

A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

1. Name (Include any former names or nicknames used):

Louis Ernest Sola

2. Position to which nominated:

Commissioner of the Federal Maritime Commission

3. Date of Nomination:

4. Address (List current place of residence and office addresses):



5. Date and Place of Birth:

January 8th, 1968

Chicago, Illinois

6. Provide the name, position, and place of employment for your spouse (if married) and the names and ages of your children (including stepchildren and children by a previous marriage).

Not Married

Carolyn Sola, Recent Graduate, Florida State University, Age 22

Anthony Sola, Sophomore, University of Miami, Age 19

7. List all college and graduate degrees. Provide year and school attended.

- University of Illinois - M.S. Finance (1998): International Finance
- Nova Southeastern University - B.S. Management (1996):
- Parkland College - A.A. Western Civilization (1990):
- Defense Language Institute – Spanish (1993): Specialized in Spanish Language
- Defense Language Institute – German (1989): Specialized in German Language
- US Army Intelligence School – Interrogation (1990): Joint Interrogation Certification Course

8. List all post-undergraduate employment, and highlight all management-level jobs held and any non-managerial jobs that relate to the position for which you are nominated.

Campers & Nicholson International- Senior Sales Executive

Northrop & Johnson - Ship Broker

Evermarine - Chief Executive Officer

Arden & Price - Financial Consultant

Berkshire Financial - Consultant

Patriot Defense Group - Consultant

Florida State University - Adjunct Professor

US Army - Interrogator

US Army Reserves - Carpenter

9. Attach a copy of your resume.

Attached.

10. List any advisory, consultative, honorary, or other part-time service or positions with Federal, State, or local governments, other than those listed above, within the last ten years.

I am currently an appointed member of the Florida Board of Pilot Commissioners since 2015.

11. List all positions held as an officer, director, trustee, partner, proprietor, agent, representative, or consultant of any corporation, company, firm, partnership, or other business, enterprise, educational, or other institution within the last ten years.

Evermarine, LLC. - Agent, Officer, Director
Benetti Americas - Agent
Azimut Benetti USA - Representative
Amador Marina - Partner
J.J. Kay, Inc. - Director
Camper & Nicholsons - Broker
Northrop & Johnson - Broker
Patriot Defense Group - Consultant

12. Please list each membership you have had during the past ten years or currently hold with any civic, social, charitable, educational, political, professional, fraternal, benevolent or religious organization, private club, or other membership organization. Include dates of membership and any positions you have held with any organization. Please note whether any such club or organization restricts membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or handicap.

Marine Memorial Club 2017
International Yacht Broker Association 2017
Marine Industries Associations of South Florida 2017
American Legion 2012
Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks 2009
Diablo Spinning Club 2011
Defense Language Institute Alumni 2018
Gesu Catholic Church 2016
USAA 2010

13. Have you ever been a candidate for and/or held a public office (elected, non-elected, or appointed)? If so, indicate whether any campaign has any outstanding debt, the amount, and whether you are personally liable for that debt.

I was a Congressional Candidate and do not have any outstanding debts.
I was appointed to the Florida Board of Pilot Commissioners in 2015.

14. Itemize all political contributions to any individual, campaign organization, political party, political action committee, or similar entity of \$500 or more for the past ten years. Also list all offices you have held with, and services rendered to, a state or national political party or election committee during the same period.

2015 - Bush, 2,700; Right to Rise PAC 600
2016 - Higgins, 1,000; RNC, 60,200; Rubio, 5,400; Trump, 5,400; Conservative Solutions PAC, 2,500; RNC, 33,400; Trump Victory, 10,000
2017 - RNC, 20,000; Wicker, 5,400; Trump Victory, 35,000
2018 - Buchanan, 5,400; Cotton, 1,250; Scott, 1,000; Rounds, 3,000; Trump Victory, 2,700

15. List all scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, honorary society memberships, military medals, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievements.

