

Headlines:

DOJ – USN Rear Admiral sentenced to prison;
FMC – meeting on 24 May;
DOT & USCG – CGSIC meeting on 25-26 September;
BSEE – evolution of oil spill response;
Senate – USCG authorization bill introduced;
House – bill introduced re seismic activity off Florida;
House – hearing re Rigs to Reefs program;
IMO – Polar Code video;
Denmark – regulatory barriers re autonomous ships; and
New Zealand – implementation of Polar Code.

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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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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. 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. I don't need anger management; I need people to stop pissing me off.

DOJ – USN Rear Admiral sentenced to prison



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a **news release** stating that a US Navy Rear Admiral has been sentenced to 18 months in prison for lying to investigators in an attempt to conceal his 20-year illicit relationship with Leonard Glenn Francis, owner of Glenn Defense Marine Asia (GDMA), the foreign defense contractor at the center of a major bribery and fraud scandal. (5/17/17)
[<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/us-navy-admiral-sentenced-prison-lying-federal-investigators-about-his-relationship-foreign>].

FMC – meeting on 24 May



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** stating that the Commissioners will meet on 24 May in Washington, DC. During the open session they will receive briefings on the Global Regulatory Summit; the Global Liner Shipping Conference; the 5-Year Strategic Plan and Regulatory Reform Task Force; and the Global Ocean Carrier Alliances. During the closed session, they will receive a staff update on Global Ocean Carrier Alliances. (5/17/17) [https://www.fmc.gov/meeting_5-24-2017/].

DOT & USCG – CGSIC meeting on 25-26 September



The Department of Transportation (DOT) and the US Coast Guard Navigation Center (NAVCEN) will host the **57th meeting** of the Civil Global Positioning System Service Interface Committee (CGSIC) on 25-26 September in Portland, Oregon. The meeting is free and open to the public. (5/17/17) [<http://www.gps.gov/cgsic/meetings/2017/>].

BSEE – evolution of oil spill response



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a **press release** stating that members of its staff took part in a series of technical demonstrations providing an up-close look at the evolution of oil spill response capabilities over the past 25+ years at the International Oil Spill Conference in Long Beach. (5/17/17) [<https://www.bsee.gov/newsroom/latest-news/statements-and-releases/press-releases/technical-demonstration-at-oil-spill>].

Senate – USCG authorization bill introduced



Senator Sullivan (R-AK) introduced a bill (S. 1129) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (5/16/17).

House – bill introduced re seismic activity off Florida



Representative Posey (R-FL) introduced a bill (H.R. 2469) to establish a moratorium on oil and gas-related seismic activities off the coastline of the

State of Florida, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (5/16/17).

House – hearing on Rigs to Reefs Program



The Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources of the House Committee on Natural Resources conducted a **hearing** on the Rigs to Reefs Program. Testimony was heard from Mr. David Bump, W&T Offshore; Mr. Frank Russo, GAO; Mr. J. Dale Shively, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; and Mr. Greg Stunz, Texas A&M University. (5/17/17)
[<http://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=401935>].

IMO – Polar Code video



The IMO issued a **news release** announcing the availability of a video explaining the new Polar Code and how it enhances the protection of polar environments. (5/16/17)
[<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/15-Polar-film.aspx>].

Denmark – regulatory barriers re autonomous ships



The Danish Maritime Authority (DMA) issued a **press release** stating that it has invited tenders for an analysis of the regulatory barriers to the development of autonomous ships. Tenders must be received by 29 May. (5/17/17)
[<http://www.dma.dk/Presse/Nyheder/Sider/Tenders-for-analysis-of-barriers-to-autonomous-ships.aspx>].

New Zealand – implementation of Polar Code



Maritime New Zealand issued a **media release** stating that it has opened a consultation seeking comments on its implementation of the IMO Polar Code. Comments must be received by 22 June. (5/17/17)
[<http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/public/news/media-releases-2017/20170517a.asp>].

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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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