

Madison Gambala

Thank you for taking the time away from your busy schedules to read a bit about me and make the very important decision for lead negotiator of SE. My name is Madison Gambala, I am currently an Administrative Officer 2 (Class 1) at the Lemon Creek Correctional Center and have been working for the State of Alaska for over for 6.5 years.

My Background:

I started out my state career as an Office Assistant 1 in the Department of Labor under GGU and became a steward a short while after. Fast forward a few years and a position in between, I became a supervisor as an Administrative Assistant 2 and became an employee representative so I could continue the good fight within the Supervisory Unit. In 2019, I was voted in as the alternative negotiator for Southeast and although overall we got out ahead, it had left me thinking and planning for the 2024 negotiations. In each capacity I have served, I have strived to do my best to help my fellow workers be aware of their rights and any benefits they may qualify for and that will not stop today.

Working my way up through the ranks has given me a different view from each position I have held, as well as, helped me understand the challenges between both different positions and different departments. My career trajectory is not unheard of, and I would argue is the most common; starting at the bottom and bettering yourself to promote. With every job you take, you are learning institutional knowledge that benefits the state in future jobs you take. Shouldn't you be compensated for this? I believe so!

Why vote for me?

Looking back at the history of negotiators, you will notice that there has never been a female primary in Southeast Alaska, and you would be making history by voting for me. I am also like many of you, a parent. I have beautiful 18-month-old twins and am just a normal working mom, doing the best for my family and who would complain about higher pay with the cost of childcare in Alaska? Additionally, I am also a member of the LGBTQ+ community with my wife as a class 3 state employee. My entire time in Juneau has been spent as a pro union state employee, trying to make things better for our future generations.

With the state giving GGU such a big increase, its undeniable that that we are upside down with our counterparts and that if something isn't done now to fix this problem, staff will continue to not be fairly compensated for their hard work and filling our vacant SU positions will become impossible. With my experience from the 2020 contract negotiations under my belt, I am ready to fight. I am ready to fight for what we have earned and what we *deserve*, and I'll do whatever it takes to make this contract negotiations the most successful it can be.

Please stand with me as SU gets what we deserve.

In Solidarity,
Madison Gambala