

F/V SCANDIES ROSE Marine Board of Investigation Members

Captain Gregory Callaghan

**Chairman, Marine Board of Investigation for loss of F/V SCANDIES ROSE
Chief of Prevention, Eleventh Coast Guard District**

Captain Greg Callaghan is currently the Chief of Prevention for the Eleventh Coast Guard District where he is responsible for management of the prevention mission carried out by crew of two buoy tenders and personnel across California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona. He leads a staff of approximately 40 personnel and has oversight and management of more than 2,600 Coast Guard Auxiliary members. He is responsible for facilitating \$500 billion in international trade.

Capt. Callaghan was appointed by the Coast Guard Deputy Commandant for Operations as Chairman of the Marine Board of Investigation to investigate the causal factors in the loss of the commercial fishing vessel Scandies Rose and five crew members which occurred on December 31, 2019.

Capt. Callaghan previously served as the Commanding Officer of Marine Safety Unit Texas City from 2016-2018 and Executive Officer from 2014-2016. There, his responsibilities included carrying out the Coast Guard's Homeland Security, Marine Safety, and Marine Environmental Protection missions in the ports of Galveston, Texas City and Freeport, in over 120 miles of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, a 4,000 square-mile region of the Outer Continental Shelf, and the entrance to the nation's largest petrochemical complex.

Prior assignments include serving as the Coast Guard's program manager for Transportation Worker Identification Credential enforcement and Chief of the Port and Facility Security Standards Branch at Coast Guard Headquarters. There, he was also the Coast Guard representative to the U.S. and Canada Bi-National Maritime Security Working Group.

Capt. Callaghan was also assigned to Sector Boston, MA, where he served as Chief of Port State Control, Assistant Chief of Waterways Management, Aids to Navigation Officer, and Senior Investigating Officer. Previous to that he served at Marine Safety Office Miami, FL as Port State Control and Domestic Marine Inspector and Licensing Examiner at Regional Exam Center Miami.

Capt. Callaghan's education includes a Bachelor of Science degree from the State University of New York Maritime College, a Master's in Public Administration and Certification in Port and Maritime Administration from Old Dominion University, and a Master's in National Security and Resource Strategy from the National Defense University's Eisenhower School.

His military awards include three Meritorious Service Medals, two Coast Guard Commendation Medals the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, and various unit and team awards.

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Commander Karen Denny

Member, Marine Board of Investigation for loss of F/V SCANDIES ROSE Chief, Inspections and Investigations Branch, Eleventh Coast Guard District

Commander Karen Denny serves as the Chief, Inspections and Investigations Branch for the Eleventh Coast Guard District, located in Alameda, CA. In this position, Commander Denny is responsible for oversight and support of hundreds of Active Duty, Reserve and Auxiliary personnel from three Sectors in an area of responsibility that facilitates over \$500 billion in international trade and \$350 billion in domestic trade.

Cmdr. Denny was appointed by the Chair of the Marine Investigation Board (MBI) to serve as a team member to investigate the causal factors in the loss of the commercial fishing vessel Scandies Rose and five crew members, which occurred on December 31, 2019.

Cmdr. Denny has served in the Coast Guard for over 19 years and possesses shipboard, engineering, training, and marine safety experience as a marine inspector and as an investigating officer. Commander Denny previously served as the Executive Officer of Marine Safety Unit Portland, Oregon from 2017-2020, where her responsibilities included carrying out the Coast Guard's Homeland Security, Marine Safety, and Marine Environmental Protection missions in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, which included more than 850 miles of inland and coastal waterways. During this time, Commander Denny served as the Lead Investigating Officer in a District Formal investigation into the loss of commercial fishing vessel MARY B II and all crew on board, a casualty that occurred at the Yaquina Bay bar in Newport, Oregon in January 2019.

Prior assignments include Chief, Investigations Division at Sector Miami, Florida where she managed a division of active duty and civilian personnel who investigated marine casualties such as collisions, groundings, vessel capsizing, sinkings, fires, injuries, and deaths. Prior to that, she served as Supervisor of Marine Safety Detachment Unalaska, Alaska and acted as the primary representative of the Captain of the Port and Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection at one of the largest and most dangerous fishing and crabbing areas in the nation.

She entered the Marine Safety field upon assignment to Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach where she earned a suite of qualifications as a marine inspector and led the unit's Port State Control Branch through vessel detentions and environmental crimes case investigations. Other assignments include Deputy Chief of Marine Safety Training Branch at U. S. Coast Guard Training Center Yorktown, Virginia, Assistant Facilities Engineer at Integrated Support Command Seattle, Washington, and Damage Control Assistant on the Coast Guard Cutter VALIANT (WMEC 621) out of Miami, Florida.

Cmdr. Denny's education includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Government from the United States Coast Guard Academy and a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice from American Military University.

