

Headlines:

CBP – filing electronic protests;
USCG – hypothermia, drowning & cold-water survival;
Senate – bill introduced re sea level rise;
Court – sovereign immunity;
Southeast Asia – abduction warning;
Australia – minimizing cetacean collisions; and
Australia – revalidation of certificates.

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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>

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CBP – filing electronic protests



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice stating that, effective 29 August, the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Protest Module will be the sole authorized method for filing electronic protests. **81 Fed. Reg. 49685** (7/28/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-07-28/pdf/2016-17915.pdf>].

USCG – hypothermia, drowning & cold-water survival



The US Coast Guard posted a 67-page presentation entitled **Hypothermia, Drowning & Cold-Water Survival**. (undated) [<https://www.uscg.mil/pvs/docs/Coldwater1.pdf>].

Senate – bill introduced re sea level rise



Senator Rubio (R-FL) introduced the **Assessing Coastal Areas to Assist States Act** (S. 3228) to require the Secretary of the Army to conduct a study of coastal areas in the South Atlantic Division of the Corps of Engineers to identify risks and vulnerabilities of those areas as a result of sea level rise, and for other purposes. (7/14/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-114s3228is/pdf/BILLS-114s3228is.pdf>].

Court – sovereign immunity



The US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit ruled that the Puerto Rico Ports Authority (PRPA) is not an arm of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and not entitled to sovereign immunity. In an employment discrimination suit, PRPA asserted that it was not subject to the jurisdiction of the federal court due to sovereign immunity. Following an extended analysis of the prior court decisions and the relationship between the PRPA and the Commonwealth government, the court found the PRPA to be effectively separate from the government and, thus, not entitled to immunity. **Grajales v Puerto Rico Ports Authority**, No. 15-1278 (1st Cir., July 27, 2016) [<http://media.ca1.uscourts.gov/pdf/opinions/15-1278P-01A.pdf>].

Southeast Asia – abduction warning



The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre issued a **special report** on the abduction of crew from ships in waters off eastern Sabah and the southern Philippines. When in this vicinity, ships are urged to adopt additional security measures. (7/27/16) [http://www.recaap.org/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/Download.aspx?Command=Core_Download&EntryId=455&PortalId=0&TabId=78].

Australia – minimizing cetacean collisions



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a notice providing guidance to reduce the risk of collision with cetaceans. [Marine Notice 15-2016](#) (July 2016)
[<https://apps.amsa.gov.au/MOREview/MarineNoticeExternal.html>].

Australia – revalidation of certificates



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a notice reminding Australian seafarers that many Australian certificates of competency and certificates of proficiency will expire on 31 December 2016. Mariners should not wait until the last minute to seek renewal of these certificates. [Marine Notice 14-2016](#) (July 2016)
[<https://apps.amsa.gov.au/MOREview/MarineNoticeExternal.html>].

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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>

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