

# AWARD RECIPIENTS

## Judith Scanlon PEF Health & Safety Activist Award

Judi Scanlon was an Intensive Case Manager and PEF member who loved her job and loved helping people. In addition to providing compassionate support to her clients, Judi was also a long time PEF activist who advocated for years for safety on the job for her co-workers. On November 24, 1998 Judi was beaten to death during a home visit to a patient, who ultimately was convicted of the murder. Even after her tragic death, Judi inspired her union sisters and brothers to find ways to change policies and procedures to protect workers, especially those in the field. *This award gives recognition to grassroots PEF H&S activists who fight for safety on the job and workers' rights.*



## Judith Scanlon PEF Health & Safety Activist Award Recipient



### Diane Jaulus

Diane is the kind of person who will always greet you with a bright smile and warm welcome. But don't underestimate her, she is also a passionate and relentless fighter for the health and safety of PEF members in Region 9 and DOCCS employees across New York State. As Regional Coordinator she organizes critical health and safety training for current and next generation activists. Her dedicated service every day for the Union, and her advocacy at the DOCCS Statewide Health & Safety and Workplace Violence Prevention Committees, as well as her contributions to the OMH MUHS Committee, continue to make major changes for the safety of all workers.

## Bernie Kahn Outstanding Service Award

Bernie Kahn was a longtime union activist at the NYS Insurance Fund. He chaired the PEF H&S Committee and the PEF Article 13 committee for many years. Bernie advocated for better training programs on workers compensation and was instrumental in the development of PEF's own WC program. He was a dedicated member of NYCOSH and other community advocacy groups. Even after his retirement, Bernie remained active in the PEF Retirees and continued to fight for workplace safety. *This award recognizes a health and safety activist for their sustained and outstanding efforts and dedication to improve the lives of workers.*



## Bernie Kahn Outstanding Service Award Recipient



### Leisa Abraham

When trouble brews in Region 3, you can count on Leisa to take immediate action. Recently she has taken up the fight to put more safety measures in place for workers in high crime areas simply trying to get in and out of their workplace safely. This campaign will be used as a model for workplaces across the State. Her dedicated service and outstanding contribution to the health and safety of PEF members and all workers at her home agency at OPWDD and in Region 3 are an inspiration for all safety advocates. She has built a powerful coalition with other advocates to coordinate safety controls that will benefit workers at the OPWDD and others in Western New York for years to come.

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## Agency Award

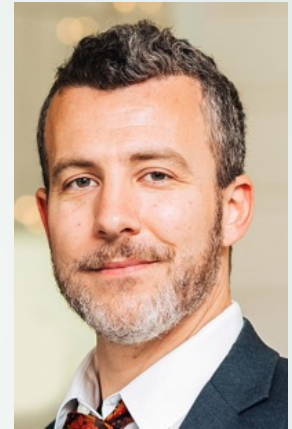
This award is given by OER and PEF to Agency (Management, PEF and CSEA) chairs that demonstrate:

- Dedication and perseverance in making health and safety a priority at the Agency;
- Efforts in the development of health and safety programs to include training and education;
- A model of labor/management cooperation to include communication with the labor-management safety and health committees, department heads, supervisors, and others;
- Proven interest in new approaches to safety awareness in the workplace.

### The 2023 Agency Award

#### OMH Multi Union H&S Committee (MUHS)

**Darlene Williams, PEF Co-Chair**  
**Bryce Therrien, OMH Co-Chair**



The OMH MUHS is dedicated to making health and safety a priority at OMH. Labor and Management continued to meet during the worst of the Pandemic as they fought for more protections for staff and patients. Even more importantly, the MUHS has made great strides over the past year to use innovative and detailed injury/illness workplace violence reports and records to track trends and take proactive steps for incident prevention. The MUHS shows how coalitions between PEF, CSEA, NYSCOPBA and OMH can work to make a successful safety program. They are a model for other H&S committees for their dedication and perseverance to improve Labor and Management cooperation in order to increase the safety of all employees in OMH.

## ORDINARY PEOPLE CAN HAVE EXTRAORDINARY IMPACT

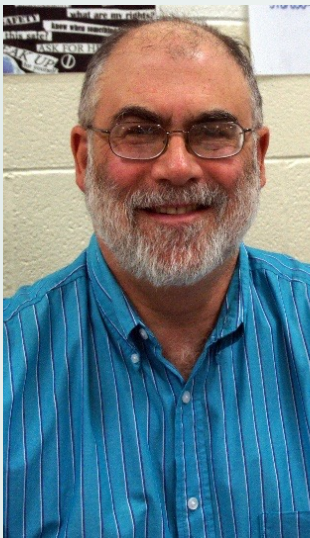
# AWARD RECIPIENTS

## Kathy D'Arminio Special Recognition Award

THIS AWARD IS NOT LIMITED TO PEF MEMBERS AND MAY BE GIVEN TO ANY EXCEPTIONAL (ACTIVE OR RETIRED) PUBLIC SERVANT OR MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY

*This award recognizes the life-long contributions of individuals who have distinguished themselves through a career of hard work and dedication to improve the lives of workers.*

Kathy D'Arminio served as Article 18 SW H&S Chair from 2006 – 2013. As Chair, she advocated fiercely for safety and health programs across the state. Kathy showed a great passion for developing strong labor/management committees, and for encouraging members to become active and involved in health and safety. She involved the union in community projects, like when she led the Glendale community flood recovery efforts in the summer of 2006. Kathy displayed extraordinary courage everyday in her job, in her union and in her community.



## 2023 Kathy D'Arminio Award

### Matt London

Matt was a PEF member at the NYS DOH and on the Article 18 Committee for many years before coming onto PEF H&S staff during the height of our fight for the Workplace Violence Prevention law and PESH Standard. He played a large role in the success of that fight, and in the development of robust workplace violence prevention programs at a number of NYS agencies. Matt helped train thousands of PEF members and other workers across the country over his long career in occupational safety and health, connecting with participants through his deep knowledge of the topic at hand and certainly his quirky humor. He retired from PEF, but not from health and safety, becoming the Executive Director of the newly formed NENYCOSH, and continues to inspire and mentor the next generation of OSH leaders through the OHIP program.

## YOU CAN BE A HEALTH AND SAFETY HERO!

# AWARD RECIPIENTS

## Chairs Special Commendation Award

The Article 18 Chairs wanted to take this opportunity to show their deep respect and appreciation for Shawn.



### 2023 Chairs Special Commendation Award Recipient

#### Shawn Bobb

Shawn has been an invaluable part of the PEF Health and Safety Department for over 30 years, after making the jump from a PEF title at NYS DOH to being on staff. PEF leaders and Agency managers are very familiar with Shawn's dedicated service and tenacious advocacy on behalf of PEF members across NYS. He helped get better protections on the job for PEF members and all public employees in the fight to pass and shape the Workplace Violence Prevention Law and PESH standard. Shawn led PEF's successful infectious disease and BBP injury prevention programs, and trained scores of workers in all topics of health and safety. His strong research skills, steady support and wise counsel for PEF leaders and staff will be greatly missed. Shawn truly is a Health & Safety Super Hero.

**YOU CAN BE A HEALTH AND SAFETY SUPER HERO!**