Cmdr. Denny's military awards include a Meritorious Service Medal, three Coast Guard Commendation Medals, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and various other personal, unit, and team awards.

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Lieutenant Commander Michael Comerford Member, Marine Board of Investigation for loss of F/V SCANDIES ROSE Assistant Chief of Inspections Division, Sector Houston Galveston

Lieutenant Commander Mike Comerford is currently serving as the Assistant Chief of Inspections Division at Sector Houston Galveston. In this position, Lt. Cmdr. Comerford leads 48 Marine Inspectors conducting commercial vessel inspections from the Houston Ship Channel up to Oklahoma. Each year, Sector Houston-Galveston Inspections Division screens approximately 10,000 foreign commercial vessel arrivals, and conducts 1,200 foreign vessel inspections and nearly 1,000 domestic vessel inspections.

Lt. Cmdr. Comerford was appointed by the Chair of the Marine Investigation Board (MBI) to serve as a team member in the investigation into the probable cause of the loss of the commercial fishing vessel Scandies Rose and five crew, which occurred on December 31, 2019.

Prior to his service at Sector Houston-Galveston, Lt. Cmdr. Comerford served as a Deck Watch Officer on the USCG Cutter Walnut (WLB 205) stationed in Honolulu, HI. He then transferred to Puerto Rico to serve as the Executive Officer on USCG Cutter Cushing (WPB 1321). In 2013, he reported to University of Washington where he conducted concentrated research on engineering smart stimuli responsive tethers to release drugs from 3D substrates. From 2015 to 2017, he served as the Staff Chemical Engineer at the Marine Safety Center. In 2018, he assumed the responsibilities of the Chief of the Vessel and Cargo Branch at the Marine Safety Center. Notable career milestones include an operational deployment for Deepwater Horizon to help recover oil at sea and serving as a Subject Matter Expert for the SS El Faro Marine Board of Investigation.

Originally from Coventry, Connecticut, Lt. Cmdr. Comerford graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 2009 with a Bachelors of Science in Marine Environmental Science. He received a Masters of Science in Chemical Engineering from the University of Washington in 2015.

Lt. Cmdr. Comerford's personal awards include two Coast Guard Commendation Medals and two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, and other unit and team awards.

F/V SCANDIES ROSE Marine Board of Investigation Members

Lieutenant Sharyl Pels

Legal Advisor, Marine Board of Investigation for loss of F/V SCANDIES ROSE

Legal Advisor, USCG Investigations National Center of Expertise

Lieutenant Sharyl Pels currently serves as legal advisor to the U.S. Coast Guard's Investigations National Center of Expertise in New Orleans, Louisiana. Her duties include providing legal and policy guidance to all Coast Guard marine casualty field investigators and legal offices nationwide.

Lt. Pels was appointed by the U.S. Coast Guard Deputy Commandant for Operations to serve as legal advisor in the investigation into the probable cause of the loss of the commercial fishing vessel Scandies Rose and five crew which occurred on December 31, 2019.

From July 2017 to July 2020, Lt. Pels assumed the duties of staff attorney in the Seventeenth District legal office in Juneau, Alaska. In this role, she advised on operational and command issues and served as the main point of contact for all legal issues arising from both Seventeenth District Sectors and all prevention law issues. In 2019, Lt. Pels was designated as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Alaska, where she prosecuted four criminal felony cases, all resulting in conviction. Lt. Pels also continues to serve as a collateral-duty Special Victims' Counsel, providing support and legal counsel to military and dependent victims of sexual assault.

From July 2015 to July 2017, Lt. Pels served in the Office of Military Justice at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Her duties included representing the United States in military justice cases at all levels of appellate review and advising field level staff judge advocates and trial counsel on a variety of military justice matters. As Appellate Government Counsel, Lt. Pels argued on behalf of the Coast Guard before the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.

Prior to her commissioning, Lt. Pels received a Bachelor of Arts, with highest distinction, in political science and communication from Purdue University in 2012. Lt. Pels then earned a Juris Doctor from Indiana University Maurer School of Law in May 2015. While in law school, she participated in the Jessup International Moot Court Competition and served as president of the Public Interest Law Foundation. Lt. Pels completed two summer internships with U.S. Coast Guard legal offices: in 2013, with District Eight Legal in New Orleans and, in 2014, with the Office of Maritime/International Law (Prevention) at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters. Lt. Pels is admitted to the Indiana Bar.

Lt. Pels' personal awards include the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer, and six Meritorious Team Commendations.

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Lieutenant Ian McPhillips

Recorder, Marine Board of Investigation for loss of F/V SCANDIES ROSE Fishing Vessel Safety Division, Seventeenth Coast Guard District

Lieutenant Ian McPhillips serves in the Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Division for the Seventeenth District Office of Prevention, Inspections and Investigations in Juneau, Alaska. He works as a staff member in support of Maritime Safety and Security activities to prevent marine casualties, disasters and security incidents across Alaska's 3.78 million square miles and 33,904 miles of coastline.

