

April 30, 2016

International Organizations, Conventions & Standards Committee
Maritime Law Association of the United States

Re: IOCS/IWG Joint Symposium – Polar Shipping and Arctic Development

Dear Members of the International Organizations, Conventions & Standards Committee:

The meeting we have been planning for over a year is fast approaching. I look forward to seeing most of you at the Joint MLA/CMI Conference next week, and in particular at our full day symposium to be held on Thursday, May 5. As you know, this will be a joint meeting held with the Polar Shipping Working Group of the CMI, and is joined by the Fisheries, Regulation of Vessel Operations, Safety, Security and Navigation, and Offshore Industries Committees of the MLA.

The program will run from 0900 to approximately 1700 on Thursday, and as you will see from the Agenda includes a host of blue ribbon speakers covering a wide range of subject matter on the opening of the Arctic.

Of significance, we have received approval for 7.5 hours of CLE under New York Rules. If you are licensed in another state you should be able to receive a similar number of credits depending upon whether your state is a 50 or 60 minute jurisdiction. Further information and CLE materials will be available at the meeting and you can also obtain these on the MLA website.

I strongly encourage everyone to attend at least a portion of this program. We have been able to attract a wide range of speakers including Admiral Robert Papp, current Chair of the Arctic Council and Special Representative for the Arctic with the U.S. Dept. of State, attorneys and academics from Canada, the United Kingdom, Norway, Denmark, Russia, Alaska and elsewhere. I encourage you to review the agenda posted herewith and the materials which have previously been posted to the IOCS webpage. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to email the undersigned at any time. I will be arriving in New York on Monday and can also be reached by cell: (904) 571-9143.

Please pass the word on this very interesting program.

Sincerely,


Phillip A. Buhler