



U.S. COAST GUARD WITNESS / INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT FORM

Witness Name: Joseph Emanuel Peters (Please Print Clearly) Employer Name: Sam Christopher  
 Street Address: [REDACTED] Employer Address: [REDACTED]  
 City/State/Zip: [REDACTED] City/State/Zip: Jacksonville, FL  
 Phone No: [REDACTED] Phone No: [REDACTED]  
 Position: Deckhand Lic/Doc/Last 4 SSN. # [REDACTED]

I, the undersigned, make the following statement voluntarily, without threat, duress or promise of reward:

We left Bayou LeBattre for shrimping on September 14<sup>th</sup> and shrimped without incident for nine days. Weather was calm however the tide was running strong, approximately 2.5-2.6 kts. The outriggers were high for the type of activity, shrimping. The vessel had been outfitted for scalloping and some modifications had been made to the fishing nets and hull but not to the outriggers to lower them.

As we turned to port, I was in the wheelhouse with Lee, the master. I watched the outrigger fore stay go slack and went aft to the winch. On my way I told Nick and Damien to come with me. Nick came, Damien stayed behind.

The aft deck was awash when Nick and I came out. We found the winch to be pulled from it's normal position out of reach by the bracking of the cable. I was unable to reach the winch and was compelled to grab to the vessel as she rolled over.

I have read my statement as documented above (and, if applicable, on continuation pages), and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true and correct.

[REDACTED]  
 SIGNATURE

9/24/14  
 DATE