Defense Language Institute Graduate: Spanish, German (Presidio Monterey, CA)
International Yacht Broker
Licensed/ Bonded Ship Broker

Captain Licence 500 Tonnes
Army Commendation Medal
Army Achievement Medal (3 awards)
Army Good Conduct Medal (2 awards)
Humanitarian Service Medal (Cuban Refugee Crisis)
National Defense Service Medal (Gulf War)
Joint Meritorious Unit Award
NonCommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (2)
Overseas Service Ribbon (2 awards)(Germany/ Panama)
Army Reserve Overseas Training Ribbon (Honduras)
Certificate of Achievement - Special Operations Command South (Puerto Rico)
Bertram Yachts, Inc. Worldwide Dealer of the Year 2006 and 2011
Azimut-Benetti 2017 Americas Sales Award (Cannes)
US Army Airborne Parachutist Badge (Ft Benning)
Expert Marksmanship Rifle Badge
US Army Interrogation Course (Ft Huachuca)
Strategic Debriefing Designation (Munich, GE)
Chemical, Biological and Nuclear Defense Course (Ft McCoy)
Illinois State Veterans Grant - University of Illinois
University of Illinois - Alumni Ambassador
Florida State University - Adjunct Professor of Finance
Montgomery GI Bill Recipient

16. Please list each book, article, column, or publication you have authored, individually or with others. Also list any speeches that you have given on topics relevant to the position for which you have been nominated. Do not attach copies of these publications unless otherwise instructed.

NA

17. Please identify each instance in which you have testified orally or in writing before Congress in a governmental or non-governmental capacity and specify the date and subject matter of each testimony.

NA

18. Given the current mission, major programs, and major operational objectives of the department/agency to which you have been nominated, what in your background or employment experience do you believe affirmatively qualifies you for appointment to the position for which you have been nominated, and why do you wish to serve in that position?

I began to serve our nation at the age of 18 and swore then an oath to defend our country. It is the greatest honor to have the opportunity once again be called to protect and ensure our nation's international maritime commercial trade, and one that I shall do my utmost for our country. The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) is the independent federal agency responsible for regulating the U.S. international ocean transportation system for the benefit of U.S. exporters, importers, and the U.S. consumer. I have over 20 years in the maritime industry as a consultant, client, and broker and have learned the operations from many viewpoints which will be beneficial and valuable.

19. What do you believe are your responsibilities, if confirmed, to ensure that the department/agency has proper management and accounting controls, and what experience do you have in managing a large organization?

If confirmed as a Commissioner of the FMC, I shall work with staff to ensure proper management and accounting controls are continued. I have worked in many organizations from academic to private practice, and always followed the advice of the legal experts. I would also work very closely with the committee and oversight.

20. What do you believe to be the top three challenges facing the department/agency, and why?

The FMC has done a great job recently with its Bureaus and Offices, but it faces major changes and challenges in the international shipping realm.

1. Tariffs and Protection of America's Imports and Exports
 - a. Many countries have subsidiary shipping industries and protectionist measures. The FMC needs to ensure that American exporters not only have fair prices, but access and availability for their goods.
2. Larger Vessels, Congestion and Demurrage in our Nation's Sea Ports
 - a. The FMC has been studying this major problem for the last few years and it will continue to be an issue until infrastructure catches up to the needs of importers and exporters.
3. Continued Transparency and Enforcement
 - a. Continue to ensure a competitive and reliable international ocean transportation supply system that supports the U.S. economy and protects the public from unfair and deceptive practices.

B. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

1. Describe all financial arrangements, deferred compensation agreements, and other continuing dealings with business associates, clients, or customers. Please include information related to retirement accounts.

Any arrangements are fully disclosed in part 3 of my Public Financial Disclosure Report.

2. Do you have any commitments or agreements, formal or informal, to maintain employment, affiliation, or practice with any business, association or other organization during your appointment? If so, please explain.

