

## Headlines:

White House – Northern Bering Sea climate resilience;  
USCG – medical evacuation;  
USCG – NMC Live Chat system;  
NTSB – press briefing re El Faro; and  
Panama Canal – November operations.

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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 biggest lie I tell myself is: "I don't need to write that down – I'll remember it."*

## White House – Northern Bering Sea climate resilience



President Obama issued an **Executive Order** regarding Northern Bering Sea climate resilience. It provides that federal agencies regulating, overseeing, or conducting activities in the region coordinate those activities and do so with attention to the rights, needs, and knowledge of Alaska Native tribes, the delicate and unique ecosystem, the protection of marine mammals, fish, seabirds, and other wildlife, and with appropriate coordination with the State of Alaska. A **Fact Sheet** accompanies the Order. (12/9/16)

[<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/12/09/executive-order-northern-bering-sea-climate-resilience>]. *Note: Curiously, neither the US Coast Guard nor the Department of Homeland Security is named as members of the Bering Task Force even though shipping routing measures and reduction of pollution from vessels are mentioned as topics for consideration.*

## USCG – medical evacuation



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that the USCGC Hamilton (WMSL 753) medially evacuated a crew member of the cargo ship BBC Balboa. The Russian national was suffering from symptoms consistent with appendicitis. The individual was first brought aboard Hamilton and then transferred by helicopter to a hospital on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica. (12/11/16) [<http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2908006/>].

## USCG – NMC Live Chat system



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued an **announcement** stating that its online Live Chat system is being reviewed and may be shut down in January. In that event, the customer service center will continue to serve US merchant mariners via phone and email. (12/9/16) [[https://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/shutdown\\_mariner\\_live\\_chat.pdf](https://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/shutdown_mariner_live_chat.pdf)].

## NTSB – press briefing re El Faro



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a **press release** stating that it will provide a press briefing on 13 December when additional factual documents are added to the docket concerning the loss of the cargo ship El Faro. (12/9/16) [<http://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/pr20161209.aspx>].

## Panama Canal – November operations



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory summarizing Canal operations for November. It also lists the schedule of locks maintenance outages for the remainder of the fiscal year. **Advisory 61-2016** (12/9/16) [<https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2016/a-61-2016.pdf>].

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