

## 2023 June Quarterly Report – Q2

### Section Officers

*Steven Johnson*  
**Director**

*Aman Bains*  
**President**

*Jeff Kessler*  
**President-Elect**

*Alexander “Lex” Mitchell*  
**VP Supervisory**

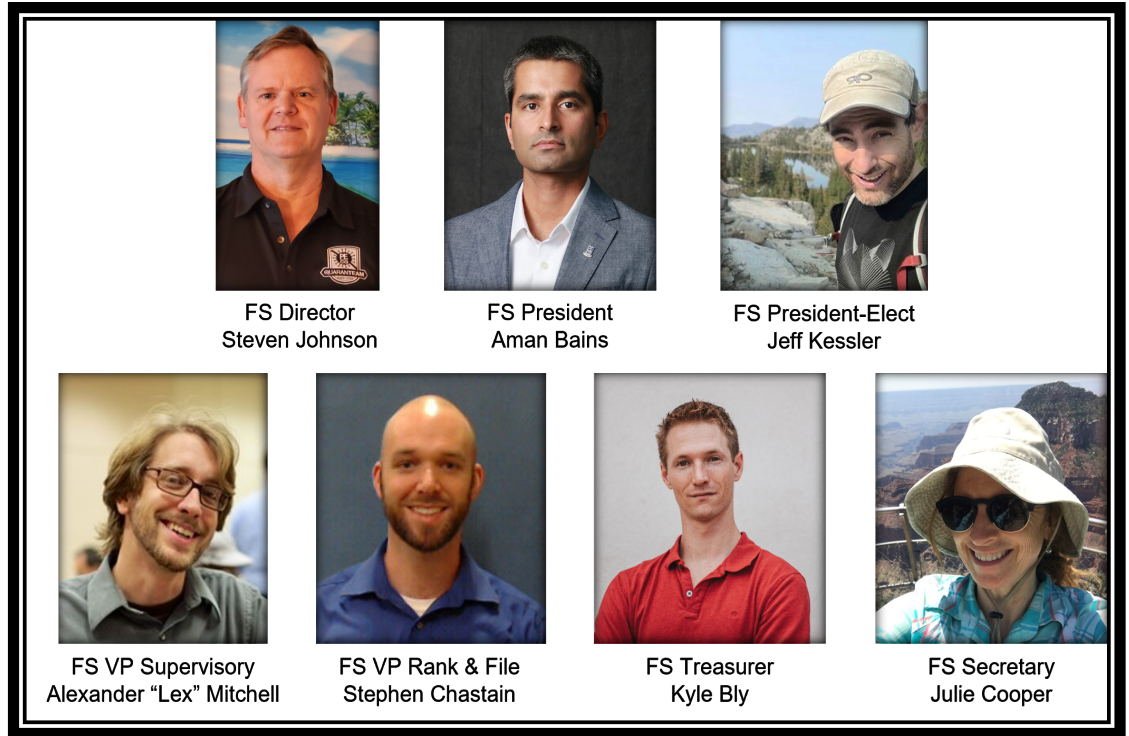
*Stephen Chastain*  
**VP Rank & File**

*Julie Cooper*  
**Secretary**

*Kyle Bly*  
**Treasurer**

*Aman Bains*  
**Web-Cordinator**

### Your 2022-2023 PECG Fort Sutter Section Officers



Should you have any PECG related questions or suggestions, please contact any of your elected officers pictured above or reach out to us at [fspecg@gmail.com](mailto:fspecg@gmail.com).

### Who We Represent

The Fort Sutter Section represents PECG members from 16 Boards, Offices, and Departments (BDO) and is comprised of engineers and related professionals responsible for improving air quality and water quality, developing clean energy and technology, and designing and inspecting California’s infrastructure and improving State occupied buildings.

Fort Sutter section currently represents 881 members and 366 non-members. Our rank and file, supervisors, and managers are from the following BDO’s:

- California Air Resources Board (574 members),
- California Highway Patrol (5 members),
- Department of Transportation (1 member),
- California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (35 members),
- Department of Consumer Affairs (15 members),
- Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (19 members),

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- Department of Developmental Services (1 member),
- Franchise Tax Board (1 member),
- Housing Finance Agency (3 members),
- Department of Industrial Relations (38 members),
- Department of Justice (1 member),
- Department of Motor Vehicles (5 members),
- California Environmental Protection Agency (4 members),
- Division of the State Architect (1 member),
- Healthcare Access and Information (43 members), and
- Department of Toxic Substance Control (103 members)

Fort Sutter membership has increased when compared to 2023 first quarter. Thanks to a strong and committed PECG membership, our salaries have increased, pensions remain protected, fantastic health care benefits are available, and State work is overwhelmingly performed by State staff.

### **Membership Recruitment Incentive**

The more members we have, the more bargaining power we have, and the better provisions we can win in our contracts. We are only as strong as our membership is large.

**Do you know someone who is not currently a PECG member?** PECG's membership recruitment campaign provides a \$50 reward to PECG rank and file members for each new member they recruit! Supervisory/manager PECG members receive a \$200 referral bonus. Please get in touch with Fort Sutter PECG officers if you would like to learn more!

