollution Response and Vessel Inspection, as well as Search and Rescue (SAR).

Mr. Weakley entered the private sector in 1993 when he joined The Interlake Steamship Company as Personnel Director. During his career with Interlake (one of the largest U.S.-flag carriers on the Great Lakes), he advanced to the position of Operations Manager. He remained in the Coast Guard Reserve and was recalled to active duty following the events of September 11, 2001 and became a founding member of the Maritime Security Division for the Ninth Coast Guard District.

The Coast Guard has honored Mr. Weakley on several occasions. He has been awarded two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, two Achievement Medals, the Humanitarian Service Medal and two National Defense Medals, as well as other personal and unit awards. He retired from the Coast Guard Reserves with 10 years of active service and 13 years as a reservist.

Mr. Weakley is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Maritime Partnership, the Washington, DC-based coalition that promotes the Jones Act in our nation's capital. He is also an officer of the Great Lakes Maritime Task Force, a regional labor/management coalition that focuses on Lakes issues.

Mr. Weakley earned a Masters of Business Administration from the Executive Program at Case Western Reserve University in 1999. He and his wife, Sally, live in Avon, Ohio.

With roots that trace back to 1880, Lake Carrier' Association is one of the oldest trade associations in the country. Today the Association represents 13 American corporations that, in total, have 43 vessels. Major cargos include iron ore for the steel industry; coal for power generation; and limestone for the construction industry. In a typical year, LCA's members will haul as much as 90 million tons of dry-bulk cargo.