

Protecting New England Communities from Forever Chemicals

Featuring

U.S. Representative Jake Auchincloss

September 5, 2025 - UMass Club - Boston, MA

AGENDA

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration & Networking

9:00 – 9:10 a.m. Welcome Remarks

James T. Brett, President & CEO
The New England Council

9:10 – 9:45 a.m.

Fireside Chat with U.S. Rep. Jake Auchincloss (D-MA)

Moderated by Jeff Rose
Vice President, Government Relations and Public Policy
Battelle

9:45 – 10:00 a.m.

Audience Q&A

Moderated by Jeff Rose

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. Panel Discussion

Moderator:

Daniel Rush, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Strategy and Transformation,
Waters Corporation

Panelists:

- Phil Brown, Ph.D., University Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Health Sciences; Director, Social Science Environmental Health Research Institute, Northeastern University
- John Gardella, Esq., Co-Owner, CMBG3 Law
- Jon Petali, Ph.D., Human Health Risk Assessor, Battelle

10:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Audience Q&A with Panelists

Moderated by Daniel Rush



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SPEAKER & PANEL BIOGRAPHIES

U.S. Representative Jake Auchincloss **Massachusetts 4th Congressional District**

Congressman Jake Auchincloss is serving his third term representing the Massachusetts Fourth. In addition to his work on the House Committee on Energy & Commerce, his areas of focus include healthcare, clean energy, gun violence, and building a strong middle class.

Jake was born and raised in Newton, Massachusetts, the son of a surgeon and a scientist. They showed him the value of curiosity and hard work. From the moment he could read, Jake loved American history.

After graduating from Harvard College, Jake joined the Marines. He commanded infantry in Afghanistan and special operations in Panama.

Upon returning home, Jake continued his service as a three-term city councilor in Newton. While working at City Hall on nights and weekends, Jake built a career in business, running product development at both a Fortune 100 insurance company and a cybersecurity startup. He has degrees in Economics and Finance from Harvard University and MIT Sloan.

Today, Jake lives in Newton with his wife, Michelle, and their children, Teddy, Grace, and Audrey (along with their Labrador Retriever, Donut).

Jeff Rose **Vice President, Government Relations and Public Policy** **Battelle**

Jeffrey Rose serves as the Vice President of Government Affairs and Public Policy for Battelle's Applied Science and Technology Organization. Jeff is responsible the development and execution of outreach, advocacy, and strategy before Congress, federal agencies, and elected officials. Jeff works closely with senior leaders within the business to develop and advance Battelle's budget, policy and legislative priorities.

Prior to joining Battelle in June of 2018, Jeff served two terms running New Hampshire state agencies as a cabinet-level appointee. Jeff's agencies were responsible for the economic development, travel & tourism, parks & recreation, forestry & land management, and cultural resources within the Granite State. Jeff earned a reputation for working effectively with both sides of the political aisle, having successfully served in both Republican and Democratic administrations.



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Daniel Rush, Ph.D.

Senior Vice President, Strategy and Transformation Waters Corporation

Dr. Daniel Rush was appointed Senior Vice President, Strategy and Transformation of Waters Corporation in 2021. In this role, he collaborates with the Executive Committee to develop and operationalize worldwide enterprise strategy, shares responsibility for M&A, and leads the Global Research function.

Prior to joining Waters, Dan served as Vice President, Worldwide Commercialization Strategy & Innovation at Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS), where he led its digital customer model transformation and was responsible for implementing a novel innovation system across Commercial, Medical and Market Access. Prior to BMS, he spent eight years at Novartis in a variety of sales, marketing, and strategy leadership roles, including Head of Global Pharma Strategy, U.S. Launch Lead for Afinitor® and U.S. Marketing Director for Zometa®.

Dan began his career as a chemist in Pharmaceutical R&D at Merck, following a post-doc in materials science at the University of California, Irvine and Sandia National Laboratories.

He earned a B.A. in chemistry and history from Bowdoin College and a Ph.D. in physical organic chemistry from Yale University.



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Phil Brown, Ph.D.

