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Issue 7E

Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Safety Advisory Committee

Commercial fishing is an important, diverse, national industry with large numbers of vessels, high value products, and many people employed. There are many kinds of fish, vessels, and fishing gear and techniques. The operating environment is both dynamic and hostile. Economics, social organization, and human behavioral factors are complex, and external factors influence how, when, and where fishing is conducted.

In that light, the Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Safety Advisory Committee (CFIVSAC) was established by the Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Safety Act of 1988 (CFIVSA, P.L. 100-424) and pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. I (1976).

The Committee provides insight on the commercial fishing industry experience. In this capacity, members advise the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard and Congress on matters relating to the safety of commercial fishing industry vessels. The CFIVSAC offers input on the operations, regulations and policies that affect fishermen's lives at sea.

The Committee consists of seventeen members who have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience regarding commercial fishing industry vessels. Notices of scheduled meetings are published in the Federal Register and the meetings are open to the public. Members of the public are permitted to appear before or file statements with the Committee.

Getting to know the committee members, in particular those regionally closest and/or strategically located to specific communities, can be of great benefit. Establishing a relationship with members will assist in understanding how the

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<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Timothy Athens Commercial Fishing Industry Channel Islands Beach, CA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ms. Kathleen Meincke Public Member Lacey, WA</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Thomas H. Dameron Public Member Bridgeport, NJ</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ms. Beverly R. Noll Commercial Fishing Industry Crescent City, CA</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Ms. Barbara Despain Commercial Fishing Industry Anchorage, AK</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ms. Kathy D. Ruhle Commercial Fishing Industry Wanchese, NC</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. R. Alan Davis Education/Training Seattle, WA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Leland Stanford Equipment Manufacturer Bedminster, NJ</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Robert C. Gallagher Marine Insurance Underwriter Brooklyn, NY</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Cuong Van Nguyen Commercial Fishing Industry New Orleans, LA</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Robert Jones Commercial Fishing Industry Tallahassee, FL</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Jeffrey A. Weborg Commercial Fishing Industry Ellison Bay, WI</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Dewayne Hollin Public Member College Station, TX</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. John A. Williams Commercial Fishing Industry New Port Richey, FL</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Rob Matthews, Jr. Commercial Fishing Industry Bluffton, SC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. John Womack Naval Architect Pittsville, MD</p>

individuals interact and support one another to shape safety recommendations and enhance the commercial fishing industry experience; ... surviving and getting to fish another day.

Get involved and make your opinion known. The Committee is an important vehicle for Congress and the Coast Guard to understand the commercial fishing industry.

Reach out and seek a member of the Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Safety Advisory Committee today.

