

# GNOPSC Harbor Safety Committee

*Minutes of the Meeting held Wednesday, March 11, 2026*

*The following representatives were in attendance:*

<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Craig Broussard	ADM/ARTCo	Ron Branch	LAMA
Henry Peterson	Bar Pilots	Matt Denning	LAMA
Sean Duffy	Big River LLC	John Rutherford	Lanier Engineers
Nick Fleming	Boh Bros.	Vaughn McDaniel	LeBeouf Bros. Towing
Cherrie Felder	Channel Shipyard	Tony Odak	Marine & Energy Consultants
Claude Klein	CMK Consulting	Jake Stahl	Marine Expertise
Kevin Jacobs	Cooper Mooring	David Beerbohm	McDonough Marine
Paul Hendrick	Crescent River Port Pilots	Eric Anderson	McDonough Marine
James Rouse	Crescent Towing	Brett Bourgeois	New Orleans Board of Trade
Hank Webster	Federal Pilots	Earl Hersch	No More Carbon USA
Paul Dittman	GICA	Tim Osborn	NOAA
Philip Vandercook	Global Maritime Ministries	Patrick Debrosse	NOAA
Karl Gonzales	GNOBFA/Cooper Marine	Brian Akers	NOAA/MCD
Michael Nation	Harbor Towing/Star Fleet	Steve Wall	NOBRA Pilots
Jerry Clower	Harbor Towing/Star Fleet	Lauren Chandler	NWS
Liz Shellabarger	Host Agency	Ed Lee	Port of Greater Baton Rouge
Matt Lagarde	Ingram Barge	Jeff Roesel	Regional Planning Commission
Kevin Woods	Jefferson Parish OEP	Faisal Mallum	UNO Transportation Institute
Chris Ulfers	Jones Walker	Melanie Burnham	USCG
Leo Falgout	Kirby	Dan Velez	USCG
Jim Orr	L&O Marine	Chris Booth	USCG
Brandon Harris	Labmar Ferry	Brooke Cumbie Lopez	USCG
Christine Titus	LAMA	Tim Long	Valero

*The following reports were given:*

## **Harbor Safety Committee Ex-Officio, Matt Lagarde**

Matt called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance and made general announcements. Marine Industry Day is going to be May 21, 2026 at the Higgins Hotel in New Orleans. We are still looking for sponsorships, and if there are any topics you would like us to consider addressing at the conference, please reach out to any board member.

The national HSC Conference will be held March 24-25, 2026, in Seattle, Washington and hosted by the Marine Exchange of Puget Sound. The conference is sold out but we will be well represented; if you want us to take any information to share or are interested in any information we might be able to get, please connect with Matt Lagarde, Paul Dittman, or Christine after this meeting.

## **USCG Sector New Orleans, CAPT Melanie Burnham**

Captain Burnham provided updates for Sector New Orleans and highlighted recent events. CAPT Callaghan sends his regards, and please be advised that the event on June 26, 2026 will be a joint Change of Command

and Retirement Ceremony. Following that ceremony, Captain Burnham will be our Sector Commander and Captain-Select Elizabeth Newton will be reporting as Deputy Sector Commander.

As we are all aware, the government partial shutdown is impacting all DHS including USCG. The majority of the Coast Guard's civilian workforce is furloughed, and it is asked that everyone be patient and cognizant of the additional workload that our active duty Cost Guard is doing to cover all critical missions as well as bridge the gaps created by the temporary loss of civilian employees. It seems possible that USCG will not be able to attend the NHSC conference this month unless the shutdown ends fairly quickly.

The meeting that had been scheduled to explore the possibility of a VTS public-private partnership effort was postponed due to the shutdown and will be rescheduled as soon as feasible.

High water is coming and early forecasting looks like we will have a high water season very similar to last year. Thank you all for your input and partnership in updating the Waterways Action Plan. Planning in ongoing for the Sail250 event which will take place 5/28-6/1 and will increase traffic and congestion on the LMR during that period.

### **USCG MSU Baton Rouge, CDR Ben Adrien**

Based on the input and feedback received, the Waterways Action Plan has incorporated some proactive updates in MSU Baton Rouge and thanks to everyone that participated in that process.

### **USCG Sector New Orleans, CDR Dan Velez**

Thank you all for the Waterways Action Plan Coordination. There will be a safety zone of Lake Pontchartrain April 11-12 for the powerboat races.

### **Bar Pilots – Captain Henry Peterson**

Captain Peterson has moved into the role of president for the Bar Pilots and looks forward to working with everyone. The Bar Pilot route is in great condition right now,

### **Crescent Pilots – Paul Hendrick**

Normal operations, all is well on the Crescent route and they are looking forward to supporting the Sail250 event in May.

### **NOBRA Pilots – Captain Steve Wall**

NOBRA is preparing for high water and all is well.

### **Federal Pilots – Hank Webster**

Normal operations, all is well and they are looking forward to supporting the Sail250 event in May.

