

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TENTATIVE RESOLUTION IN ORANGE COUNTY OIL SPILL LITIGATION:
Shipping Companies Agree to Pay \$45 Million**

Feb. 9, 2023 - Multiple shipping companies have agreed to pay \$45 million to class members who were injured from the 25,000-gallon oil pipeline leak offshore Huntington Beach, Calif., in Oct. 2021. The shipping companies are Capetanissa Maritime Corporation, Costamare Shipping Co., S.A., V.Ships Greece Ltd., and the M/V Beijing (collectively, “Capetanissa”) and Dordellas Finance Corp., MSC Mediterranean Shipping Co., S.A., Mediterranean Shipping Co. Srl., MSC Shipmanagement Ltd., and MSC Danit (collectively, “Dordellas”). The tentative resolution—which after finalizing additional settlement terms will be jointly presented to Judge David O. Carter (C.D. Calif.) for approval—is the result of a months-long negotiation between legal counsel for the class members, Capetanissa, and Dordellas under the auspices of mediators Hon. Layn R. Phillips (Fmr.) and Hon. Sally Shushan (Ret.).

Class members alleged that Capetanissa’s and Dordellas’ container ship vessels repeatedly crossed over and struck the oil pipeline owned by Houston-based Amplify Energy Corp. with their anchors on Jan. 25, 2021, during a heavy weather event. The container ships’ anchor strikes, the class members claim, displaced the pipeline, and damaged the pipeline’s concrete casing, leading to the pipeline’s failure nine months later. Capetanissa and Dordellas have denied the class members’ allegations. Amplify Energy, the pipeline owner, previously settled with the class members in Oct. 2022 for \$50 million.

This settlement, combined with the Amplify Energy settlement, provides close to \$100 million to class members whose businesses and property were harmed by the spill. “It is a result the Orange County coastal community can be proud of, and it sends a clear message to large corporations operating off the coast of California that they will be held responsible for their negligence,” states the class members’ legal counsel Wylie Aitkin, Lexi Hazam, and Stephen Larson.

While the class members’ settlement with Capetanissa and Dordellas resolves the class members’ claims, the pipeline owners, and operators (Amplify Energy Corp., Beta Operating Company, LLC, and San Pedro Bay Pipeline Company) claims against the shipping entities remain outstanding, with a trial date looming in the coming months.

As the settlement terms are finalized in the coming weeks, additional information will be made available to class members and the public.

Contacts/lead counsel:

Wylie Aitken 714-273-9273; wylie@aitkenlaw.com

Lexi Hazam 415-956-1000; lhazam@lchb.com

Stephen Larson 909-285-5632; slarson@larsonllp.com