

LCDR Michael D. Russell, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret)

Turnaround Maritime Services

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EXPERIENCE

Maritime safety consultant with over 34 years' experience in several facets of maritime safety enforcement and management in the United States Coast Guard and the marine industry.

January 1995 to Present:

Maritime Consultant

Turnaround Maritime Services, Houston, Texas, USA

Since 1995 has provided advice & recommendations concerning litigation of maritime, boating & offshore incidents. Other services provided include marine casualty investigations, vessel inspections, cargo surveys, Coast Guard liaison, vetting, company & personnel audits, dock safety operations, Marine Safety Advisor, Pollution & Safety Advisor, American Bureau of Shipping Record reviews & towboat safety programs as well as training in all these areas. Clients include ship owners, operators, charterers, law firms, training centers, ports, investigation firms & towboat companies. Have interfaced with the USCG, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, OSHA, EPA, & other state & federal agencies. Accomplishments include:

- Retained as a consultant for a dockman injured trying to throw off a mooring line in New Jersey
- Provided expert report and testimony for a passenger vessel injury incident in the U. S. Virgin Islands
- Served as oil company representative aboard propane ship inaugurating all buoy berth in Tuxpan, Mexico
- Provided expert report and testimony involving a tow from Trinidad & Tobago to Galveston
- Retained as a consultant for an injury with a winch on a drill ship in the Persian Gulf
- Provided expert report for litigation involving an allision of a motorboat with a platform
- Provided expert testimony for a collision between a motorboat & a jet ski
- Retained as a consultant for a collision between a motorboat & a tow
- Retained as a consultant for a pollution incident involving a moored barge that surged
- Retained as a consultant for an injury on a moored barge that surged
- Provided expert report for litigation involving a tow striking a moored unlit barge
- Retained as a consultant for litigation involving an injured crewmember on a towboat
- Provided expert report for litigation involving a tow striking a petroleum coke loader
- Served as internal auditor for MARSEC (Maritime Security) for a towboat company
- Consulted by MSNBC concerning the fatalities on the ETHAN ALLEN on Lake George, New York
- General Average Surveyor for the refloating of the grounded tankship BALTIC CAPTAIN I
- Recertified as an Oil Companies International Marine Forum SIRE Barge & Tug Inspector
- Provided expert report concerning the fatalities from a tow ramming the Queen Isabella Causeway Bridge
- Consulted on the revision of a Pollution & Safety Advisor manual update for ExxonMobil cargoes
- Inspected & evaluated a potential lay berth at the Port of Beaumont, Texas
- Evaluated an inland towboat company for use by a major shipping company
- Served as a Marine Safety Advisor aboard tankships discharging crude oil off Nicaragua
- Served as a Pollution & Safety Advisor off Cayman Islands on behalf of client's affiliate
- Served as a Marine Safety Advisor in Bermuda to evaluate LPG ship compatibility with berth
- Served as an auditor for Pollution & Safety Advisors of inland waters & seagoing vessels
- Provided safety instruction to inland & coastal marine berth operators
- Provided ship & dock screening services to marine terminals & ship operators
- Provided marine casualty investigation services to the Port of Houston Authority
- Provided expert testimony concerning the fatalities on the MISS MAJESTIC on Lake Hamilton, Arkansas
- Provided damage survey of dredge CALIFORNIA
- Provided investigation consultation concerning contaminated cargo on a tankship in Ecuador
- Served as safety consultant for an inland towing company
- Provided expert report on liability concerning injury of a deckhand on a barge
- Provided investigation consultation concerning death of contract workers onboard a tankship
- Provided Pollution & Safety Advisor in-port services aboard 400+ tankships at terminals transferring over 76,000,000+ barrels of crude oil & chemicals with no water pollution
- Provided investigation consultation on injury of crewman on pipe laying barge
- Provided investigation consultation concerning a barge tow colliding with another tow

