

Charles H. Kinnear II - 2023 Curriculum Vitae

Maritime Expert Witness and Consultant



- 6 Years: Expert Witness and Consultant
- 7 Years: Owner - Reliable Maritime Solutions, LLC
- 8 Years: Owner - Kinnear Maritime Services, LLC
- 1 Year: President - Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line
- 5 Years: President - Celebration Cruise Line
- 3 Years: President - Celebration Cargo Line
- 3 Years: DNV Senior Classification Surveyor
- 8 Years: U.S. Coast Guard - Senior Marine Inspector
- 18 Years: U.S. Coast Guard - Rescue and Law Enforcement

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Introduction:

Charles H. Kinnear is a U.S. Mariner with 40 years of experience as a U.S. Coast Guard Officer, Classification Surveyor, Maritime Executive, and Expert Witness. He has one of the most unique and in-depth backgrounds in the maritime industry and a reputation for integrity and loyalty. Since 2015 Charlie has made his vast experience, dedication, and in-depth knowledge of the maritime environment available as an Expert Witness and Consultant.

Career Summary:

2014 - Present: Fonder/Owner Kinnear Maritime Services: Company originally served as a maritime consultant and port agent until 2016. Now operates as an expert witness and consulting firm specializing in maritime cases. Recent cases include charter mitigation, Jones Act, boating accidents, as well as passenger and crew injury cases, including Covid. Skilled in report writing compliant with Rule 26 federal standards. Experienced in providing testimony in depositions, tribunals, and arbitration. Qualifications above reproach and proven track record as a maritime expert.

2015 - Present: Founder/Co-Owner Reliable Maritime Solutions: Delivers a wide array of services, including maritime consulting, ship and project management, compliance management, and project risk assessments. Rendered support in resolving issues with maritime authorities and offered consulting services for operational excellence. Assessed vulnerabilities onboard vessels and company procedural gaps by conducting environmental compliance audits. Played an integral role in mitigating the risk of potential violations and harm to valuable oceans. Assisted new and existing ship owners by completing in-depth pre-purchase and compliance surveys.

2014-15: President Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line: Invited to take on the role of President and lead the startup of the new company "Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line", now known as "Margaritaville at Sea". The new line operated one of the largest independent cruise ships on the high seas. Brought new vessel into service in less than forty-five days, passing all safety and compliance inspections in record time. The new line started operations from Port of Palm Beach in February 2015, exceeding expectations.

2010-14: President Celebration Cargo Line. Responsible for creating Celebration Cargo Line and negotiating all services and agency contracts. As General Manager of the new line, managed all U.S. and Bahamian operations. The newly formed company exceeded all financial expectations and had a growing manifest of cargo to Grand Bahama Island.

2009-14: President Celebration Cruise Line. Served as President for the newly formed Celebration Cruise Line, responsible for all aspects of management for the shoreside and vessel operations. Also acted as the direct liaison to U.S. and Bahamian authorities. During the startup operations in Port Everglades, and later when the entire operation moved to the Port of Palm Beach, played the lead role in negotiating all port and service contracts for the new operation. Despite the economic downturn at the time and the challenges of managing an independent cruise line, the company thrived, boasting a 95% occupancy, a 5-star rating, and profit margins that exceeded expectations.

2006-09: Senior Passenger Ship Surveyor, Det Norske Veritas (DNV). Leadership role as a senior surveyor and instructor with DNV's Passenger Ship Center. Instructed courses and conducted complex surveys throughout Europe and the U.S. Responsible for surveying some of the newest and largest ships operating at the time, ensuring compliance and safety of passengers and crew.

2002-06: Chief Warrant Officer - U.S. Coast Guard: Lead instructor and inspector for the USCG National Cruise Ships Center of Excellence, profoundly influenced the maritime industry. Conducted courses for USCG Inspectors, Ship Managers, and Class Surveyors from around the world. Conducted numerous inspections on Passenger Ships in European as well as numerous older vessels returning to U.S. service.

1982-98: Chief Petty Officer - U.S. Coast Guard: Operational career included twelve years of sea time on three different Cutters. During that time, served as a Rescue Swimmer, Law Enforcement Officer, Bridge Officer, Executive Petty Officer, and Officer in Charge. Also served eight years ashore as a Small Boat Coxswain, Training Officer, Law Enforcement Officer, and Executive Petty Officer. Worked closely with state and federal law enforcement agencies.

1980-82: U.S. Coast Guard Presidential Honor Guard: Upon completing basic training, selected to serve in the Presidential Honor Guard in Washington DC, conducting ceremonies at the White House, Pentagon, Arlington Cemetery, and D.C. area. **Top-Secret Clearance** at age 20 and maintained it for 30 years.

Skills and Knowledge:

Experienced with Multi-National situations and work environments.

Experienced and skilled at negotiating large contracts with Government and Maritime service providers.

In depth knowledge of international and domestic regulations.

High level of computer skills in operating systems, Microsoft Office applications and limited networking.

