



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 6, 2020  
Media Contact: Travis Loop, 703.684.2465, [tloop@wef.org](mailto:tloop@wef.org)

## **Water Environment Federation Announces Graduates of 2020 Water Leadership Institute**

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – The Water Environment Federation proudly (WEF) announces the 52 graduates of its Water Leadership Institute Class of 2020.

The Water Leadership Institute program is aimed at educating and training emerging leaders and providing them with opportunities to build strong, lasting relationships within the water sector. The intensive program allows participants to engage in management training and leadership development through a blended learning approach that includes examining complex challenges facing the water and wastewater industries and networking with public and private sector practitioners. There are 291 alumni of the program, which is in its ninth year.

“The Water Leadership Institute Class of 2020 represents the range of talent that the future of the sector depends on,” said WEF President Jackie Jarrell. “We look forward to seeing the impact this impressive group will have within the profession.”

As part of their final project, the graduates created a community outreach webcast series with activity guides that can be used to promote the water sector. Each group will host a webcast to explain the outreach options they created for differing target groups ranging from elementary, middle, and high school ages through college and the public. See the series at [www.wef.org/OutreachSeries](http://www.wef.org/OutreachSeries)

The application period for the 2021 Water Leadership Institute opens in November. For more information about the Water Leadership Institute, click [here](#).

The 2020 graduates are:

Alec Mackenzie	EPCOR	Alberta
Alma Beciragic	UNC Chapel Hill	North Carolina
Ana J. Pena-Tijerina	City of Fort Worth Water Department	Texas
Ashley B. Warren	Metropolitan Water Reclamation District	Illinois
Bashar Al-Daomi	Portland State University	Oregon

Bradford Lovett	Water Environment Federation	District of Columbia
Brian Hill	Water Environment Federation	Maryland
Brian L. Tierney	Evoqua Water Technologies	Wisconsin
Christina M. Davenport	City of Bend	Oregon
David Michael Rhoten	S&ME, Inc.	Tennessee
Elaine Samuel	GM BluePlan Engineering	Ontario
Elizabeth James Guilford	Walsh Construction Company	California
Erik Asay Simmons	HDR	Washington
Felicia K. Glapion	AlexRenew	Virginia
Garrett Bergey	SDE, Inc.	Vermont
Indra Maharjan	Ontario Clean Water Agency	Ontario
Jaren Murphy	McCarthy Building Companies	Arizona
Jennifer Loconsole	Black & Veatch	Illinois
Jenny Reitz	Hampton Roads Sanitation District	Virginia
Jesse Burch	Beaver Water District	Arkansas
Jonathan Leitch	Victaulic	California
Joseph Massimo	SUEZ	Pennsylvania
K. Jennifer Cobb, P.E.	Henrico County - Department of Public Works	Virginia
Karoline Terrazas	Union Sanitary District	California
Kerry Reed	CITY OF FRAMINGHAM	Massachusetts
Kristin Johansen	City of Santa Fe	New Mexico

Kurt Kinney	Arcadis	Ohio
Lorenzo D. Freeman	City of Atlanta - Department of Watershed Management	Georgia
Louis Storino	Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago	Illinois
Marc Serna	South Coast Water District	California
Michael Brothers	City of Alabaster Environmental Services	Alabama
Nicole Stephens	Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.	North Carolina
Olga Djoumessi	N/A	Illinois
Palencia Mobley, P.E.	City of Detroit Water and Sewerage Department	Michigan
Paula Monaco	Plummer Associates, inc.	Texas
Peter Buehlmann	Brown and Caldwell	Virginia
Rebecca Erickson	South Platte Water Renewal Partners	Colorado
Roanna Purcaru	GHD	Arizona
Robert Frost	Hazen and Sawyer	New Jersey
Ryan Radspinner, P.E.	HRSD	Virginia
Saa Shemsu	Montgomery County Environmental Services	Ohio
Sabrina Ann Parker	City of Olathe	Kansas
Samantha Rucinski	SUEZ	Pennsylvania
Sarah M. Hunt	Arcadis	Ohio
Shelby Beauchemin	City of Largo	Florida
Shelley W. Porter	West Virginia American Water	West Virginia
Sophie Frances Manley	City of Chicago Department of Water Management	Illinois

Stacy Thompson	City of Saco WRRD	Maine
Stephanie Spalding	HDR	Virginia
Tayo Olatunji	DC Water	Maryland
Wes Merkle	TriCo Regional Sewer Utility	Indiana
William Searles Jr.	Kiewit Infrastructure West Company	California

###

**About WEF**

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization of 35,000 individual members and 75 affiliated Member Associations representing water quality professionals around the world. Since 1928, WEF and its members have protected public health and the environment. As a global water sector leader, our mission is to connect water professionals; enrich the expertise of water professionals; increase the awareness of the impact and value of water; and provide a platform for water sector innovation. To learn more, visit [www.wef.org](http://www.wef.org).