

Headlines:

NTSB – El Faro update;
USCG – CFV mandatory safety exams;
DOE – CNG export approved;
DOT – SLSDC employees honored;
Court – remand of asbestos cases; and
Texas – The Responder newsletter.

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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. Information is not lost in a black hole – it is merely misplaced in the dark.

NTSB – El Faro update



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a [press release](http://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/PR20151020.aspx) [located at <http://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/PR20151020.aspx>] providing an update on its investigation into the sinking of the cargo ship El Faro. Among other things, it states that the master called the company during the hurricane to report that there had been a hull breach, a scuttle had blown open, and there was water in hold number three. He also stated that the ship had lost propulsion. (10/20/15).

USCG – CFV mandatory safety exams



The US Coast Guard issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) providing clarification about the five-year mandatory dockside safety exam that applies to many commercial fishing vessels (CFVs). [MSIB 12-15](#)

[located at http://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/012_15_10-20-2015.pdf]
(10/20/15).

DOE – CNG export approved



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.energy.gov/articles/energy-department-authorizes-emera-cng-llc-s-application-export-compressed-natural-gas>] stating that the application of Emera CNG, LLC to export compressed natural gas from its proposed facility at the Port of Palm Beach has been approved. (10/20/15).

DOT – SLSDC employees honored



The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/us-transportation-secretary-foxx-honors-first-responders-seaway-employees-saint>] stating that Secretary Anthony Foxx recognized the first responders and Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) employees who were part of the exceptional response effort in June when the cruise ship Saint Laurent, with nearly 300 people aboard, hit a concrete bumper while entering the Eisenhower Lock, ensuring the safety of the individuals and stabilization of the ship. (10/20/15).

Court – remand of asbestos cases



The US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit affirmed the remand to state court of claims arising from plaintiffs' alleged exposure to asbestos aboard vessels operated or owned by the various defendants. **Bartel v Alcoa Steamship Company**, No. 1530004 (5th Cir., October 19, 2015) [located at <http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/15/15-30004-CVo.pdf>].

Texas – The Responder newsletter



The Texas General Land Office (GLO) posted the September 2015 edition of **The Responder** newsletter. Included in this edition are, among other things, articles concerning a naphtha spill in the Houston Ship Channel and the importance of natural disaster recovery and oil spill response training. (10/20/15).

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

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