None

3. Indicate any investments, obligations, liabilities, or other relationships which could involve potential conflicts of interest in the position to which you have been nominated.

I have consulted with the Office of Government Ethics and the Federal Maritime Commission designed Agency Official and we have not identified any possible conflicts. The agreement with the FMC Agency Ethics Official per Executive Order Number 13770 has been made available to the Committee.

4. Describe any business relationship, dealing, or financial transaction which you have had during the last ten years, whether for yourself, on behalf of a client, or acting as an agent, that could in any way constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position to which you have been nominated.

I have consulted with the Office of Government Ethics and the Federal Maritime Commission designed Agency Official and we have not identified any possible conflicts. The agreement with the FMC Agency Ethics Official per Executive Order Number 13770 has been made available to the Committee.

5. Describe any activity during the past ten years in which you have been engaged for the purpose of directly or indirectly influencing the passage, defeat, or modification of any legislation or affecting the administration and execution of law or public policy.

None

6. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including any that may be disclosed by your responses to the above items.

I have consulted with the Office of Government Ethics and the Federal Maritime Commission designed Agency Official and we have not identified any possible conflicts. The agreement with the FMC Agency Ethics Official per Executive Order Number 13770 has been made available to the Committee.

C. LEGAL MATTERS

1. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics, professional misconduct, or retaliation by, or been the subject of a complaint to, any court, administrative agency, the Office of Special Counsel, professional association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? If yes:
 - a. Provide the name of agency, association, committee, or group;
 - b. Provide the date the citation, disciplinary action, complaint, or personnel action was issued or initiated;
 - c. Describe the citation, disciplinary action, complaint, or personnel action;
 - d. Provide the results of the citation, disciplinary action, complaint, or personnel action.

No

2. Have you ever been investigated, arrested, charged, or held by any Federal, State, or other law enforcement authority of any Federal, State, county, or municipal entity, other than for a minor traffic offense? If so, please explain.

No

3. Have you or any business or nonprofit of which you are or were an officer ever been involved as a party in an administrative agency proceeding, criminal proceeding, or civil litigation? If so, please explain.

Yes.

- Corporate civil commission case in Miami that was settled out of court.
- Traffic accident in Panama whereas I paid a fine and my insurance paid claim.
- I had a hospital bill dispute that was dismissed.

4. Have you ever been convicted (including pleas of guilty or *nolo contendere*) of any criminal violation other than a minor traffic offense? If so, please explain.

I plead guilty to a traffic offence when in Panama and paid a fine.

5. Have you ever been accused, formally or informally, of sexual harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, or any other basis? If so, please explain.

No

6. Please advise the Committee of any additional information, favorable or unfavorable, which you feel should be disclosed in connection with your nomination.

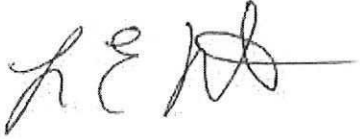
None

D. RELATIONSHIP WITH COMMITTEE

1. Will you ensure that your department/agency complies with deadlines for information set by congressional committees?
Yes
2. Will you ensure that your department/agency does whatever it can to protect congressional witnesses and whistleblowers from reprisal for their testimony and disclosures?
Yes
3. Will you cooperate in providing the Committee with requested witnesses, including technical experts and career employees, with firsthand knowledge of matters of interest to the Committee?
Yes
4. Are you willing to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Congress on such occasions as you may be reasonably requested to do so?
Yes

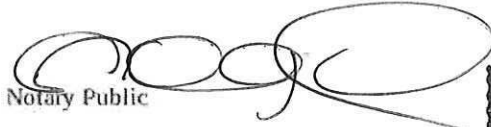
F. Affidavit

being duly sworn, hereby states that he/she has read and signed the foregoing Statement on Biographical and Financial Information and that the information provided therein is, to the best of his/her knowledge, current, accurate, and complete.

