

Headlines:

White House – maritime transportation system championed;
Puerto Rico – investigations following collision;
Ohio River – collision results in two fatalities;
Jacksonville – report on bridge allision;
USCG – amendments to Title 46, CFR;
New York – security zones proposed;
DOJ – K-Line to plead guilty to price-fixing;
GAO – national freight transportation strategy;
EC – LNG as a marine fuel; and
Arctic Council – working group meeting.

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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. I'm just a visitor from the twentieth century.

White House – maritime transportation system championed



The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a [news release](#) [found at <http://www.transportation.gov/fastlane/port-virginia-prepares-future>] stating that Vice President Joe Biden at an event in Norfolk, Virginia highlighted the importance of the maritime transportation system to the nation's economy. (9/26/14).

Puerto Rico – investigations following collision



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) [found at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2298506/>] stating that on 23 September there was a collision between the USCGC Key Largo and the US Virgin

Islands fishing vessel Sea Shepard in waters near Vieques Island, Puerto Rico. There were no injuries, but the fishing vessel was damaged and subsequently sank. Three investigations (one by the National Transportation Safety Board [NTSB] and two by the US Coast Guard) have commenced. (9/26/14).

Ohio River – collision results in two fatalities



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2298902/) [found at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2298902/>] stating that a collision between a towboat and a pleasure craft on the Ohio River has resulted in two fatalities. The incident is under investigation. (9/26/14). *Note: Unofficial reports indicate that the two deceased were FBI employees.*

Jacksonville – report on bridge allision



The US Coast Guard issued its [findings and recommendations](http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/Misc/Mathews_Bridge_Allision_130926.pdf) [found at http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/Misc/Mathews_Bridge_Allision_130926.pdf] regarding its investigation of the allision of the USNS 1st LT Harry L. Martin with the John Mathews Bridge on the St. Johns River in Jacksonville on 26 September 2013. At the time, the vessel was under tow from one facility in the Jacksonville area to another. As it passed under the fixed bridge, the stern ramp made contact with the bottom of the span. Investigation revealed that the air draft of the vessel was five feet greater than shown in the vessel's records. Investigation also revealed that the air gap of the bridge was six feet lower than shown in the records of the bridge owner and the federal government. (9/26/14). *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend James McLaughlin of the Jacksonville Marine Transportation Exchange.*

USCG – amendments to Title 46, CFR



The US Coast Guard promulgated a rule making non-substantive changes to Title 46, Code of Federal Regulations. The amendments come into effect immediately. [79 Fed. Reg. 58270](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-09-29/pdf/2014-21994.pdf) [found at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-09-29/pdf/2014-21994.pdf>] (9/29/14).

New York – security zones proposed



The US Coast Guard proposes to convert the three regulated navigation areas (RNAs) for dignitary arrival/departure and United Nations meetings in

New York to security zones. Comments on the proposal must be received by 29 October. 79 Fed. Reg. 58298 [found at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-09-29/pdf/2014-23171.pdf>] (9/29/14).

DOJ – K-Line to plead guilty to price-fixing



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a **news release** [found at <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/japanese-company-agrees-plead-guilty-price-fixing-ocean-shipping-services-cars-and-trucks>] stating that Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha Ltd (K-Line) has agreed to plead guilty and to pay a \$67.7 million criminal fine for its involvement in a conspiracy to fix prices, allocate customers, and rig bids of international ocean shipping services for roll-on, roll-off cargo to and from the United States and elsewhere. K-Line has agreed to cooperate with the Department's ongoing antitrust investigation. (9/26/14).

GAO – national freight transportation strategy



The Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued a report on the national freight transportation strategy. The report recommends that Congress should consider clarifying the purpose of the primary freight network and revise the current mileage limit requirements. It also recommends that the Department of Transportation (DOT) clarify the federal role for mitigating local freight-related congestion. **GAO-14-740** [found at <http://www.gao.gov/assets/670/665972.pdf>] (9/26/14).

EC – LNG as a marine fuel



The European Commission (EC) posted the **remarks** [found at http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-14-626_en.htm?locale=en] of Siim Kallas, VP of the EC responsible for transport, regarding projects to make liquefied natural gas (LNG) available for use as a marine fuel in Baltic Sea ports. (9/25/14).

Arctic Council – working group meeting



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a **press release** [found at <http://www.bsee.gov/BSEE-Newsroom/BSEE-News-Briefs/2014/BSEE-Attends-Arctic-Council-Working-Group-Meeting-in-Canada/>] stating that a meeting of the Arctic Council's Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME) was recently held in Whitehorse, Canada. The working group addresses policy and non-emergency pollution prevention and control measures related to the protection of the Arctic marine environment from both

land and sea activities. The US delegation included representatives from BSEE, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the US Coast Guard. (9/26/14).

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If you have questions regarding the above items, please contact the editor:

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