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- Provided investigation consultation & deposition concerning death of tankerman
- Investigated illness of contract worker on an offshore platform
- Provided investigation consultation concerning a contract worker injury on an airboat
- Investigated capsizing & sinking of crane barges
- Documented damages to steel products during unloading
- Conducted loading survey of break bulk cargo of offshore platform blowout preventers
- Conducted loading survey of freight ship break bulk cargo of bags of resin
- Conducted surveillance of allegedly injured complainant proving no physical restrictions
- Provided expert testimony on federal regulations
- Provided expert testimony on state regulations
- Worked with container ship operator reducing personal injury/illness claims
- Provided investigation consultation concerning collision of barge tow & motorboat
- Investigated stevedore concerning his fall from gangway
- Investigated seized offshore oil well & found incorrect additive mixed in with drilling mud
- Investigated "wetted" plywood cargo for ship owner
- Investigated vessel striking unlit offshore structure
- Investigated gas well tool string lost down hole
- Prepared chemical tanker to successfully pass U.S. Coast Guard inspection

July 1990 to January 1995:

Chief, Investigations Department & Senior Investigating Officer

U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office, Houston, Texas

Supervised staff which investigated marine casualties in the nation's third largest port & largest foreign commerce port. Investigated violations by & prosecuted merchant mariners & commercial vessel operators. Counseled maritime industry nationwide on interpretation of federal illegal drug & alcohol regulations. Major accomplishments include:

- Investigated/reviewed over 700 maritime casualty cases with over \$55,000,000 in damages
- Prosecuted/managed litigation against 200+ mariners
- Advised the Norwegian Consul on the PLAN KRISTINE ship fire investigation
- Lead investigator for the National Transportation Safety Board/Coast Guard Marine Board of Inquiry on the fatal OMI CHARGER tankship explosion & fire in Galveston Bay
- Managed the spending of \$11,000,000 for the cleanup of the San Jacinto River flooding
- Prosecution of barge tankerman led to Commandant upheld definition of "topping off"

July 1986 to June 1990:

Chief, Inspections & Investigations Department

U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office, Galveston, Texas

Supervised staff of 15 which ensured foreign & U.S. vessels complied with U.S. & international inspection & casualty reporting regulations. Investigated allegations against U.S. Merchant Mariners & vessel operators. Major accomplishments include:

- Oversaw inspections of a fleet of over 250 U.S. passenger & cargo vessels
- Developed an uninspected vessel check-off list for towboats
- Initiated a "ship rider" program with major shipping companies for new inspectors
- Brought the Galveston-Bolivar car ferries under Coast Guard inspection
- Brought the historical square rigger ELISSA under Coast Guard inspection
- Managed the spending of \$3,000,000 for the cleanup of the MEGA BORG spill
- Developed checklist for self-inspection of offshore platforms

Chief, Readiness Planning Department

Responsible for planning, development, training & execution of mobilization exercise projects. Served as the Military Sealift Command Liaison. Major accomplishments include:

- Advised the Republic of the Philippines on upgrading security in the Port of Manila
- Advised the Government of Malaysia on upgrading port security in the Port of Penang
- Authored the Coast Guard maritime counterterrorism plan for the Port of Galveston

July 1982 to June 1986:

Chief, Vessel Inspection Division

U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office, Corpus Christi, Texas

Coordinated & reviewed all equipment & system inspection activities of a fleet of over 140 U.S. vessels for compliance with U.S. & international laws. Detained vessels with significant deficiencies from sailing until documented & corrected. Trained & evaluated performance of inspectors. Also served as Chief, Port Safety Division and Assistant Chief, Port Operations Department on this tour of duty.

