The Chamber of Shipping of America will:

- Represent members' interests with U.S. and international legislative, regulatory and administrative entities as well as the public at large.
- Provide the voice of the U.S. maritime industry in promoting sound public policy through legislative and regulatory initiatives that include safety, security and environmental protection.
- Cooperate with environmental groups, standards organizations, technical associations and professional societies, among others.
- Provide professional technical expertise, marine experience and knowledge, in order to be an authoritative and effective forum for U.S. maritime issues.

In support of its Mission, the Chamber of Shipping of America will:

- Promptly and thoroughly inform its members of issues affecting the maritime industry, both internationally and in the United States.
- Aggressively pursue the members' interests on legislative, regulatory and administrative matters.
- Inform the American public and media about the maritime industry to foster better appreciation of this valuable national asset.
- Establish and maintain relationships with legislative and regulatory officials, members of the media, persons in the international maritime community and other influential persons.

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Founded in 1917, the Chamber of Shipping of America (CSA) is an organization representing U.S. owners, operators and charterers of U.S. and foreign-flag ocean-going vessels.

CSA promotes sound public policy regarding marine safety, maritime security and environmental protection; and, supports the domestic maritime industry and promotes open international trade.
The Chamber of Shipping of America (CSA) represents U.S. based companies that either own, operate or charter oceangoing tankers, container ships, chemical ships, dry bulk vessels, integrated tug barge units and other merchant vessels engaged in both the domestic and international trades or maintain a commercial interest in the operation of such oceangoing vessels.

CSA is active in representing its members before the U.S. Congress and administrative agencies such as the Coast Guard, Environmental Protection Agency and Customs Service. CSA sits on the U.S. delegation to the International Maritime Organization in London, enjoying a direct input to the decisions of the U.S. delegate.

CSA is the U.S. ship owner representative to the International Labor Organization.

Two categories of membership in CSA are available. Full membership is open to any company that has a substantial presence in the U.S. and owns, operates or charters vessels. Associate membership is open to companies who are not qualified for full membership yet have an interest in one or more of the issues addressed by the organization.

The Chamber of Shipping of America (CSA) has four award programs: Jones F. Devlin Award, for no-lost-time-incidents; Safety Achievement Award, for search and rescue actions; Environmental Achievement Award for meeting environmental excellence requirements; and, the Rear Admiral Halert C. Shepheard Award, for maritime safety achievement by an individual.

In the 1950’s CSA initiated the two safety programs: the Jones F. Devlin Award and Ship Safety Achievement Award. The awards are presented at an Annual Safety Awards Luncheon in June.

Devlin Awards are awarded to self-propelled merchant vessels that have operated for two full years or more without a crewmember losing a full turn at watch because of an occupational injury. Four levels of achievement are recognized: a basic two-year award; a three-year award; a four-year award; and a special award is given to a ship with five or more years of accident-free operation.

Ship Safety Achievement Awards are presented to vessels that have performed outstanding feats of safety during the course of a calendar year. Entries are based on actions within each calendar year ending December 31.

Vessels are recognized for outstanding feats of safety which may include, but are not limited to: rescue; assistance to distressed vessels; transfer of ill or injured persons under difficult sea conditions; and demonstrations of safety and ship operations which have contributed to saving a life or a ship.

All vessels, including container ships, tankers, Great Lakes carriers, offshore supply vessels, tugboats, etc., representing all segments of the industry (international and domestic deep-sea, coastwise and inland) have participated in this award program.

The Environmental Achievement Award was established in November 2004. The Environmental Achievement Award is presented to a vessel that meets all environmental requirements, international, national and local for at least a two-year period. The award is granted each succeeding year if the vessel continues to qualify.

To be eligible for the award, a vessel must have for at least a two year period:

- No reportable spills;
- No U.S. Coast Guard citations for violations of MARPOL;
- No port state citations for violations of MARPOL; and,
- No violations of state/local pollution regulations.

The awards are presented to the recipients at a dinner ceremony in Washington, DC in the fall.

These safety and environmental awards are a testament to the professionalism of the seagoing personnel manning the ships and the shoreside personnel responsible for ship operations. These programs are available to all companies, both members and non-members of CSA.

The Rear Admiral Halert C. Shepheard Award was established in 1975 and is presented to an individual in recognition of a single outstanding contribution to merchant marine safety, or in recognition of dedication to, or exceptional leadership in activities associated with safety over a period of time. Nominees may include individuals who are eminent in their marine field of endeavor such as ship operators, naval architects, marine engineers, shipbuilders and those affiliated with ship operations, governments, or marine associations. The recipient is presented with a Steuben Crystal Eagle.