

## SPOTLIGHT ON...COUNTY ASBO PRESIDENTS

NJASBO President Matt Clarke recognizes the hard work of the County ASBO Presidents, but also knows they often are the “unsung heroes”, as well. “They often ‘take the heat’ at meetings,” said Clarke, “and they are a significant resource and an absolute wealth of information.” He wants to be certain that NJASBO members know the County Presidents – especially those who are new Presidents, or new members.

Here are a few you can get to know!

### **James Sekelsky, President, Sussex County ASBO**



In addition to his role with the Sussex County ASBO, James Sekelsky has been the BA for the Hardyston Board of Education since 2009. Previously, he spent three years as the BA for the Sussex County Educational Services

Commission. Before becoming a BA, Sekelsky spent some 20 years in the U.S. Army – until January 2006 – many would say that was a great background for his current role!

His last position with the Army was as Brigade Planning/Operations Officer at Forward Operating Base – KALSU, Armed Forces Overseas Iraq. There, among his numerous other responsibilities, he trained commanders on contracting, negotiations, and scope of work (specs). He also facilitated communication between medical, legal, police, and engineer officers to ensure project funds supporting the Ministries of Health, Justice, Interior, and Public Works, respectively, were organized, targeted, and equitably distributed according to funding plans.

During his U.S. Army career, Sekelsky also served in Germany, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, and was a U.N. Military Observer in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia, where he facilitated

negotiations that resulted in a successful hostage and prisoner of war exchange in May 1996. He is the recipient of the Meritorious Service Award and the Joint Service Commendation Medal, among many other commendations and service medals and ribbons.

Sekelsky also was an Assistant Professor of Military Science for Seton Hall University ROTC, and an Instructor/Branch Representative at the U.S. Military Academy – West Point.

He currently is pursuing a master’s degree in accountancy (May 2019) at Rutgers Business School and holds a BA in Russian and Eastern European Studies, with a minor in Economics from Arizona State University. He also holds a School Business Administrator NJDOE Standard Certificate.

Sekelsky and wife Julie have three children and live in Wantage. He is a little league coach, a U.S. Selective Service Regional 1 Board Member, a life member of the Ogdensburg VFW, a member of the Franklin American Legion, and a trustee for the Municipal Reinsurance Fund and the Schools Health Insurance Fund. Sekelsky is the former mayor of Ogdensburg, and a former member of the Ogdensburg Board of Education.



### **Christopher J. Mullins, President, Monmouth County ASBO**

Christopher Mullins has been the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for the Hazlet

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