

## Headlines:

DOE – licenses to import/export LNG;  
CBP – quarterly interest rates;  
MARAD – MOA with ABS re NDRF vessels;  
NAP – The Arctic in the Anthropocene;  
House – bill introduced re tsunami warning;  
House – bill introduced re marine renewable energy research;  
House – bill introduced re marine sanctuary designation;  
Senate – bill introduced re recreational vessels;  
Court – maintenance and cure;  
Court – settlement agreement trumps emails;  
California – seeking Marine Safety Specialists;  
Panama Canal – agreement to complete expansion; and  
Coast Guard Day.

August 4, 2014



# Bryant's Maritime News

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*Note: This newsletter is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](http://brymar-consulting.com) website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining [Dennis Bryant](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) directly. Much of the highlighted text in this newsletter constitutes links to Internet sites providing more detailed information. Links on this page may be in PDF format, requiring use of Adobe Acrobat Reader. Comments on these postings are encouraged and may be made by email to the editor or by going to the blog page on the website and clicking the envelope that appears at the end of each posting. Be aware that the daily newsletter is a single posting, even though it contains a number of individual items. The search for intelligent life on the third planet continues.*

## **DOE – licenses to import/export LNG**



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a notice listing recent orders granting authority to import and export natural gas, to import and export liquefied natural gas, and vacating prior authority. [79 Fed. Reg. 45185](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2014/08/04/2014-15851) (August 4, 2014).

## CBP – quarterly interest rates



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice announcing the quarterly interest rates. For the quarter beginning 1 July, the interest rate for overpayments will be 2% for corporations and 3% for non-corporations, and the interest payments for underpayments will be 3% for both. [79 Fed. Reg. 45214](#) (August 4, 2014).

## MARAD – MOA with ABS re NDRF vessels



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a [news release](#) stating that a memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been signed with the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) establishing policies and procedures for the survey and classification of vessels of the National Defense Reserve Fleet (NDRF). (8/1/14).

## NAP – The Arctic in the Anthropocene



The National Academies Press released the book "[The Arctic in the Anthropocene: Emerging Research Questions](#)". (8/1/14).

## House – bill introduced re tsunami warning



Representative Bonamici (D-OR) introduced a bill (H.R. 5309) to authorize and strengthen the tsunami detection, forecast, warning, research, and mitigation program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Bonamici issued a [press release](#) explaining the measure. (7/31/14).

## House – bill introduced re marine renewable energy research



Representative Deutch (D-FL) introduced a bill (H.R. 5335) to promote marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy research and development, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (7/31/14).

## House – bill introduced re marine sanctuary designation



Representative Young (R-AK) introduced a bill (H.R. 5389) to amend the National Marine Sanctuaries Act to prescribe an additional requirement for the designation of marine sanctuaries off the coast of Alaska. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (7/31/14).

## Senate – bill introduced re recreational vessels



Senator Schumer (D-NY) introduced a bill (S. 2774) to require all recreational vessels to have and to post passenger capacity limits and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (8/1/14).

## Court – maintenance and cure



The US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit vacated the granting of a summary judgment award in favor of a fishing vessel owner, holding that plaintiff seafarer had adduced sufficient evidence to support a finding that his aplastic anemia arose or became aggravated during his service on the vessel, triggering the duty of maintenance and cure. **Ramirez v. Carolina Dream, Inc.**, No 13-2109 (1st Cir., July 28, 2014). *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Keith Heard of **Burke & Parsons**.*

## Court – settlement agreement trumps emails



The US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled that emails between the parties did not amend a written settlement agreement between the parties concerning a maritime contract dispute. **Celtic Marine v. James C. Justice Companies**, No.

## California – seeking Marine Safety Specialists



The California State Lands Commission (SLC) seeks qualified applicants for the positions of **Marine Safety Specialist I** and **Marine Safety Specialist II**. Applications must be received by 22 September. (8/1/14).

## Panama Canal – agreement to complete expansion



The Panama Canal Authority issued a **press release** stating that the variation to the original contract for the Canal Expansion Project has been fully incorporated. The Project is now 78% complete. (8/1/14).

## Coast Guard Day



Today, August 4, is the 224th anniversary of the enactment of legislation establishing the **Revenue Cutter Service** (RCS), the forerunner of today's US Coast Guard. While nominally intended to enforce the collection of revenue from imported cargoes, the service was engaged in multiple missions from the beginning. Over time, other agencies and functions were merged into it. In 1915, with the merger of the RCS and the Life-Saving Service, the name of the agency was changed to the **United States Coast Guard**. An illustrious history, a proud present, and an exciting future!

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