Speaker and Publication:									
Several live and taped television and newspaper interviews.									
Experienced Speaker/Instructor with hundreds of hours of podium time.									
Published in several Coast Guard publications and informational letters, including "USCG Proceeding".									
Guest or keynote speaker at numerous formal events including "Maritime Day" at UN Facility New York.									
Awards and Citations:									
(1) Department of Transportation 9/11 Medal	(2) National Defense Service Medal	(1) Global War on Terror Service Medal							
(2) Humanitarian Service Medal	(6) Coast Guard Good Conduct Medals	(5) USCG Special Operations Service Ribbon							
(1) Coast Guard Commendation Medal	(2) Coast Guard Achievement Medal	(2) DOT Outstanding Unit Award							
(3) Commandant Letter of Commendation	(4) USCG Sea Service Ribbon	(5) USCG Unit Commendation Award							
(2) USCG Meritorious Team Commendation	(1) Bicentennial Unit Commendation	(1) USCG Pistol Marksman Ribbon							
(2) USCG Meritorious Unit Commendation	(1) USCG Rifle Expert Medal								
College Level Training & Education:									
USCG Senior Marine Inspector Course	DNV Hull General design and surveying	USCG Passenger Control Verification Course							
USCG Rights/Human Relations Awareness	DNV Machinery General	USCG Wooden Boat Inspection							
USCG Sexual Harassment Prevention	DNV Electrical Systems	DNV Thrusters for Propulsion							
USCG Law Enforcement Officer Course	DNV Control and Monitoring Systems	DNV Survey Arrangements Machinery							
USCG Rescue Summer Course	DNV Electrical and Instrumentation	DNV Survey Arrangement Mach. PMS							
USCG Basic Procurement Course	DNV Electrical - high voltage	DNV Class Notation TMON A3.23.1							
USCG Leadership/Management	USCG Coxswain "C" School	DNV Passenger ship - SIO							
USCG PCO/PXO Ship handling	USCG Boatswain's Mate "A" School	DNV Additional class surveys - SIO							
USCG Officer in Charge/XPO School,	USCG Training-Coordination Unit	Thrusters for Propulsion							
USCG Vessel Damage Control Team Training	USCG Deck Watch Officer Course	DNV Machinery General - SIO							
USCG System Administration	USCG Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic								
Qualifications & Certifications									
DNV Class Surveyor - Passenger Vessels	DNV Class Surveyor - Car Carriers	DNV Class Surveyor - General Cargo Vessels							
DNV Pan Review Engineer - Fire Control	DNV Pan Review Engineer - Life Saving	USCG Law Enforcement Officer							
USCG Small Passenger Vessel Inspector	USCG Foreign Freight Vessel Inspector	USCG Barge Inspector							
USCG Foreign Chem Tank Vessel Inspector	USCG Control Verification Inspector	USCG K-Boat Inspector							
USCG Hull Inspector Tankship	USCG Hull Inspector Freight	USCG General Vessel Inspection							
USCG Officer in Charge Ashore & Afloat	USCG IT System Manager	USCG Cutter Rescue Swimmer							
USCG Coxswain Ashore & Afloat	USCG Officer of the Deck	USCG Rifle & Pistol Qualifications							
Expert Witness Case History:									
Date	Case Name	Case Client	Case Topic	Plaintiff	Defendant	Report	Deposition	Arbitration	Trial
2023	Morgan v. Joseph LaCorte	Gordon & Partners	Boating Accident	X		X			
2023	Putu Sugiarta v. RCCL	Meister Law, LLC	Crew Covid-19 Death	X		X			
2022	Cannarozzo v. Princess	Nelson & Fraenkel, LLP	Passenger Covid-19	X		X			
2022	House v. Princess	Nelson & Fraenkel, LLP	Passenger Covid-19	X		X			
2021	Green v. Royal Caribbean Cruises	LAL Law Firm, LLP	Passenger Covid-19	X		X			
2021	Archer v. Carnival Corporation	Rusty Hardin & Associates, LLP	Passenger Covid-19 Death	X		X			
2021	Dorety v. Princess Cruise Line	David W. Singer & Assoc., PA	Passenger Covid-19	X		X	X		
2021	Dhillon v. Princess	Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP	Passenger Covid-19	X		X			
2020	Hooks v. Holland America Line	Spangenberg Shibley & Liber, LLP	Passenger Covid-19	X		X			
2020	Bland v. Carnival Corporation	Georgelin Law PLLC	Passenger Injury Case	X		X	X		
2020	Saridakis v. Officer Beard	Myers & Company, PLLC	MLE Use of Force	X		X	X		
2019	Fulton v. Globalia	Preston Turnbull LLP	Charter Mitigation		X	X	X	X	
2018	PGCL v. Paul Gauguin Cruise	Cox, Wootton, LLP	Charter Mitigation		X	X		X	
2015	Palermo v. Bright Touch	Kandell & Kandell	Boat Damage	X		X			