### **Recent Fort Sutter Highlights**

**March 8 Informational ZOOM meeting:** The Fort Sutter Section hosted a virtual meeting for PECG members. The meeting featured guest speaker Jon Ortiz from the PECG corporate office. Jon Ortiz is PECG's Director of Media and Research. Jon reviews articles and media clips that involve unions and PECG and assists PECG with writing articles for the news media. Jon also provided updates on the various and important tasks PECG leaders carry out when dealing with the media, and how his role assists members of PECG.

**March 25 Joint Section Member Appreciation Event – Kings vs Jazz Basketball Game:** The Fort Sutter section dazzled its members with a pair of subsidized tickets to see the Sacramento Kings play the Utah Jazz on March 25, 2023. This was a joint event with River City, and we are happy to report that turnout was high for both sections and the Kings beat the Jazz 121-113. Our attendance rate for the Fort Sutter section was 94%. Out of 302 tickets purchased 283 members enjoyed the game as the Kings beat the Jazz.

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**May 6 Day at the Ranch with Congressman John Garamendi:** U.S. Congressman Garamendi hosted a “Day at the Ranch”. This was a family friendly event that included walking tours, hayrides, gold panning, feeding cattle and horses, music, and great food. This event was held at Garamendi family’s private ranch in Calaveras County. Congress Garamendi provided an overview of his past work and what is anticipated in the next legislative cycle. President Aman Bains attended the event for Fort Sutter along with other section officers: Tim Chow Director of River City, Andrew Tan President of Sacramento, along with PECCG representative Nadine Westcott.



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**May 30 Tri-Division Picnic at William Land Park in Sacramento:** The Fort Sutter section contributed funds to assist the Air Quality Planning and Science Division (AQPSD) setup a group picnic with the Transportation and Toxics Division (TTD) and the Monitoring and Laboratory Division (MLD). This picnic event was for PECG members and non-members at AQPSD, TTD and MLD. Attendees were offered a Mexican buffet along with games and prizes at William Land Park. The Fort Sutter officers in attendance were Steven Johnson (Director), Aman Bains (President) and Kyle Bly (Treasurer). At the end of the event PECG swag items of pens, lanyards, and mugs were handed out to attendees.



**Fort Sutter Office Hours:** The Fort Sutter office hours program was created in 2022 to give members a chance to talk with a PECG officer each week to ensure that concerns about union-relevant issues can be documented and better addressed by the union. This has been a highly successful endeavor, particularly in bringing forth issues/concerns from members related to telework policy and return-to-work requirements by departments. These concerns/issues have been shared with PECG Corporate and the Bargaining Team. Fort Sutter plans to continue this program throughout 2023 and will continue to share information with PECG Corporate as issues/concerns arise. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for how we can improve our office hours program to make it more effective.

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### Other Useful Information

**Mass Transit and Vanpool Commute Subsidy:** This subsidy increased from \$280 to \$300 per month for all Unit 9 employees. The \$300 subsidy may be used for public transit passes sold by state agencies or purchased directly by Unit 9 employees. The subsidy is also available to vanpool drivers and riders. Check the MOU for more details.

**PECG 2022-25 MOU:** As of early February, printed copies of PECG's new 2022-2025 MOU are available for delivery. Unit 9 employees that requested a printed copy in early February should have received it by now. If you failed to receive your requested copy or would still like a printed copy of the MOU, please complete the MOU [request form from the PECG website](#). The new MOU is also available [electronically](#) at the PECG website.

**Updated Parental Leave Provisions:** The recently adopted MOU has substantially expanded parental leave benefits for represented employees. This has increased leave benefits by approximately 6 weeks at 50% pay for rank-and-file employees through NDI-FCL provisions. For the first time, rank-and-file employees that have not given birth are now eligible for paid parental leave benefits! Please contact [pecg@pecg.org](mailto:pecg@pecg.org) for further details if Administrative Service Division is not able to provide any information.

**Fort Sutter Section Website:** On the website, members will find: Overview of services & programs, PECG history, Fort Sutter officers and their duties, FAQs & reports, information for supervisors and managers, committees, a link to PECG member discounts, and a link to the PECG Corporate website. Please visit us at <http://fortsutterpecg.org>.

**Members Benefits:** PECG provides a variety of discount services to its members. Benefits are available online after logging in on the password-protected members only section of this website: <http://pecg.org/benefits/consumer-discounts/>. Please call the PECG Sacramento office at (916) 446-0400 to acquire a member password if you do not have one.

### What's Coming Up Next Quarter

**Another Section Event:** We will be hosting another outdoor event for our members in late July or early August. Details will be available soon.

**Election of Officers for 2023-2024:** If you are interested in assisting the Fort Sutter section and are willing to run for section officer position, email us at [fspecg@gmail.com](mailto:fspecg@gmail.com).

**Want to get more involved?** Please contact Fort Sutter President Aman Bains at [aman.bains@arb.ca.gov](mailto:aman.bains@arb.ca.gov) or any member of the Fort Sutter Board if you are interested in being more involved. If you have any thoughts about what you would like to see from our section in 2023, contact [fspecg@gmail.com](mailto:fspecg@gmail.com).

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**For More Information, Visit Us**

<http://fortsutterpecg.org>

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