Headlines:
USCG – Subchapter M correction notice.
Mississippi River – body of late master recovered;
FMC – Daniel B. Maffei sworn in as Commissioner;
FAA – commercial space launches and reentries;
Court – failure to assert admiralty jurisdiction;
Alaska – marine debris cleanup; and
California – Prevention First Symposium.

July 20, 2016

Bryant's Maritime News

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USCG – Subchapter M correction notice

The US Coast Guard issued a notice announcing the correction of three dates in the Subchapter M – Inspection of Towing Vessels – final rule. (7/19/16) [http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2016/07/19/7192016-correction-notice-for-subchapter-m-inspection-of-towing-vessels/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+MaritimeCommons+%28Maritime+Commons%29].

Mississippi River – body of late master recovered

The US Coast Guard issued a news release stating that the body of the late master of a bulk carrier has been recovered. The master fell into the Lower Mississippi River near Donaldsonville while boarding his vessel from a crew boat. (7/19/16) [http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2866666/].

FMC – Daniel B. Maffei sworn in as Commissioner

The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a news release stating that former congressman Daniel B. Maffei has been sworn in as a Commissioner of the FMC for a term ending 30 June 2017. (7/19/16) [http://www.fmc.gov/NR16-12/].

FAA – commercial space launches and reentries

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) promulgated a final rule changing the collective risk limits for commercial space launches and reentries and clarifying the risk limit used to establish hazard areas for ships and aircraft. The changes, which enter into effect on 19 September, reflect the government's greater experience with commercial launches and reentries. 81 Fed. Reg. 47017 (7/20/16) [ ].

Court – failure to assert admiralty jurisdiction

The US Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit ruled that the doctrine of laches applies only if admiralty jurisdiction is asserted. In an action by an Alabama corporation alleging defendant tortiously interfered with a contract between plaintiff and a third party for charter of a barge, the district court did not err in applying Alabama, rather than Minnesota law, as Alabama's interest in protecting its resident outweighed Minnesota's interest in compensating nonresident plaintiffs; nor did the court err in finding the action was barred by Alabama's two-year statute of limitations. Since plaintiff had not shown that admiralty jurisdiction was invoked by the alleged tort, the federal admiralty doctrine of laches did not apply and there was no fraudulent concealment of facts which would justify otherwise tolling the statute of limitations. Blake Marine Group v CarVal Investors, No. 15-3115 (8th Cir., July 13, 2016)

[http://media.ca8.uscourts.gov/opndir/16/07/153115P.pdf]. *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Keith Heard of Burke Parsons*.

Alaska – marine debris cleanup

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) issued a press release stating that a marine debris cleanup barge has arrived in Anchorage for offloading. The barge spent 40 days in Prince William Sound receiving tons of debris that had washed up on the shoreline. Recyclable material will be processed. Appropriate material will be repurposed. The remaining debris will be disposed of properly. (7/15/16) [http://dec.alaska.gov/commish/press_releases/2016/16-11-marine-debris-cleanup-barge-arrives-in-anchorage.pdf].

California – Prevention First Symposium

The California State Lands Commission (SLC) issued a notice stating that the 2016 Prevention First Symposium will be held on 27-28 September in Long Beach. (7/19/16) [http://www.slc.ca.gov/About/PF.html].

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

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