

Headlines:

USCG – Inland Navigation Rules;
Ohio River – reopened to navigation;
USCG – GPS ground control software update;
USCG – regulating autonomous ships;
USCG – “Game Changers”;
MARAD – advisory re Somali piracy;
Court – change of physicians under LHWCA; and
EC – Croatian shipbuilder aid approved.

January 24, 2018



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>

Contact me to help you reach your target audience

*Note: This newsletter is one section of the **Bryant's Maritime Consulting** website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining **Dennis Bryant** 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. Whatever hits the fan is not evenly distributed.*

USCG – Inland Navigation Rules



The US Coast Guard promulgated a final rule amending the Inland Navigation Rules regarding Maneuvering and Warning Signals (Rule 34) to remove the word “danger” in order to align the regulation with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972. The amendment enters into effect immediately. **83 Fed. Reg. 3273** (1/24/18)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-01-24/pdf/2018-01304.pdf>].

Ohio River – reopened to navigation



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that the remaining safety zone on the Ohio River has been rescinded. Mariners are advised to use

caution in the area as the two sunken barges have yet to be recovered. (1/23/18)
[<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1d53ff6>].

USCG – GPS ground control software update



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** stating that the US Air Force intends to reinstall a software update to the GPS ground control software no earlier than 1 March. The earlier installation impacted the operation of some user equipment. The delay in reinstallation will provide manufacturers time to bring GPS receivers into compliance. Users experiencing GPS problems may submit a report to the USCG Navigation Center (NAVCEN). (1/13/18)
[<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/01/23/1-23-2018-air-force-announces-update-to-gps-ground-control-software/>].

USCG – regulating autonomous ships



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** summarizing remarks delivered to the Transportation Research Board regarding challenges of regulating autonomous ships. (1/22/18)
[<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/01/22/1-22-2018-coast-guard-remarks-on-autonomous-vessels-at-the-transportation-research-board-annual-meeting/>].

USCG – “Game Changers”



The May-December 2017 edition of the **Proceedings** of the USCG Marine Safety & Security Council has been posted. The focus of this extended edition is “Game Changers”, looking at the multitude challenges the Coast Guard has overcome in the recent past, is currently addressing, and is anticipating in the future. Among the past challenges were OPA 90 and the rescue swimmer program. Current challenges include cybersecurity and aquatic nuisance species. Autonomous ships and changes to the marine inspection program are on the horizon. (1/24/18)
[http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/Proceedings%20Magazine/Archive/2017/Vol74_No2_May-Dec2017.pdf?ver=2018-01-23-080144-327].

MARAD – advisory re Somali piracy



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) posted an advisory reminding stakeholders that the threat of piracy in waters of the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean, and Gulf of Oman continues. Ships transiting the area should take appropriate precautions. **Advisory 2018-002** (1/23/18) [<https://www.marad.dot.gov/msci/advisory/2018/26110/>].

Court – change of physician under LHWCA



In an unpublished decision under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA), the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit found that the Benefits Review Board did not abuse its discretion when it authorized an injured longshoreman to change physicians and directed that the employer pay for the referral. **Ports America Louisiana v. Scott**, No. 16-60835 (5th Cir., January 23, 2018) [<http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/unpub/16/16-60835.o.pdf>].

EC – Croatian shipbuilder aid approved



The European Commission (EC) issued a **press release** stating that it has cleared the Croatian plan for state aid to a shipbuilder. (1/22/18) [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-391_en.htm].

Join my mailing list



If you are not receiving my almost daily electronic newsletter and would like to have it sent directly to your email inbox, please send me an email, or see below:

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)



If you have questions regarding the above items or are interested in advertising in this newsletter, 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 2018**

 **Redistribution permitted with attribution**