

# Board of Pilot Commissioners for Harris County Ports

OFFICES: 111 EAST LOOP • HOUSTON, TEXAS 77029-4327  
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 2562 • HOUSTON, TEXAS 77252-2562  
TELEPHONE: (713) 670-2542 • FAX (713) 670-2810

May 26, 2010

**To:** Pilot Board Investigation Recommendation Committee (PBIRC) and Margot Campbell

**From:** Mike Usher

**Subject:** Minutes of May 25, 2010 PBIRC Hearing

The hearing was held in the Port of Houston Authority Executive Office Building on Tuesday May 25, 2010. Committee members in attendance were Ruben Arredondo, Captain Tom Pace, Captain Charles Schuessler, Captain Mike Curtiss, Tim Leitzell, Dave Foret and Tom Marian. Staff in attendance was Assistant General Counsel Margot Campbell and Compliance Coordinator Mike Usher.

Compliance Coordinator convened the PBIRC Hearing.

Cases determined:

**M/V BELUGA FIGHTER** grounding Houston Ship Channel, involving Houston Deputy Pilot Captain David C. Reeder.

The PBIRC found no negligence or misconduct on the part of pilot in this incident and recommended close to file.

The PBIRC recommends a Letter of Commendation be issued to pilot, for the evasive action taken in grounding his vessel to avoid a collision with an Unlimited Towing Vessel pushing two red flag barges on the head and potentially preventing a devastating marine casualty on the Houston Ship Channel.

The PBIRC voted unanimously on proposed findings and recommendations to be presented to the Pilot Board.

**M/V SAFMARINE DUOALA** collision with **UTV KURT CORSBY** Houston Ship Channel, involving Houston Pilot Captain Thomas Phelps.

The PBIRC found no negligence or misconduct on the part of pilot in this incident and recommended close to file.

The PBIRC recommended a safety bulletin advisory be issued to Hogansac regarding the installation of a lighted buoy marking an obstruction to safe navigation at Morgan's Point HSC.

**M/V GLORY OCEAN** allision with Industrial Dock 2 Houston Ship Channel, involving Houston Deputy Pilot Captain Michael Riggle.

The PBIRC found no negligence or misconduct on the part of pilot in this incident and recommended close to file.

**M/V RICKMERS SINGAPORE** allided with City Dock 27 Houston Ship Channel, involving Houston Pilot Captain Robert G. Webbon.

The PBIRC found no negligence or misconduct on the part of pilot in this incident and recommended close to file.

**M/V RICKMERS TOKYO** allided with City Dock 27 Houston Ship Channel, involving Houston Pilot Captain Scott Roberts.

The PBIRC found no negligence or misconduct on the part of pilot in this incident and recommended close to file.

Hearing Adjourned