

March 23, 2024

All SMART-TD Members,

It is with great pride and excitement that I announce my endorsement of Jeremy Ferguson for the position of SMART-TD President.

I have been a member of this Organization since 1990. I have known Brother Jeremy Ferguson for almost 30 years. Jeremy is one of the most capable and dedicated Union Brothers I have ever known.

Jeremy has excelled in the capacity of SMART-TD President since his overwhelming election victory in 2019. No other President has had to confront a once in a century pandemic. Jeremy was more than up to the challenge. We now find ourselves four years since the beginning of the pandemic and membership levels in the State of Indiana are up over 20% from pre-pandemic levels. The numbers don't lie, with an Organization of this magnitude, leadership is everything. Without Jeremy's vision and work ethic, we may not have survived.

Jeremy has been a great steward of our finances. Just from the areas that I participate in, I can see the trimming of frivolous spending and the streamlining of existing processes. The mission is clearly evident- Jeremy is committed to giving our membership the best bang for their buck.

Our successes since 2019 have been in large part due to Jeremy's management skills. He is at his best when it comes to leading people. Jeremy excels in devising a gameplan and then surrounding himself with teammates who are more than capable of getting the job done. The International staff is professional and courteous with a mindset of service to the membership. This outcome derives itself from Jeremy's unmistakable leadership style.

Jeremy is, hands down, the best leader I have worked with in my 33 year union career. He is accessible. He has an attention to detail. He leads by example. He knows how and when to lead. He knows how and when to delegate responsibility. He surrounds himself with capable teammates. He truly cares about each and every member- and it shows.

Simply put, Jeremy Ferguson is not only the best person for the job, he is the one and only person for the job. I look forward to another victorious outcome this summer in Las Vegas as well as another five years of Brother Jeremy Ferguson leading this great Organization.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "K.O. Edwards". The signature is stylized, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

K.O. Edwards
Indiana State Legislative Director
SMART-TD