

October 29th, 2017

Mr. Jim Sloan, Chairman  
City of Santa Barbara Harbor Commission

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WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

Dear Chairman Sloan:

I understand that your commission is reviewing an application by the boater who slammed into the Santa Barbara Pier on July 2nd this year.

My wife and I were on the pier that evening when my attention was drawn to a boat that was being "piloted" by someone who I thought at first was performing a stunt maneuver in a movie.

I looked around but saw no cameras.

I then looked back at the boat as it did doughnuts in the sheltered part of the pier area- before slamming into a pier pillar. Two passengers on the boat were ejected and who eventually climbed a ladder to safety. I approached the two individuals - and saw that the female had a minor cut on her leg. She was clearly embarrassed and did not want to create any fuss.

Meanwhile the boat captain decided to flee after he saw a crowd amassing on the pier.

I was so incensed by his reckless, cavalier and dangerous behavior that I immediately took out my iPhone and snapped a photo of him which I then posted on Twitter. I wanted his identity to be known.

In my view, this man should never be allowed to hold a boating license ever again. He is a menace based on what I saw.

He could easily have killed one or more of his passengers.

And for him to leave the scene before Harbor Police arrived is down right criminal.

I have piloted one or two "speed boats" in my 65 year life but am no expert. However, I think I can recognize someone who presents a danger to others.

I urge this Commission to do whatever is necessary to ensure that this individual is denied the privilege of boating in and around Santa Barbara Pier.

Sincerely

Paul Greenwood  
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Head of Elder Abuse Prosecutions  
San Diego DA's Office  
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