Lt. McPhillips was appointed by the Chair of the Marine Investigation Board (MBI) to serve as Recorder to investigate the causal factors in the loss of the commercial fishing vessel Scandies Rose and five crewmembers, which occurred on December 31, 2019.

He has served in the Coast Guard for over 19 years and possesses shipboard, search and rescue and marine safety experience as a marine inspector. He served as a Marine Inspector at Sector New York, Staten Island, NY, from 2014 – 2017, earning designation as a Journeyman Marine Inspector while ensuring the safety, security, and regulatory compliance of domestic and foreign-flagged vessels.

He entered the Marine Safety field after graduation from Officer Candidate School and was assigned to Marine Safety Unit Portland, Oregon from 2011 - 2014, serving as the Assistant Chief of the Waterways Management and Port Facilities Division. There, he engaged in Hazard to Navigation cases, Port Facility and Container Inspections, and acted as patrol commander for various marine events while helping manage seven staff members, two Aids to Navigation Teams and the USCG Cutter Bluebell (WLI 313).

Prior to his experience in the marine safety field, he graduated Aviation Survival Technician "A" School in class 38-04 as Rescue Swimmer #605, and was assigned to Air Station New Orleans, Louisiana from 2004 to 2007 where he served as a Helicopter Rescue Swimmer. During this assignment, he engaged in the largest rescue operation in Coast Guard history during Hurricane Katrina, when the Coast Guard rescued over 33,500 survivors. Lt. McPhillips then served at Air Station Humboldt Bay in McKinleyville, California as a duty Rescue Swimmer executing various Search and Rescue, Law Enforcement, and environmental missions. While serving as a Rescue Swimmer, he completed his Bachelor's degree from Eastern Oregon University and was accepted into Officer Candidate School.

Lt. Ian McPhillips began his career after graduation from Training Center Cape May, NJ in 2002. He was assigned as a member of the Deck Department aboard USCG Cutter Firebush (WLB 393), homeported in Kodiak, Alaska.

Lt. McPhillips is currently finishing his Masters of Science in Maritime and Naval Studies at State University of New York Maritime College. Prior to the Coast Guard, he was a Commercial Fisherman working aboard a purse seiner out of Cordova, Alaska.

His awards include two Air Medals, two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, three Coast Guard Letters of Commendation, the Coast Guard Marine Safety Insignia and various other personal and unit awards.

F/V SCANDIES ROSE Marine Board of Investigation Members

Mr. G. Keith Fawcett

**Technical Advisor, Marine Board of Investigation for loss of F/V SCANDIES ROSE
Marine Casualty Investigator, Investigations National Center of Expertise**

Mr. Keith Fawcett currently serves as a marine casualty investigator for the Coast Guard Investigations Center of Expertise in New Orleans, LA, where he assists Coast Guard Marine Accident Investigators in carrying out the objectives of the Marine Safety Program in helping prevent commercial vessel accidents. Keith is focused on providing expertise related to shipboard operations and their associate human factors components.

Mr. Fawcett started his working career in the active duty U.S. Coast Guard serving on three Coast Guard Cutters and other various duty stations, leaving the Coast Guard as a Chief Quartermaster.

In 1979, Mr. Fawcett began working in the offshore industry with Gulf Fleet Marine as a mate on offshore supply vessels. He currently holds a 1600 ton near-coastal Mate's License, 100 Ton Master, and Radar Endorsement Merchant Marine Credentials. While working for Gulf Fleet, he supported diverse oil field operations in Texas, Louisiana and Florida. Mr. Fawcett began employment at the Louisiana Oil Platform (LOOP) Marine Terminal as a Vessel Traffic Control Specialist in 1981. This unique offshore unloading terminal is located twenty miles offshore of Grand Isle, Louisiana. LOOP is the nation's premier facility for offloading ultra large crude carriers, the largest ships in the world carrying up to 4.5 million barrels of crude oil.

In May of 2000, Mr. Fawcett returned to work with the Coast Guard as a civilian supervisor at the Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) in New Orleans. In this capacity he supervised a watch team that provided vessel traffic control to the extensive lower Mississippi River and included traffic control for the busy Algiers Point area. He also served as the Training Coordinator and was selected to attend the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) Symposium in Rostock, Germany to formulate training objectives for VTS operations worldwide. In September of 2010, he accepted a position with the Investigations National Center of Expertise in New Orleans.

In 2015 Keith was awarded the USCG Sener Award for his work in the Mobile Offshore Drilling Rig Kulluk Grounding Investigation and he served as a member of the USCG Commandant Marine Board of Investigation for the sinking of the SS El Faro in Hurricane Joaquin in late 2015. He is currently supporting the high profile investigations into the fire aboard the small passenger vessel Conception as well as the sinking of the commercial fishing vessel Scandies Rose in late 2019.