### **GICA – Paul Dittman**

There are currently no major construction operations ongoing at any Corps structures or bridges. The annual Joint Hurricane meeting will be held at the Port of New Orleans auditorium on May 14. Paul will be representing GICA and the GNOPSC Harbor Safety Committee at the National HSC conference as a panelist discussing Fragility of the MTS. Additionally, GICA will be briefing the DOTD Secretary in late April to explain the bridge concerns the industry is dealing with.

### **GNOBFA – Karl Gonzales**

Expect river stages to start rising by April 10. Make sure your severe weather plan is current and if you are within the RNA make sure you have applied for your exemption. We are starting to develop some tasking for the High Water & Severe Weather Subcommittee.

### **AWO – Jill Bessetti**

Thanks to everyone that came out to the AWO Southern & Mid-America combined regions meetings which were a great success.

**CAMO – Jake Stahl**

Jake gave an update on CAMO initiatives including Marine Safe 811. If you have questions or would like more information, reach out to [ed.landgraf@camogroup.org](mailto:ed.landgraf@camogroup.org).

**Cybersecurity Subcommittee – Lester Millet III**

Lester was unable to attend, and his updates are included as an attachment to these minutes.

**Global Maritime – Philip Vandercook**

They are hosting a special Thank An Officer event on May 15 at the ministry center at 3636 Tchoupitoulas Street. Please come by between 8am-10am to express your gratitude to those who serve and protect us. GMM is also collecting items that our officers use and need but that are not provided to them such as disposable latex gloves, hand sanitizer, packaged snacks, etc. and they will be distributing any items you want to donate through GMM and during that event. They have developed an easy way to support – feel free to click on [this Amazon list](#) and send some of their specific requests directly to the ministry center.

**NOAA**

Tim Osborn reminded everyone to please put in your speaking engagement requests for hurricane season meetings and sessions. CDR Patrick Debrosse gave a presentation on marine charting updates from the NOAA U.S. Office of Coast Survey.

*Port Safety Council Ex-Officio Matt Lagarde adjourned the meeting. The next meeting of the GNOPSC Harbor Safety Committee is our annual conference on May 21, 2026.*



## LOUISIANA MARITIME SECURITY COMMUNITY (LOMSEC) GNOPSC HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING



### March 2026 Report

### MEETINGS

#### Past

- 12 February 2026: **LOMSEC (Louisiana Maritime Security Community) Meeting:** The St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Dept. Lloyd B Johnson L.E. Training Center- 947 Cambridge Dr., Laplace, LA 70068  
Speakers: Jacques Thibodeaux, AG Liz Murrill January 2025 Terrorist Incident Timeline, SA Randy Jordan, FBI N.O. CIKR Cyber Threats; Jonathan Fox Intelligent Transportation Systems / Enhancing Facility Surveillance 50+ Attendees
- 19 February 2026 **InfraGard Louisiana Acadiana Meeting:** The Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Public Safety Complex (ALETA) - 1825 W Willow St., Scott, LA 70583
- **Speakers:** SA Paul Sellers, FBI N.O. Lafayette RA Current Threats Trending / Sgt. Scot W. Greig, LSP LA-SAFE LA-SAFE Overview / Stephanie Ross, Managing Program Director for Public Safety & Resilience / Water Sector interdependency 51 Attendees





# LOUISIANA MARITIME SECURITY COMMUNITY (LOMSEC) GNOPSC HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING



## March 2026 Report MEETINGS Upcoming

- 10-12 March 2026 : 2026 Critical Infrastructure Protection & Resilience North America Conference - 10-12 March 2026, Crowne Plaza, Baton Rouge
- 31 March 2026: **InfraGard Louisiana Baton Rouge Meeting**-The Louisiana State Police Training Academy Auditorium- 7901 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Speakers: Jacques Thibodeaux, AG Liz Murrill January 2025 Terrorist Incident Timeline / FBI N.O. Current Threats  
SA Randy Jordan- FBI Ransomware Case Overview





## LOUISIANA MARITIME SECURITY COMMUNITY (LOMSEC) GNOPSC HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

### March 2026 Report

#### Threat Advisories

- Iran Threat Overview and Advisories <https://www.cisa.gov/topics/cyber-threats-and-advisories/advanced-persistent-threats/iran>
- Primary Mitigations to Reduce Cyber Threats to Operational Technology <https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/resources/primary-mitigations-reduce-cyber-threats-operational-technology>
- The Attack on Colonial Pipeline: What We've Learned & What We've Done Over the Past Two Years
- [The Attack on Colonial Pipeline: What We've Learned & What We've Done Over the Past Two Years | CISA](#)
- DHS CISA Pipeline Cybersecurity [Pipeline Cybersecurity | CISA](#)
- DHS CISA Pipeline Cyber Risk Mitigation Infographic <https://www.cisa.gov/publication/pci-cyber-risk-infographic>

(SA) Based upon recent information, Please maintain Heightened Domain Awareness for possible Cyber Threats to All Pipeline Infrastructure and Control Systems (See Below For Guidance):

Note: All Suspicious Activity Should be immediately reported (Refer to Your FSP)

