

May 5, 2015

Members of the International Organizations,
Conventions & Standards Committee

Re: IOCS Spring, 2015 Meeting

Dear Members of the IOCS Committee:

On April 29th the IOCS Committee held a very informative and successful meeting and CLE program during the MLA Spring Meeting. I wish to thank Boriana Farrar and George Tsimis of Shipowners Claims Bureau for hosting our Committee in their spectacular conference room overlooking New York Harbor at the Battery. I hope that we are fortunate to have this venue for a meeting in the future.

As most of you were aware, the Committee hosted a three-hour CLE program addressing recent developments in criminal law impacting maritime commerce based upon international conventions and enabling legislation. The following individuals gave wonderful presentations for the CLE:

- Gregory F. Linsin, Blank Rome LLP, Washington, DC - International criminal enforcement of safety and environmental laws
- Martin J. Davies, Tulane University Law School, New Orleans, LA - International law aspects of criminal prosecutions by port state control authorities
- Leven Siano, Siano & Martins Advogados Associados, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil - Recent criminal enforcement actions in Brazil
- Barry M. Hartman, K&L Gates, Washington, DC - MARPOL Annex VI Regulations
- George J. Tsimis, Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., New York, New York - Iranian Sanctions and the P&I Perspective

I wish to publicly thank each of these speakers who devoted a tremendous amount of time and effort in preparing these presentations. Their PowerPoint presentations, supporting materials and biographies have all been uploaded to the IOCS webpage and are available for reference. If you were unable to attend the meeting I encourage you to review these very informative materials.

I would like to thank John Kimball and Boriana Farrar for their efforts to recruit several of the speakers. I also wish to thank our Young Lawyers Committee representative, Jessica Martyn, who has taken the laboring oar in working to obtain CLE approval for this program. If you

attended the program we will provide you with confirmation of the CLE course approval as soon as it is received from the MLA's CLE Committee.

We were also fortunate to have the Secretary General of the CMI, John Hare, attend our meeting. He provided a brief overview of the upcoming CMI Colloquium in Istanbul in June and plans for the joint MLA/CMI meeting in New York next Spring. Our Vice Chair, Vincent Foley, is chairing the 2016 joint meeting planning committee and he and John Kimball provided further updates on this event. Without question, our Committee will be very involved with the 2016 joint meeting, not least by helping with several of the symposium topics of the CMI and probably with hosting one or more joint meetings with commensurate CMI committees. Several members have already volunteered to assist with some of the identified topics such as Polar issues, and I solicit anyone who may be interested to help with the planning for this event.

We will meet during the Fall MLA Meeting in Bermuda. Our Committee meeting should be shorter and will primarily focus on planning for May 2016. However, there are several recent developments that will warrant discussion in our Committee. One we are looking at now is cyber security and "cyber hygiene" in the maritime domain. This is becoming a very hot topic and will be worth a discussion in Bermuda and most certainly in May 2016. Should anyone have other topics that they wish to address at Bermuda please contact me at any time.

Finally, our Young Lawyers, led by Jessica Martyn, will be endeavoring to publish our first newsletter some time in the summer. We hope to publish a newsletter at least twice a year between meetings and I again encourage anyone who is interested to submit notes, comments or other interesting material for publication in that newsletter. Naturally if there are events of great import these can be posted on our webpage at any time.

I wish to again thank everyone who has helped to make this Committee a great success over the past year and I look forward to seeing you all again in Bermuda if not sooner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip A. Buhler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Phillip A. Buhler