

**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT  
DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** June 18, 2015  
**To:** Harbor Commission  
**From:** Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director  
**Subject:** Harbor Operations Report

---

**HARBOR PATROL CONDUCTS RARE ISLAND ASSIST**

At 1:00 p.m. on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Harbor Patrol received a call from the wife of a prospective kidney transplant recipient who had been on the “waiting list” for some time. She had been contacted by health officials who said a kidney from a deceased donor was waiting for him, but quick action was necessary to ensure he would be available in time for the transplant.

No problem, right? Well, the recipient was at the Channel Islands, and the Coast Guard and Harbor Patrol could not reach him by radio or cell phone. But there was still hope. Like all boaters should do, he had filed a “float plan” with his wife, who said he had sailed to Frys Harbor at Santa Cruz Island.

At 2:30 p.m., Harbor Patrol headed for the island aboard Patrol Boat #2 (PB #2), bucking heavy seas and 20-knot west winds along the way. Instead of heading directly for Frys, officers aimed for an area west of Frys, so they could check nearby small coves and anchorages in case the vessel had relocated. Meanwhile, the National Park Service began checking anchorages from the east end of the island working west.

Shortly after 3:30 p.m., Harbor Patrol arrived at Frys, and voila, there stood the “intended target” aboard a sailboat, looking somewhat astonished at a Harbor Patrol boat 25 miles from Santa Barbara Harbor. It was, in fact, one of the rare times—possibly the only time—Harbor Patrol has responded to Santa Cruz Island. Informed that his number was up and that Patrol would escort him back to Santa Barbara, he quickly packed a few essentials, climbed aboard PB #2, and the party of three—Officers Jan Martinez, Anthony Lombardi, and the prospective recipient—headed for the mainland. They arrived back at Santa Barbara Harbor at 4:45 p.m., and the recipient reported that he was safely in his room at a Los Angeles-area transplant center shortly before 6:00 p.m. He called Harbor Patrol the next day to say, “Thanks,” and to relay the news that he had received his new kidney.

**BOATER’S TRUCK SINKS AT HARBOR LAUNCH RAMP**

By early evening on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, the small-boat launch ramp had seen a normal, busy day when at 6:30 p.m. a driver backed a trailer and Calabria ski boat down the ramp to launch it. Since, however, the boat was still lashed to its trailer, it floated the trailer and back-end of the two-wheel-drive vehicle into the harbor, where both wound

up submerged in eight feet of water. The driver remained in the truck until finally kicking out a window, after which he stood on top of the vehicle, attempting to remove a duffle bag of valuables through the broken window as it continued to sink.

Finally, a Good Samaritan diver from the Santa Barbara Sailing Center attached a line to the front-end frame of the vehicle and Harbor Patrol towed truck, trailer and ski boat out of the water to the safety of the launch-ramp parking lot. Thankfully, the incident ended without injury to the driver, though his truck had to be towed away.

Lesson learned: Always make sure your boat can float free from its trailer when launching at the small-boat launch ramp.

### **MAYOR SIGNS SUPPORT LETTER FOR AB 226—FISHERMEN'S MARKETS**

In early June, Mayor Schneider sent a letter to State Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins, supporting Speaker Atkins' proposed legislation (AB 226) that would formally recognize Fishermen's Markets and establish food-safety guidelines for these activities.

Working closely with Santa Barbara County's Department of Environmental Health, Santa Barbara fishermen currently conduct informal Fishermen's Markets on Saturday mornings and at our annual Harbor and Seafood Festival, where they sell finfish and invertebrates directly to the public. By establishing food-safety and sanitation requirements for conducting these events, AB 226 provides clear guidance for fishermen and local health agencies alike, removing any doubt about how these markets should operate.

Finally, legislative recognition of Fishermen's Markets, via AB 226, elevates their status to that of Farmers Markets, important recognition for an industry whose participants are eager to access "value added" outlets such as direct sales to the public.