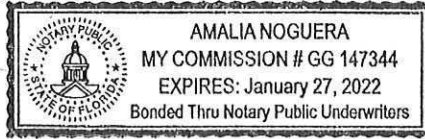


Signature of Nominee

Subscribed and sworn before me this 21 day of November, 2018.



Notary Public



Louis Sola

Miami, FL |

Experience

President

Evermarine

May 2005- Present - Florida, Panama

Founded one of the largest international marine dealerships based in Florida and on the Panama Canal. Represent luxury yacht brands Benetti and Azimut, and sport fishing lines, including: Boston Whaler and Hatteras. Distribute military and commercial patrol boats in Central and South America. Authorized service dealer for Caterpillar Marine, Cummins and Mercury.

State Commissioner

Florida Board of Pilot Commissioners

December 2015 - Present- State of Florida

Appointed by the Governor of Florida, and Confirmed by the Florida Senate. The Board is responsible for licensing and regulating harbor pilots. The board meets regularly to consider applications for license, to review disciplinary cases, and to conduct informal hearings relating to license and discipline.

Senior Sales Executive

Campers & Nicholson International

Aug 2017 – Aug 2018 - Palm Beach, FL

Member of the oldest yachting company in the world for sales, service, and brokerage around the world.

Ship Broker

Northrop & Johnson

March 2016 – Aug 2017 - Miami, FL

Represent buyers and sellers with an emphasis on Florida and Latin America clients. Realize clients' marine objectives. Licensed - bonded Ship and Yacht Broker.

Financial Consultant

Berkshire Financial Services

May 1998 – May 2004 - Central America

Developed international finance strategies and reported to the principle partners. Focused on maritime sector (ports, free zones, ship repairs) and management of greenfield projects through development stages until completion. Authored major study for the Inter-American Development Bank on creating a Central American Index Fund through the region's equity markets.

Adjunct Professor

Florida State University

September 1999 - January 2001 - Florida State University Panama Campus

Taught classes in small business, finance, investment evaluation and entrepreneurship.

Strategic Debriefing / Interrogator (97E)

United States Army Intelligence Corp

September 1989 – March 1997 - Munich, Germany and Panama

Performed multi-language Human and Counterintelligence operations with tours in Europe and Latin America for significant historical events, such as the 1989 Berlin Wall, The Cuban Refugee Crisis and Counter Narcotics missions in Latin America during the 1990's War on Drugs. Performed various duties from Strategic Debriefing, Force Protection and Special Operations Missions with Special Operations Command US Army South. A two-time graduate of Defense Language Institute, Monterey, California.

Carpenter and Masonry Specialist

United States Army Reserve

August 1986 – August 1989 - Kankakee, IL

Member of an Army Reserve unit for heavy construction while attending college. Unit focused on road, bridge and other earth moving operations. Spent summer breaks on duty in Central America for Humanitarian Missions.

Education

- University of Illinois - M.S. Finance (1998): Specialized study in International Finance, Investment Banking, and Entrepreneurship.
- Nova Southeastern University - B.S. Management (1996): Studies in Organizational Behavior, Marketing, and Management.
- Defense Language Institute – Spanish (1993): Specialized in Spanish Language and Culture.
- Defense Language Institute – German (1989): Specialized in German Language and Culture.
- US Army Intelligence School – Interrogation (1989): Joint Interrogation Certification Course.
- Parkland College - A.A. Western Civilization (1987): Specialized in European History.

Points of Interest

- Fluent in Spanish
- Security Clearance
- Capt Licence
- Licensed Ship Broker with Northrop and Johnson
- Humanitarian Award for Cuban Refugee Crisis
- Bertram Yachts, Inc. Worldwide Salesman of the Year 2006 and 2011
- US Army Airborne
- University of Illinois Alumni Representative for Republic of Panama
- Florida State University - Panama Campus (1998 - 2000) / Adjunct Professor - Finance and Entrepreneurship