

## Headlines:

USPS – Coast Guard Forever stamp;  
MARAD – Maritime Security Program proposal;  
FMC - \$1,227,500 in civil penalties collected;  
Court – expert evidence; and  
UN – Russia submits claim for the North Pole.

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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. The proposal is all very well in practice, but it'll never work in theory.*

## USPS – Coast Guard Forever stamp



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2575462/) [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2575462/>] stating that the US Postal Service (USPS) is issuing a U.S. Coast Guard Forever stamp in commemoration of the service's 225 years of service to the nation. (8/4/15).

## MARAD – Maritime Security Program proposal



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) proposes to amend its regulations regarding the Maritime Security Program (MSP) to implement recent statutory changes. Among other things, the proposal would make changes to vessel eligibility, authorize the extension of current MSP Operating Agreements, establish a new procedure for award of new MSP Operating Agreements, extend the MSP through fiscal year 2025, update the Operating Agreement payments and schedule of payments, and eliminate the Maintenance and Repair Pilot Program. Comments on the proposal must be received by 5 October. **80 Fed.**

Reg. 46527 [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-08-05/pdf/2015-19254.pdf>] (8/5/15).

### FMC – \$1,227,500 in civil penalties collected



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.fmc.gov/NR15-13/>] stating that it has completed compromise agreements recovering a total of \$1,227,500 in civil penalties. The agreements were reached with seven non-vessel-operating common carriers (NVOCCs) and one vessel-operating common carrier (VOCC). (8/4/15).

### Court – expert evidence



The US Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit reversed the district court's summary judgment in favor of a cruise ship operator and remanded the matter for reconsideration. Plaintiff passenger brought suit against the cruise ship operator after she slipped and fell on the deck of the ship's pool, fracturing her wrist. At trial, the court excluded much of plaintiff's expert evidence on the applicable coefficient of friction (COF) standard and the COF on this pool deck. The appellate court ruled that denial of such evidence was an abuse of discretion. **Sorrels v. NCL (Bahamas) Ltd**, No. 13-15858 (11th Cir., August 4, 2015) [located at <http://media.ca11.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/files/201315858.pdf>].

### UN – Russia submits claim for the North Pole



The United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea issued a **notice** [located at [http://www.un.org/depts/los/clcs\\_new/submissions\\_files/submission\\_rus\\_rev1.htm](http://www.un.org/depts/los/clcs_new/submissions_files/submission_rus_rev1.htm)] stating that the Russian Federation presented a partially revised submission regarding the limits of its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the breadth of its territorial sea is measured with respect to the Arctic Ocean. An **Executive Summary** [located at [http://www.un.org/depts/los/clcs\\_new/submissions\\_files/rus01\\_rev15/2015\\_08\\_03\\_Exec\\_Summary\\_English.pdf](http://www.un.org/depts/los/clcs_new/submissions_files/rus01_rev15/2015_08_03_Exec_Summary_English.pdf)] of the submission has also been posted.

(8/3/15). *Note: The Russian claim includes most of the continental shelf north of Russia to and slightly beyond the geographic North Pole. Ho! Ho! Ho!*

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