

CHESAPEAKE MARINE TRAINING INSTITUTE, INC.



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Fishing Vessel Safety forum
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BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT FOR CAPTAIN JOHN J. O'LEARY:

John O'Leary is the Marine Safety and Survival Division Chief for Chesapeake Marine Training Institute, Inc. (CMTI), located in Hayes, Virginia and serves as a member of the U. S. Coast Guard's Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Safety Advisory Committee. He received his Associate Degree in Fisheries and Marine Technology from the University of Rhode Island and designation as a Marine Safety Instructor through the Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA) in Sitka, Alaska. John has over 31 years experience as a commercial fisherman in Atlantic Ocean and coastal waters. His boat, the *Captain Bligh*, has been featured in the television series "THE LOBSTERMEN."

In John's current position with CMTI Marine Safety and Survival Division, he routinely conducts safety inspections aboard more than twenty boats a month, and conducts drills with the assigned crews to assess their abilities and readiness to face emergencies aboard their vessels at sea. This provides him with a unique opportunity to interface with hundreds of commercial fishermen on a regular basis and see first-hand many potential and real problems they face daily. His safety inspection reports afford the vessel Captain's and companies an opportunity to see and make repairs to many on-board potentially dangerous crew and vessel situations, helping to prevent accidents.