EDUCATION

Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas, Bachelor of Science, Speech, 1972

Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas, Graduate Work, Fine Arts, 1974

U.S. Coast Guard Officer Candidate School, Yorktown, Virginia, 1975

San Jacinto Junior College, Pasadena, Texas, Management, 1990

MARINE RELATED TRAINING

Advanced Boating Accident Investigation – Underwriters Laboratory

Accident Investigation Techniques – International Loss Control Institute

Accident Investigation – International Association of Marine Investigators

Barge & Tug Inspection

Confined Space Entry

Effective Technical Writing – San Jacinto Junior College

Ethics – Houston Mariners Club

Forensic photography – International Association of Marine Investigators

Hazardous Chemical School – U. S. Coast Guard Reserve Training Center, Yorktown, Virginia

Heat Stress Prevention, Noise Exposure & Hearing Conservation

Investigation Department - U. S. Coast Guard Reserve Training Center, Yorktown, Virginia

ISM, ISO 9002 & Standards of Training, Certification & Watchkeeping (STCW) – American Bureau of Shipping

Life Saving Appliances & Water Survival – McMillan Offshore Survival

Liquefied Natural Gas Carriers – New York City

Marine Safety Basic Inspection - U. S. Coast Guard Reserve Training Center, Yorktown, Virginia

Marine Safety Information System

Marine Safety Information System Operations Management

Maritime Law Enforcement - U. S. Coast Guard Reserve Training Center, Yorktown, Virginia

National Boating Safety School – St Louis, Missouri

Nondestructive Testing

Offshore Marine Inspections – Lafayette, Louisiana

Offshore Support Vessels Inspection Workshop

Outer Continental Shelf Inspections – Lafayette, Louisiana

Outer Continental Shelf Helicopter Safety – U.S. Department of Interior

Petroleum Tankship Operations – World Trade Institute

Port Physical Security Management

Port Readiness & Contingency Planning

Radiographic Film Interpretation

Recognizing the Symptoms of Drugs & Alcohol in the Workplace

Search & Rescue

Tankship Operations I – ABS Group, Inc., Houston, Texas

Thermal Heating Barges – Volcanic Heater, Alliance, Ohio

INSTRUCTOR ASSIGNMENTS

Berth Operator Course, ExxonMobil (2002)
Coast Guard Investigations, The Seamen's Church Institute, Center for Maritime Education (2001-2003)
Oriented and trained several newly contracted Pollution & Safety Advisors for SeaRiver Maritime (2001-2004)
Maritime Security (2006-2009)
Sulfuric Acid and Oleum Safety (2006-2009)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Houston Mariners Club
International Association of Marine Investigators
Nautical Institute

MILITARY

Retired from active duty with the U.S. Coast Guard as a Lieutenant Commander.

PRESENTATIONS

"Passenger Vessel Safety & the Capsizing of the ETHAN ALLEN"	MSNBC
"Marine Casualty Investigations"	Associated Press
"Vessel Screening Reports"	ExxonMobil Baytown, Texas
"Coast Guard Marine Casualty Investigations"	Seamen's Church Institute
"Mooring Safety"	Esso Bermuda
"Pollution Prevention on Barges"	ExxonMobil Beaumont, Texas
"Vessel Inspections"	ExxonMobil Memphis, Tennessee
"Vessel Performance Reports"	ExxonMobil Everett, Massachusetts
"Static Accumulation"	ExxonMobil Port Mobil, New York
"Coast Guard Investigations & the Administrative Law Process"	Hollywood Marine
"Marine Casualty Investigations"	American Oil Company (AMOCO)
"Welcome To Houston & Initiatives in the U.S. Coast Guard"	Nautical Institute
"Federal Regulations Changes in Drug/Alcohol Testing"	Port Safety Advisory Council
"Federal Pollution Regulations for Small Boats"	Galveston Bay Foundation
"Coast Guard Drug Testing"	International Association of Geophysical Contractors

PAPERS

Author: "Ship Riding – Training for New Inspectors", Commander (m), Eighth Coast Guard District, New Orleans, Louisiana

Co-author: "Marine Board of Investigation Concerning the Explosion & Fire On Board the Tankship OMI CHARGER (US) on 9 October 1993 At Bolivar Roads Inner Anchorage Near Galveston, Texas with Injuries & Multiple Loss of Life", Commander (m) Ninth Coast Guard District, Cleveland, Ohio

Editor: "Propulsion & Steering Casualties on the Houston Ship Channel", Coast Guard Marine Safety Office Houston