

AFICS/New York 2026 Nominating Committee Report by Sudershan Narula
At 56 Annual Assembly on 29 May 2026

Good afternoon to all the worldwide AFICS/New York members!

As you may know, AFICS/New York conducts its Governing Board elections through its Nominating Committee designated by its President, and I am Sudershan Narula, once again one of the Co-Chairs of that committee.

The **2026 Nominating Committee** is comprised of four members, and is Co-chaired by **Mr. Furio DeTomassi and me**, the other two members being **Mr. Jay Karia** and **Mr. Andy Nye**.

By way of background, please note that since 2021, and as approved by the Governing Board, the AFICS/New York Nominating Committee has been conducting composite/hybrid elections with the help of Election Services Company (ESC), an **online election company**.

However, in 2026 the Governing Board decided that 2026 governing board election and such elections in future will be carried out by electronic voting only.

For those members who don't have access to email but have access to a computer and the internet, we also arranged a way for them to access the voting site, and they were all informed by a letter sent to each one of them by the nominating committee.

ESC is a specialized company, completely independent from AFICS/New York, tasked with **conducting on its own the electronic voting process**

Therefore, in this connection, this year's ballots were sent to you **via your email** through the **Election Services company and all ballots cast by you were sent directly to them**.

And before that a notification was sent by the AFICS/NY Nominating Committee to all of you about the Governing Board election process and alerting you to the fact that you will receive direct notifications from ESC.

But the election package containing nominated candidates' bios, ballots, and the voting instructions that was sent out by them was prepared by the **Nominating Committee** who also nominates the candidates, and the vendor was only **responsible for its distribution and managing the entire voting process**.

As you know, 22nd May was the deadline for voting, we received the results on 27 May, and everybody is going to get the election results at the same time.

The Governing Board is going to learn of the results of the election when I announce it today at the 56th Annual Assembly of AFICS/NY. The ballots were neither **received nor counted by AFICS/NY Governing Board members or the nominating committee.**

Please note that while typically ESC stores the ballots only for 30 days from the time they issue the results, upon our request they have agreed to store the ballots for one year at no additional charge **This is most helpful in case someone challenges the election results.**

I am soon going to announce the results of the GB elections, and I am sure you have been eagerly waiting for that.

Before announcing the results of the AFICS/NY 2026 Governing Board elections, I wish to thank on behalf of the Nominating Committee **all the nominated candidates** whether they volunteered to run for the elections or accepted our invitation and **all the members who voted.**

And our special thanks to the **president, the bureau and board** for trusting the committee to independently conduct GB elections even though the committee is designated by the **Association's** president as per the Afics/NY by-laws and the rules of procedure of the GB.

And finally, my thanks to Mr. Furio DeTomassi , the other Co-Chairs of the Nominating Committee 2026, and Mr. Jay Karia and Mr. Andy Nye, the other two committee members, for their commitment to the committee's work.

Here are the names of the **eleven** candidates who got the greatest number of votes in alphabetical order, the way they were listed on the ballot and **results will also be posted on the Association's website soon after this meeting:**

1. ALIPUI, Nicholas (incumbent)
2. BHATIA, Renu
3. DELLA ROCCA, Robin (incumbent)
4. FUENTES CONTE, Pilar (incumbent)
5. KASPER, Ingrid
6. LEGASPI, Maria Aurita (Marita)
7. PAWLIK, Regina
8. POZENEL, Jay (incumbent)
9. ROTH, Christine H.
10. TURKOZ-COSSLETT, Gulden (incumbent)
11. WITHERSPOON, Elma

Congratulations to all of you and we look forward to working with you!