

Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 04-19

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations

Subject: SEAFARER IDENTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS BY UNITED STATES CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP) AT BIG STONE ANCHORAGE, DELAWARE BAY

Date: 29 January 2019

This Advisory draws attention to new requirements for tank ships bound for *Big Stone Delaware Anchorage "A"* and/or the *Sunoco Logistics Fort Mifflin terminal* until approximately 28 February 2019. Local reports from Philadelphia indicate that due to the ongoing construction at the berth and pier at Fort Mifflin, several Foreign Flag tank vessels will be "lightering to extinction" in the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Delaware Bay Captain of the Port zone without going to berth.

CBP has provided agents and vessels two options with respect to mandatory immigration requirements: (a) Stay at anchorage and bring all officers and crew members, via boat launch and passenger van transportation, to the CBP Philadelphia office for "visual face verification;" or (b) Bring the ship up river to a lay-by berth where CBP can board alongside for foreign crew member identification verification.

If a vessel chooses to disembark the crewmembers at anchorage to complete their clearance checks (option (a), above), the USCG Sector Delaware Bay has requested, via a notice to the local agents, a detailed plan be sent to their office at d05-smb-secdelbay-portstate@uscg.mil. The plan must contain the following information:

1. List of all crew members and positions who will be absent from the vessel at the same time.
2. Estimated length of time the crewmembers will be ashore.
3. A statement on whether the vessel will be conducting cargo or lightering operations in conjunction with sending crewmembers ashore.
4. A statement from the Master stating the vessel's plan is in accordance with the vessel's company policies, the Safety Management System, Work/Rest Hour Requirements, 33 CFR 164.19 *Requirements for Vessels at Anchor*, and STCW including, but not limited to, STCW A-VIII/2, Part 4, paragraph 51 and STCW-A VIII/5.

Owners, Operators, and/or Masters should keep in close contact with their local agent to verify reporting requirements and any updates.

This MSA expires one (1) year after its issuance, unless otherwise noted, extended, superseded, or revoked.