**University Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Health Sciences; Director, Social Science Environmental Health Research Institute
Northeastern University**

Phil Brown joined Northeastern University in 2012 after 32 years at Brown University. He is University Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Health Sciences, and director of the Social Science Environmental Health Research Institute (SSEHRI), which extends the work of the Contested Illnesses Research Group, which started in 1999 at Brown. SSEHRI has many federal research and training grants from both NIH and NSF, and foundation grants from The JPB Foundation, involving collaboration between social science and environmental health science, including a decade and a half of work with Silent Spring Institute. SSEHRI trains graduate students and postdocs in this interdisciplinary work, including the NIEHS-funded T-32 Training Program, "Transdisciplinary Training at the Intersection of Environmental Health and Social Science."

Phil Brown is the author of *No Safe Place: Toxic Waste, Leukemia, and Community Action*, *Toxic Exposures: Contested Illnesses and the Environmental Health Movement*, and co-editor of *Illness and the Environment: A Reader in Contested Medicine*, *Social Movements in Health*, and *Contested Illnesses: Citizens, Science and Health Social Movements*. His current research includes multiple projects on per- and polyfluorinated compounds (PFAS) (biomonitoring, analysis of activism, water monitoring, policy analysis), biomonitoring and household exposure, social policy concerning flame retardants, ethics of reporting back research data to participants, data privacy, and health social movements. This work combines environmental sociology, medical sociology, environmental health, science and technology studies, and social movement studies. Much of this work is community-based participatory research involving environmental health and justice organizations. Phil Brown received the Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution to Environmental Sociology Award from the American Sociological Association's Environment and Technology Section in 2006, and the Leo G. Reeder Award for Distinguished Contribution to Medical Sociology Award from the American Sociological Association's Medical Sociology Section in 2012.

Phil Brown is a co-founder and member of the Steering Committee of the Environmental Data and Governance Initiative (EDGI), which analyzes federal environmental data, websites, institutions, and policy through: 1) archiving vulnerable environmental data, 2) monitoring changes to information about the environment, energy, and climate on federal websites, 3) interviewing federal employees about threats and changes to environmental health agencies, and 4) imagining, conceptualizing, and moving toward Environmental Data Justice. He has led the writing of successful proposals for EDGI from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

Phil Brown's work on the Jewish experience in the Catskills includes an original work, *Catskill Culture: A Mountain Rat's Memories of the Great Jewish Resort Area*, an edited volume *In the Catskills: A Century Of The Jewish Experience In "The Mountains,"* and the co-edited *Summer Haven: The Catskills, the Holocaust, and the Literary Imagination*. He is founder and president of the Catskills Institute, a research organization that contains the world's largest archive of material on the Jewish experience in the Catskills, much of it on a website with library-quality metadata: <https://catskillsinstitute.northeastern.edu/>.



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John Gardella, Esq.

Co-Owner

CMBG3 Law

John Gardella is a co-owner of CMBG3 Law and a trial attorney with over 19 years of environmental litigation experience and over 75 cases tried to verdict. He is Chair of the firm's Environmental and PFAS practice groups and represents companies in PFAS litigation, including class action, pollution, injury and medical monitoring cases. For his work in environmental and PFAS related matters, Mr. Gardella was recognized as one of the Top 20 Environmental Lawyers in Massachusetts. In addition to his litigation work, Mr. Gardella guides companies through PFAS compliance needs, including compliance with state-level product reporting obligations and numerous U.S. federal, state and E.U. specific PFAS regulations. He assists companies with risk assessment efforts related to PFAS, including developing diligence programs internally to minimize future compliance and litigation risks. Mr. Gardella is a nationally recognized thought leader on the subject of PFAS and is a frequent speaker and author on the subject of PFAS. He is regularly sought after for his thought leadership by media, including Bloomberg, Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post, and was named one of the Top 20 Environmental Lawyers in Massachusetts for his work on PFAS matters for companies.

Jonathan Petali, Ph.D.

Human Health Risk Assessor

Battelle

Dr. Jonathan Petali is a Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology (DABT) with six years of experience related to human health risk assessment and environmental toxicology. To date, his career has focused the application of exposure science to address public health and regulatory problems caused by emerging contaminants (e.g., per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances). Jon's professional knowledge includes USEPA risk assessment methods for contaminated sites, such as Superfund and DOD investigations, as well as firsthand experience as a state toxicologist addressing contamination issues through the interface of local, state and federal regulations. Additionally, Jon participates in federally funded research grants with academic partners, cross-sector technical workgroups, and he possesses a wide range of experience with risk communication and community engagement related to environmental health issues. He obtained his PhD in Environmental Toxicology from the University of Nebraska Medical Center, and a Bachelors in Biological Science from Wright State University.



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