

**From:** [Johnson, Jeffrey](#)  
**To:** [Luke Wisniewski](#)  
**Subject:** Signed - NTSB Party Participation Request Ovide J Investigation  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 17, 2024 9:18:51 AM  
**Attachments:** [Signed - Party Rep Cert - EMS - Ovide J.pdf](#)

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Luke,

Good morning. The signed Party Representative Certification page is attached. Am available to discuss at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Jeff Johnson  
Enterprise Marine Services/Mgr

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** Johnson, Jeffrey  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 8:23 AM  
**To:** 'Luke Wisniewski' <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: DCA23FM031: NTSB Party Participation Request Ovide J Investigation 25 April 2023

Luke,

Good morning. Will have the signed form back to by close of business Monday, 12/9.

A thought on your incident summary, it is our view that the contact between the EMS 348 and dock was nominal and routine and is not the primary causal factor in the dock collapse.

Sincerely,

Jeff Johnson

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Johnson, Jeffrey  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 4, 2024 10:41 AM  
**To:** 'Luke Wisniewski' <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] USCG SEC NOLA (USA) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] USCG SEC VIRGINIA (USA) <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: DCA23FM031: NTSB Party Participation Request Ovide J Investigation 25 April 2023

Luke,

Good morning. Received and will sign and return NTSB form shortly.

Sincerely,

Jeff Johnson  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** Luke Wisniewski <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 3, 2024 11:01 AM  
**To:** Johnson, Jeffrey <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] USCG SEC NOLA (USA) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] USCG SEC VIRGINIA (USA) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] DCA23FM031: NTSB Party Participation Request Ovide J Investigation 25 April 2023

[Use caution with links/attachments]

Good morning, Jeff,

Please find attached NTSB's party representative form to participate in the investigation of Contact of Towing vessel Ovide J with Chalmette Oil Refinery Crude Oil Dock.

On April 25, 2023, about 0004 central daylight time, the 76-foot-long towing vessel Ovide J was attempting to maneuver two 297-foot-long loaded crude oil barges to Chalmette Oil Refinery's crude dock near mile 89 on the Lower Mississippi River when the starboard barge's (EMS 348) starboard quarter struck the dock, causing 150 feet of the dock to collapse. There were no injuries or pollution reported. The berth suffered extensive damage to the pipelines, bridges, and pilings. The cost of repairs was about \$1.34 million.

Please sign and return the first page of the form to me at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions or concerns, I'll be happy to address them.

I look forward to your reply.

Best Regards,

Luke Wisniewski

Sr. Marine Investigator  
Office of Marine Safety  
National Transportation Safety Board  
490 L'Enfant Plaza East, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20594  
Office: [REDACTED]

Cell: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

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NTSB Investigation No. DCA23FM031

Date of Accident: April 25, 2023

Accident Location: Chalmette, Louisiana

### **PARTY REPRESENTATIVE CERTIFICATION OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I acknowledge that I am participating in the above-referenced National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) accident or incident investigation on behalf of my employer, who has been named a party to the investigation, to provide technical assistance to the NTSB's evidence documentation and fact-finding activities. I understand that, as party participants, I and my organization will be responsive to the direction of NTSB personnel and may lose party status for conduct that is prejudicial to the investigation or inconsistent with NTSB policies or instructions. No information pertaining to the accident, or in any manner relevant to the investigation, may be withheld from the NTSB by any party or party participant.

I further acknowledge that (1) I have familiarized myself with the attached copies of the NTSB Accident/Incident Investigation Procedures (49 *Code of Federal Regulations* [CFR] Part 831) and "Information and Guidance for Parties to NTSB Accident and Incident Investigations," (2) I will comply with these requirements, and (3) I will take all reasonable steps to ensure that the employees and participants of my organization also comply. This includes, but is not limited to, the provisions of Title 49 CFR 831.11 and 831.13, which, respectively, specify certain criteria for participation in NTSB investigations and limitations on the dissemination of investigation information.

No party representative may occupy a legal position or represent claimants or insurers. I certify that my participation is not on behalf of either claimants or insurers. Although factual information obtained as a result of participating in the NTSB investigation may ultimately be used in litigation (at the appropriate time, and in a manner that is not inconsistent with the provisions of 49 CFR § 831.13 and 49 *United States Code* § 1154), the purpose of my participation is to assist the NTSB safety investigation and not to prepare for litigation. I also certify that, after the NTSB investigator-in-charge (IIC) releases the parties and party representatives from the restrictions on dissemination of investigative information specified in 49 CFR 831.13, neither I nor my organization will in any way assert in civil litigation arising out of the accident any claim of privilege for information or records received as a result of my participation in the NTSB investigation.

### **CERTIFICATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL PARTY REPRESENTATIVE**

Jeff Johnson

Name & Title

Ovide J - Enterprise Marine Services

Party Organization/Employer

12/17/2024  
Date

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL PARTY REPRESENTATIVE**

Name & Title

Party Organization/Employer

Date

**From:** [Johnson, Jeffrey](#)  
**To:** [Luke Wisniewski](#)  
**Subject:** EMS Recommended Revisions to NTSB Draft Report - MV Ovide  
**Date:** Friday, January 3, 2025 10:51:21 AM  
**Attachments:** [Draft NTSB Report - Ovide J \(April 25, 2023\) \(EMS Revisions\).docx](#)  
**Sensitivity:** Confidential

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Luke,

Good morning. The attached contains EMS recommendations. Nothing too extraordinary from our end. We do ask for some consideration regarding the use of "struck" in the summary paragraph.

Hope it helps and appreciate the opportunity to review and comment. Available to discuss at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Jeff Johnson

EMS, Mgr

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] cell

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**From:** Luke Wisniewski [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 19, 2024 5:24 PM  
**To:** Johnson, Jeffrey <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NTSB -Technical Review Request of the draft report for Contact of Ovide J Tow with PBF Chalmette Refinery Dock: DCA23FM031  
**Sensitivity:** Confidential

[Use caution with links/attachments]

Good evening, Mr. Johnson,

Please find attached NTSB's draft Marine Investigation Report for the investigation into Contact of Ovide J Tow with PBF Chalmette Refinery Dock on April 25, 2023, about 0004 local time. The towing vessel Ovide J was maneuvering two loaded crude oil barges to the PBF Chalmette Refinery crude oil dock near mile 89 on the Lower Mississippi River in Chalmette, Louisiana, when the starboard barge's starboard quarter struck the dock, causing 150 feet of the dock to collapse.

Kindly review the attached draft report (word document or pdf) for accuracy and provide technical review and comment. The deadline for submitting comments is

**January 3rd, 2025.** If I do not have a reply by that date, I will consider the report to be technically correct. The NTSB investigative team will review all factual comments and provide a written summary of the disposition of those comments, including whether any changes have been or will be made to the report.

Please remember that the draft report is for official use only until released in the public docket. NTSB regulations prohibit the release of investigative information that has not been released by the NTSB without prior consultation and approval of the investigator-in-charge. I will inform you as to the release date of the public docket.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this email. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have regarding this process.

I look forward to your review and comments.

Best Regards,

Luke Wisniewski

Sr. Marine Investigator  
Office of Marine Safety  
National Transportation Safety Board  
490 L'Enfant Plaza East, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20594

Office: [REDACTED]

Cell: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

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<Ovide J Draft MIR TechReview EMS.pdf>

<Ovide J Draft MIR TechReview EMS.docx>