

Dear Crewmember:

Here is a magnet card for ready reference on your boat, refrigerator, or wallet, along with a t-shirt order form for your Sunday Go To Meeting Wardrobe of Fine Attire. And here are the questions some of you sent in, answered:

Q. After signing off with company for injury do I still have rights later on in life?
D.S. of Columbus, MT.
A. Probably not for that injury unless you have an aggravation or re-injury on the job.

Q. Can Canadian Customs keep a seaman from working on a U.S. flag vessel in their waters based on their arrest record over 30 years ago? Minors not felonies. Can you sue them? N.D. of Detroit, MI
A. They're doin it. Canadian law sucks; hey.

Q. Do I have to wait until somebody gets hurt due to my skippers drunkenness to file a suit? M.H. of Friday harbor, WA.
A. Call the Coast Guard.

Q. How can I help change things for the better for today's and future fishing?
I.O. of Bellingham, WA.
A. Work hard, play harder.

Q. Where can I find other fishing jobs? J.M. of Pasco,

WA.
A. Alaska.

Q. Fare? Salary?, etc. W.S. of W. Covina, CA.
A. Too much, not enough.

Q. Late payments on a credit card which someone debited the account while I was at sea, and when I left the amount owed was zero? L.A. off Red Bluff, CA.
A. File it under T.S. Jones Act provides you no protection.

Q. How many times do I get a newsletter a year? E.G. of Seaview, WA.
A. 2.

Q. Shirt size M - better if you have, H.G. of Marina, CA.

Q. Can I have a medium size t-shirt? K.N. of Paradise, CA.
A. Use the form, but even so, the only sizes we have are big (XL) & beefy (XXL).

Q. Do you go after ships that pollute? M.B. of

Sterling, AK.
A. Has happened.

Q. If a crewmember comes off shore leave drunk and injures himself, how do I nail him for it? J.B. of Portland, OR.
A. From behind.

Q. Desire claim against a ferry system. M.C. of Ketchikan, AK.
A. You must be a masochist.

Q. Briefly: labor law, i.e., salary to be paid while traveling. J.P. of Virginia Beach, VA.
A. Depends on employment contract, but could be in course of employment if injured.

Q. Spills on boats that the Captain is not aware of, then injuries on boats. R.G. of Dresden, TN.
A. Company responsible.

Q. About payment for crab that is off-loaded. Who controls the price per lb? R.M. of Fort Collins, CO.
A. The law of supply and

demand.

Q. Owner 2 companies, bass
boats, ½ small. J.L. Murphy,
Vineyard Haven, MA.

A. OK.

Understand that the information provided above is provided as only general information which may or may not reflect the most current legal developments, thus the information is not provided in the course of the attorney-client relationship and is not intended to constitute legal advice or substitute for obtaining legal advice from a licensed attorney. The above responses are meant for illustrative purposes only and not to be specifically relied on pertaining to any specific case. For person-to-person legal guidance upon which you can rely, CALL US.

Very truly yours,

Dennis M. O'Bryan

DMO/mdw