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MAYOR-ELECT DANIEL LURIE ANNOUNCES SENIOR ADVISOR ON LABOR RELATIONS

UFCW Organizer, James Araby, to advise Mayor-elect Lurie on labor relations

SAN FRANCISCO— Today, Mayor-elect Daniel Lurie announced James Araby as his Senior Advisor on Labor Relations. Araby, a veteran labor organizer and advocate, brings decades of experience leading organizing efforts across industries including e-commerce, retail, cannabis, and agriculture. His leadership at United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 5 has been instrumental in driving policy changes and empowering workers across Northern California.

*“I’m honored to have Jim Araby onboard as our Senior Advisor on Labor Relations,” **said Mayor-elect Daniel Lurie.** “Jim’s unwavering commitment to fighting for workers’ rights and creating opportunities for hardworking San Franciscans exemplifies a true track record of service. We share a vision for a city where workers are safe, valued, and can afford to live where they work. Together, we will ensure San Francisco’s workforce remains the backbone of our thriving city.”*

James Araby is the Director of Strategic Campaigns for UFCW Local 5, a 25,000-member union based in the San Francisco Bay Area. Mr. Araby works across Northern California to build political power for UFCW members, who work in the grocery, retail, retail drug, cannabis, and agricultural industries. Running political campaigns, raising money for labor-friendly candidates, and building political coalitions to win local and state campaigns is the focus of the political work for UFCW. In addition to the political work, Mr. Araby leads UFCW 5’s organizing department. Since 2019 UFCW 5 has organized over 2,000 workers into the union in the cannabis, e-commerce, retail drug, adult retail, bookstores, and recreational equipment industries. Mr. Araby

designs the organizing campaigns from first contact to first contract, which encompasses building strategies to develop outreach programs, leadership development and eventually bargaining campaigns to win first contracts. Mr. Araby serves on the advisory board at the UC-Berkeley Labor Center, is a former appointee on California's Interagency Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (IACA) and is a former board chair for CORO Northern California. Mr. Araby also advises local non-profits and political leaders on matters related to housing, labor, and politics.

*“San Francisco’s workers are the lifeblood of this city. I am excited about the Mayor-elect’s commitment to make this city work for all people and the accountability, service, and change that he is going to bring on Day one,” said **James Araby, Senior Advisor on Labor Relations to Mayor-elect Lurie.** “I could not be more excited to work with him to ensure the interests of working people are well represented in City Hall.”*

Before joining UFCW 5, Mr. Araby was the Executive Director of UFCW Western States Council, where he led coalitions in California to pass first in the nation laws on: paid-sick days, banning plastic bags, worker retention in the grocery industry and regulating medical cannabis. Jim has spent over twenty years in the labor movement working in the states of California, Arizona, Nevada and Colorado on a range of policy and political issues as well as help shaping local unions organizing and political strategy in the education, health care and retail sectors. Mr. Araby was born and raised in Boston, MA and attended school in Hawaii where he met his wife, Trina Araby. Mr. Araby and Trina have two children.

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Daniel Lurie is the Mayor-Elect of the City and County of San Francisco.