### **FISHERMAN FILES SUIT AGAINST PLAINS ALL-AMERICAN PIPELINE**

A Santa Barbara commercial fisherman has filed a proposed class-action lawsuit against Plains All-American Pipeline for impacts from the oil spill near Refugio State Beach. Stace Cheverez, a fishermen since 1989, filed suit in a Los Angeles federal court on June 1<sup>st</sup>. He is represented by Keller Rohrback, the legal firm that represented fishermen, landowners, and businesses in Prince William Sound in their action against Exxon to recover damages caused by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

(Note: In this class-action lawsuit, Mr. Cheverez will be one member of a class, if certified by the court, of individual fishermen, primarily urchin divers and nearshore rockfish fishermen, who claim to have been financially or otherwise damaged by the spill. Should there be an award, either from a settlement or court decision, it would be shared among all members of the class.)

The lawsuit claims the Refugio oil spill has damaged the livelihood of fishermen and businesses along the Santa Barbara County coast, and seeks economic damages. It also alleges that, "Long-term damages include future lost profits due to the harm caused to the fisheries themselves. For example, the oil is likely to depress or even eradicate in some areas populations of sea urchins, crab, lobster and other crustaceans by directly killing numbers of those species or hindering their breeding and feeding. Similarly, oil that sinks below the surface will poison fish and potentially smother their eggs, limiting their future numbers."

Mr. Cheverez's attorneys have requested a jury trial on the issues stated in its legal action.

## **INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION**

After a year's absence, a music simulcast will accompany July 4th fireworks at the Waterfront, care of KJEE, 92.9 FM. In addition, live onstage music from 3:00 p.m. until just before the fireworks show, presented by a collaboration of City Departments and local community groups, will entertain visitors at this family-friendly event.

Garden State Fireworks, a 130-year-old pyrotechnics company famous for shows such as the 1988 Winter Olympics and the New Year's Eve celebration in New York's Times Square, will provide this year's fireworks display. This will be Garden State's first show at the Waterfront, to be repeated at the Parade of Lights on December 6th.

As always, food vendors on Cabrillo Boulevard just west of State Street will provide offerings ranging from hot dogs to barbeque to fresh fruit. This year, the Department will expand information about the Independence Day celebration on its website, including best ways access the event, plus parking information, bus schedules and more.

Attachment: Mayor's letter supporting AB 226

Prepared by: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

**June 18, 2015**  
**Report #5**



# City of Santa Barbara

Office of Mayor

HSchneider@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov

June 2, 2015

Helene Schneider  
Mayor

Assembly Speaker Toni G. Atkins  
P.O. Box 942849, Room 219  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0078

City Hall  
735 Anacapa Street  
Santa Barbara, CA  
93101 1990

**Subject: Support Assembly Bill 226, Food Safety and Fishermen's Markets**

Dear Speaker Atkins:

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 1990  
Santa Barbara, CA  
93102-1990

On behalf of the City of Santa Barbara, which includes a working waterfront that supports 80 commercial fishing boats and 200 fishing families, I am writing to express support for Assembly Bill 226, formally recognizing Fishermen's Markets and establishing food-safety guidelines for these activities.

Tel: 805.564.5323  
Fax: 805.564.5475

Working closely with Santa Barbara County's Department of Environmental Health, Santa Barbara fishermen currently conduct informal fishermen's markets on Saturday mornings and at our annual Harbor and Seafood Festival, during which they sell finfish and invertebrates directly to the public. By establishing food-safety and sanitation requirements for conducting these events, AB 226 provides clear guidance for fishermen and local health agencies alike, removing any doubt about how these markets should operate.

Finally, legislative recognition of Fishermen's Markets, via AB 226, elevates their status to that of Farmers' Markets, important recognition for an industry whose participants are eager to access "value added" markets such as direct sales to the public.

Again, I wish to reiterate the City of Santa Barbara's support for Assembly Bill 226.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helene Schneider".

Helene Schneider  
Mayor

Cc: Assembly Member Das Williams, 37th District  
Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th District  
Dave Mullinax, League of California Cities



Please consider the environment before printing this letter.

**Attachment**