



To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager

From: Joy L. Baker – Port Director *JLB*

CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission

Date: November 4, 2021

Re: Harbormaster Lucas Stotts – Harbormaster of the Year Award (2021 AAHPA Conference)

I am thrilled to bring you the news that our very own Harbormaster, Lucas Stotts, was selected as the Harbormaster of the Year 2021, by the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) Board of Directors. The announcement was made during the 2021 Conference Banquet last Thursday, October 28, 2021, and is the most coveted award among this state-wide group of Port & Harbor personnel.

Scheduling conflicts and late vessel haulouts prevented Lucas from attending the conference in person, but he was well represented by Mayor Handeland, Manager Steckman, and myself. In honor of the Nome Harbormaster receiving the award, the President asked me to read the citation to the crowd, and as is his nature, the Mayor called Lucas' wife and opened a video just in time for Lucas to hear his name and the reading of the citation. The phone was flashed around the room for everyone to wave, and I understand Lucas received over a dozen texts from his fellow Harbormaster's with congratulations. Although very impromptu, it came off as a great surprise.

The conference offered great sessions with good networking opportunities which is typically the most beneficial when attending these conferences. Nome was allowed to present on the port expansion, drawing great interest in the project as well as the upcoming AAHPA 2022 Conference being held in Nome in the latter part of October. We are excited and so are the group members.

See attached award and citation the Mayor brought back to Nome for Lucas!

Congrats Lucas!!!!



AAHPA Harbormaster of the Year 2021



Lucas Stotts, Harbormaster of Nome, AK

Lucas Stotts, Harbormaster of Nome, Alaska, is hereby honored as the 2021 Harbormaster of the Year by the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators. Lucas started with the Port of Nome in 2011 as the Harbormaster Assistant, just when the recreational gold mining frenzy was exploding. This intense and rapid increase in homeported users prompted chaos and conflict, but fortunately, Lucas used his training, patience, and disarming smile to quickly diffuse most situations. His actions quickly made him popular among the users, and an asset to the City. After becoming Harbormaster in 2013, Lucas was faced with a similar situation with the Port's two docks being in high demand and creating a backlog of anchored vessels, which he resolved by continuous coordination, predicting conflicts, adjusting schedules, and finding creative options until construction of a third dock in 2015 somewhat eased the pressure. Nearly all of the commercial shippers, research captains and homeported users have commented on how effective Lucas is in his position, and the number of complex issues he's helped to resolve. One will generally find Lucas putting in long hours, returning later in the evening to check an operation, monitor a difficult barge offload, or ensure the prior user is on schedule so as not to delay the next vessel. For these accomplishments and more, as well as his long-time support and active engagement with the AAHPA, it is with great pleasure that the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators recognizes Lucas as AAHPA's 2021 Harbormaster of the Year.

Bryan Hawkins, President

October 28, 2021