

Trustee Candidate Statements

August 2026 Vacancies Election

Hyperlinks are in bold and underlined



**Research Scientist
Staff**

**Department of
Public Health**

Sacramento

Craig Bross

My name is Craig Bross, I've been a proud CAPS-UAW member since joining State service several years ago, and I am running for trustee because our union is strongest when members have a meaningful voice in its leadership and financial affairs. The democratic principles of the UAW and CAPS-UAW call for transparency, accountability, participation, and elected leaders that are responsive to the membership.

As Trustee, I will work to ensure that union resources are managed responsibly, expenditures are consistent with approved policies and budgets, and members can have confidence in how your dues are used. I believe our elected leadership should reflect the diversity of perspectives and experiences within our membership rather than concentrate decision-making among a small group of voices.

I will approach this role independently, fairly, and with respect for every member. I ask for your vote to strengthen democratic accountability, protect the integrity of our union, and ensure that CAPS-UAW remains a union where members—not a select few—have the final say.

Ashley Harley

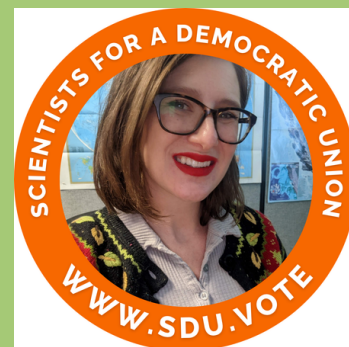
My name is Ashley Harley, I'm a Senior Environmental Scientist at CalRecycle and a District 3 Head Steward. I'm honored to run as the **Scientists for a Democratic Union** endorsed candidate for Trustee of our union, CAPS, UAW Local 1115.

I've been a member of our Union for the entirety of my 8+ years in state service. I'm running for trustee because it's a small but mighty role charged with ensuring the financial compliance of our union. It's incredibly important for ensuring we meet our obligations under the UAW Constitution's audit policies and for maintaining trust and accountability in the spending of our membership dues within CAPS-UAW.

As a trustee member of the executive board, I'll continue the powerful organizing and consensus building work I am and have been doing: leading solidarity breaks, hosting worksite meetings and Know Your Rights trainings, and organizing members like I did for our historic 2023 Defiance for Science strike. I currently serve as a District 3 Head Steward at CalEPA, one of the largest worksites with almost 600 state scientists, and actively facilitate building and district-wide organizing committees, in addition to militantly enforcing our contract. My organizing efforts at CalEPA mean there are numerous leaders ready to step up as a District 3 Head Steward if I'm elected to this role.

As a parent of two young children, I'm keenly aware of how our fight for pay equity will transform the lives of working families who protect California's environment.

I'm running as a Trustee to continue to organize for our collective power and steward our union's resources in accordance with the UAW Constitution. Your vote entrusts me with the responsibilities and obligations of this role, and I would be honored to earn that trust. VOTE Ashley Harley for Trustee.



**Senior
Environmental
Scientist (Specialist)**

**Department of
Resources -
CalRecycle**

Sacramento

VOTING OPEN FROM 8AM AUG. 31 THROUGH 5PM SEPT. 1

capsscientists.org/vacancelection2026

Candidates listed in alphabetical order by last name

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**Senior
Environmental
Scientist (Specialist)**

**Department of
Toxic Substances
Control**

Berkeley

Rob Rossi

I'm currently a steward at DTSC Berkeley, and I've been a CAPS-UAW member since I joined DTSC in September 2023. Since then I have:

- Participated in our November 2023 strike
- Been a Contract Action Team member
- Represented CalEPA scientists at the RTO meet and confers
- Given public comments to the Legislature in support of teleworking and our raises
- Lobbied the Senate Budget Committee to reject the Governor's salary cuts
- Co-organized every DTSC Berkeley rally
- Assisted with D4 head steward duties while there was a vacancy, and
- Served as the D4 member of the Elections Committee until June 2026.

I'm also part of the RTO working group and Comms Team and have been instrumental in planning every action since March. During the last year I've worked nights and weekends for CAPS. If you have attended RTO working group meetings you know I'm an advocate for bold action.

As a trustee I will commit myself to increasing transparency and democratic representation within our union. I also commit to making your voice heard, and to put my money where my mouth is, my CAPS email is robrossi.caps@gmail.com. I will advocate for the following positions:

- Biannual town halls for all BU 10 members
- Amending the bylaws to add additional rank-and-file Member-at-Large positions for each salary group
- Amending the bylaws to clarify the elections process
- Increasing the transparency of CAPS processes, especially political endorsements
- Advocating for escalating actions

Regarding the trustee specific duties, I have never worked for CalHR so I am fully aware of the concept of mathematics, and despite not being an engineer, am confident I have the math chops for those duties. Jokes aside I take responsibility seriously - CAPS cannot be a strong organization unless our operations are transparent and honest.

Learn more: <https://rossi4capstrustee.carrd.co/>

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