

## Signet Maritime President/CEO honored with U.S. Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award

**Ingleside**, **Texas**, **September 12**, **2018** – Mr. J. Barry Snyder, President & CEO of Signet Maritime Corporation was presented the United States Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award by Rear Admiral Paul F. Thomas, Commander, Eight Coast Guard District, for his outstanding contributions to Port Corpus Christi, Ingleside and the United States Coast Guard from July 2017 to January 2018.

Signet supported the Coast Guard on three separate occasions during this time, demonstrating their proactive engagement and cooperative spirit. During and after Hurricane Harvey, Mr. Snyder provided Sector/Air Station Corpus Christi with tugs to respond to storm damaged vessels and reconstitute the port. Additionally, on October 20, 2017, Mr. Snyder and the Signet Ingleside Team provided tremendous support with firefighting application to extinguish a fire onboard Barge No. 255, an effort that helped settle the fire within ten minutes. Finally, Mr. Snyder entered into a mutual training agreement with Coast Guard Sector/Air Station Corpus Christi on December 22, 2017 to build knowledge and experience for both crews in advanced Search and Rescue operations for fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

Captain Richard A. Hahn, Sector Commander/Air Station Commanding Officer and Captain Jason E. Smith, Deputy Sector Commander representing Sector Corpus Christi participated in the ceremony at the Signet Maritime International Operations Complex located in Ingleside, Texas. Admiral Thomas accompanied by Captains Hahn and Smith joined the voyage onboard SIGNET ARCTURUS, and a demonstration of Fire Fighting Class 1 (Fi-Fi1) by SIGNET CONSTELLATION and SIGNET STARS & STRIPES while transiting the LaQuinta Channel.



RADM Thomas congratulates Mr. Snyder while Captain Hahn, Captain Moore and Joshua Johnson participate in the award presentation



RADM Thomas onboard SIGNET ARCTURUS navigating the LaQuinta Channel as Captain Taylor and Joshua Johnson demonstrate technologically advanced equipment in the wheelhouse

## **About the Award**

## Meritorious Public Service Award to Mr. Barry Snyder

The Commandant of the United States Coast Guard takes great pleasure in presenting the Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award to Mr. Barry Snyder, President and CEO of SIGNET MARITIME, for his outstanding contributions to the Port of Corpus Christi and United States Coast Guard from July 2017 to January 2018. Throughout this time Mr. Snyder's proactive engagement and cooperative spirit provided Sector/Air Station Corpus Christi with tugs to respond to storm damaged vessels and reconstitute the port following the historic Hurricane HARVEY, firefighting capabilities to extinguish a fire onboard the Barge No. 255, and a real-world Search and Rescue training platform for fixed and rotary wing aircraft. Hurricane HARVEY, an unprecedented category four hurricane, with winds reaching 135 miles per hour and storm surge exceeding 10 feet, destroyed or severely damaged approximately 80 percent of multiple coastal communities. In advance of the storm, Mr. Snyder pre-emptively engaged the Coast Guard and made his fleet of tugs available to assist with response and recovery efforts. In particular, Mr. Snyder used his resources to assist with clearing vessels, including last minute departures of two drill ships from the Port of Corpus Christi prior to the storm's arrival. Without hesitation, he dispatched SIGNET vessels to help remaining vessels in port hold their positions significantly reducing the threat of damage to facilities throughout the port area. Despite losing one vessel and sustaining significant damage to another, Mr. Snyder's collaboration and cooperation aided response personnel in the salvage of a 500-foot drillship and other vessels that grounded and blocked the entrance channel preventing commercial traffic from transiting into and out of the port. As a direct result of his contributions, the Coast Guard balanced competing environmental and economic drivers to safely open the port within six days following this historic hurricane. Additionally, Mr. Snyder provided tremendous support to Coast Guard response operations following the report of an explosion, fire, and subsequent oil spill from Barge No. 255 with 140,000 barrels of crude oil onboard in the Aransas Pass Anchorage. Immediately upon notification, Mr. Snyder independently directed SIGNET tugs with marine firefighting capabilities to assist with the Coast Guard's response efforts. First to arrive on scene, his vessels provided boundary cooling and blanketed the barge with foam, extinguishing the fire within 10 minutes. These efforts prevented the catastrophic release of the remaining crude oil onboard the barge and eliminated devastating impacts to the local economy, environment, and sensitive wildlife throughout the Corpus Christi region. Finally, on December 22, 2017, Mr. Snyder entered into a mutual training agreement with Coast Guard Sector/Air Station Corpus Christi.

This training agreement is designed to build knowledge and experience for both Coast Guard and SIGNET crews with advanced search and rescue training and enhance critical proficiency across both organizations. Mr. Snyder's dedication, professionalism and unwavering support for public service are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

**About Signet Maritime Corporation:** Since 1976, Signet Maritime has been an industry leader delivering quality marine transportation and logistics services to customers worldwide. The award-winning company operates a diverse fleet of tug boats specifically designed for multi-disciplinary work including ship-assist, ship escort, towing, offshore support, subsea and rig moves. Certified to ISO 9001:2015, ISM, STCW-2010, MTSA, SEEMP and 46 CFR Subchapter M; in addition to meeting all applicable USCG, SOLAS, MARPOL, and EPA requirements.

**About Signet Shipbuilding & Repair:** Award-winning shipyard providing quality construction, repair and engineering services to the maritime industry. Strategically located along the Pascagoula River with direct access to the Gulf of Mexico, and is capable of dry-docking seven vessels simultaneously. The \$7.5M infrastructure expansion enables total construction in a protected environment with 600-tonne Marine Travelift.

## For more information contact:

Gayle Snyder +1.713.840.1100

News@SignetMaritime.com