

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Ryan Burks  
Judy B. Songy  
Robbie P. LeBlanc  
Stanley Bazile  
Whitney Hickerson  
Louis A. Joseph  
Katie Klibert  
Joey Murray  
D. Paul Robichaux  
  
Paul Matthews,  
Executive Director



## CORRECTION NOTICE NEWS RELEASE – May 13, 2022

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### PORT OF SOUTH LOUISIANA ELECTS NEW COMMISSION CHAIRMAN



Reserve, LA.

During the April 2022 regular commission meeting, the Port of South Louisiana Board of Commissioners elected Mr. Ryan Burks as Chairman for 2022-23. Burks, who was appointed to the Board of Commissioners in 2020 by *St Charles Parish President Matthew Jewell* to represent St. Charles Parish, succeeds Mr. D. Paul Robichaux, who served as Commission Chairman since 2014. Under Robichaux's tenure, the Port of South Louisiana welcomed new industrial partners including Yuhuang Chemical and Formosa; saw expansions at, but not limited to, Monsanto, Noranda Alumina, Globalplex, and the port's Executive

Regional Airport; began the construction of the port's Business Development Center; acquired the MV Nathan Folse, a state-of-the-art security vessel; and participated in Memorandums of Understanding with Cuba and the Panama Canal Authority.

A graduate from Tulane University, Burks launched his design engineering career in Atlanta, Georgia where he worked on projects for the 1996 Olympic Games. Subsequently, he expanded his reach to Florida, Alabama, and Louisiana. In 2002, he founded his business, RYCARS Construction, LLC, a specialty contracting company with a core competency in commercial roofing applications. Burks' endeavor has been involved in projects in 10 states and completed high-profile projects like Caesars Superdome in New Orleans and NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

————— *America's Leading Grain Exporter* —————   

Elections were also held to fill the remaining positions of the Port’s governing panel. Robbie LeBlanc, representing St. James Parish, will serve as Treasurer, and both D. Paul Robichaux and P. Joey Murray, III as Vice President. The remaining commissioners will remain in their positions: Judy B. Songy of St. John the Baptist Parish as Vice Chairwoman, Stanley Bazile of St. James Parish as Secretary, Whitney Hickerson of St. James Parish as Vice President, and both Louis Joseph and Katie Klibert of St. John the Baptist Parish as Vice President.

All positions are elected for one-year terms.

### **About the Port of South Louisiana**

Founded in 1960, the Port of South Louisiana [PSL] is a 54-mile port district on the Mississippi River between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, encompassing the parishes of St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, and St. James. The facilities located within the port’s district consistently handle over a quarter billion short tons of cargo annually, ranking it one of the largest tonnage ports in the Western Hemisphere [and the 16<sup>th</sup> largest in the world], the nation’s leading grain exporter, and one of the major energy transfer ports in the United States. Along the 108 miles of deep-water frontage on both banks of the river there are seven grain transfer facilities, four major oil refineries, 11 petrochemical manufacturing facilities and several other facilities for a total of more than 50 docks owned and operated by an impressive group of companies in the Port District, such as ADM, ArcelorMittal, Cargill, DowDupont, Marathon, Shell, Nucor Steel, Occidental, Valero, and Occidental Chemical. The Port also owns and operates the Executive Regional Airport [KAPS]. To learn more, visit us at [www.portsl.com](http://www.portsl.com), like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/portsl), and follow us on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/portsl) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/portsl).

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