



Brian W. Schoeneman has been the Political and Legislative Director of the Seafarers International Union (AFL-CIO) since January 2011. He also serves as Chairman of the USA Maritime Coalition, having been elected to that post in December 2024, for a two-year term. He has testified before Congress on a variety of maritime related topics, including the sinking of the Costa Concordia, the Jones Act, Cargo Preference and others.

Schoeneman began his career in maritime in 2003, when he served as Assistant Political Director for the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (AFL-CIO), the nation's oldest maritime labor union. He later served as Director of Government Affairs for MEBA. In 2006, he joined the American Maritime Congress as Executive Director. In 2009 he founded Acacia Strategies LLC, a maritime transportation lobbying firm, where he served as Managing Partner until 2011.



Schoeneman has held several public sector positions. In 2008, he joined the Bush Administration, serving as Special Assistant and Senior Speechwriter to Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao. In that capacity, he served as her primary liaison to organized labor. In 2013, he was appointed to the Fairfax County Electoral Board by the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, Virginia, the Commonwealth's largest jurisdiction, where he served first as Vice Chair and later as Secretary. From 2013 to 2015 he ran more than two dozen elections at the federal, state and local level, and garnered national recognition for the handling of the closest statewide election in Virginia history, the 2013 Attorney General's race. He was awarded the 2013 President's Award by the Fairfax Bar Association for his work on the Electoral Board.

In his community, Schoeneman served on the Fairfax County Economic Advisory Commission for over twelve years, until its dissolution in 2024. He is a past president of the International Propeller Club of the United States' DC Port, and served on the Vestry of historic St. John's Church, Lafayette Square.

He is a 2011 graduate, magna cum laude, of the Catholic University of America School of Law, and is licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia. He is a 2003 graduate of the Graduate School of Political Management at the George Washington University, and a 2001 graduate of the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences at the George Washington University. He was a member of the 2013 Sorensen Institute Political Leaders Program at the University of Virginia.

He lives in Centreville, Virginia with his wife, KayAnn and his son Nicholas.