

Headlines:

NTSB – El Faro docket opened;
Western Rivers – navigation restrictions;
USCG – Proceedings;
Court – LHWCA attorneys' fees;
Hong Kong – compliance with COLREGS;
Singapore – sanctions re Cote d'Ivoire; and
Singapore – maritime health declaration terminated.

January 4, 2016



Bryant's Maritime News

Bryant's Maritime Consulting - 4845 SW 91st Way - Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 - USA

Tel: 1-352-692-5493 – Email: dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com – Internet: <http://brymar-consulting.com>

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. One must never blatantly assume the existence of right triangles.

NTSB – El Faro docket opened



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/PRO1032016.aspx>] announcing the opening of the accident docket regarding the sinking of the cargo ship El Faro in the Atlantic Ocean in October 2015 and the release of underwater images and video of the wreck. Twenty eight US merchant mariners and five Polish workers lost their lives when the vessel sank in about 15,000 feet of water near Crooked Island, Bahamas. (1/3/16).

Western Rivers – navigation restrictions



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2772370/) [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2772370/>] compiling the various navigation restrictions established on different portions of the Western Rivers (primarily the Mississippi River and its tributaries) due to high water and fast currents. These restrictions are subject to change. (1/3/16).

USCG – Proceedings



The US Coast Guard published the latest edition of the [Proceedings](http://www.uscg.mil/proceedings/) of the Marine Safety & Security Council [located at <http://www.uscg.mil/proceedings/>]. This edition focuses on “Improving Maritime Safety”. (Winter 2015-2016).

Court – LHWCA attorneys’ fees



The US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled that the relevant community for determining the proxy market rate for attorneys’ fees in a Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act (LHWCA) case is the local area where the work is performed. Petitioner had been awarded benefits under the LHWCA and the administrative law judge (ALJ) also awarded attorneys’ fees. Petitioner sought review, contending that the ALJ’s award was an estimate and not based on the evidence submitted showing the comparable rate in the local area. The court agreed and vacated the lower award, remanding the matter for appropriate action. [Shirrod v. OWCP](#), No. 13-70613 (9th Cir., December 31, 2015) [located at <http://cdn.ca9.uscourts.gov/datastore/opinions/2015/12/31/13-70613.pdf>].

Hong Kong – compliance with COLREGS



The Hong Kong Marine Department issued a [notice](http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/notices/pdf/mdn15183.pdf) [located at <http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/notices/pdf/mdn15183.pdf>] reminding mariners to strictly comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, especially in poor visibility. (12/31/15).

Singapore – sanctions re Cote d’Ivoire



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular reminding stakeholders of the United Nations Security Council sanctions with regard to Cote d’Ivoire. **Shipping Circular 32-2015** [located at http://www.mpa.gov.sg/sites/circulars_and_notices/pdfs/shipping_circulars/sc_no_32_of_2015.pdf] (12/21/15).

Singapore – maritime health declaration terminated



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular stating that Guinea has been declared free of Ebola virus disease (EVD) transmission. Therefore, the requirement for the compulsory maritime health declaration for ships arriving in Singapore has terminated. **Port Marine Circular 14-2015** [located at http://www.mpa.gov.sg/sites/circulars_and_notices/pdfs/port_marine_circulars/pc15-14.pdf] (12/31/15).

Join our mailing list



If you are not receiving our almost daily electronic newsletter and would like have it sent directly to your email inbox, please right-click the box below and provide your email address.

Join Our Mailing List!



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

Dennis L. Bryant

Bryant’s Maritime Consulting
4845 SW 91st Way
Gainesville, FL 32608-8135
USA

1-352-692-5493
dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com

<http://brymar-consulting.com>

© Dennis L. Bryant – January 2016

 Redistribution permitted with attribution