

Fashion Blacksmith, harbor district meet in mediation

March 24, 2023



Last week, The TriPLICATE published an article from Captain Randy Smith of the Mistacy. In the report, Smith outlined the recent experience of a rudder malfunction on his vessel while on the open sea and his ability to safely return to the Crescent City Harbor with the assistance of fellow commercial fishing vessels.

Smith also shared his inability to have his vessel lifted up and examined by vessel repair specialist Fashion Blacksmith. Smith denoted several deficiencies in harbor operations and his opinion of the harbor's disdain for commercial fishing.

When the TriPLICATE sought out harbor response through Harbor Master, Tim Petrick, he stated he was precluded from responding, citing an ongoing lawsuit between Fashion Blacksmith and the Crescent City Harbor.

This past week, the litigants and their respective counsels met, called witnesses and heard sworn testimony before a three-person arbitration board.

Fashion Blacksmith and its owner Ted Long are represented by George Mavris and Chris Van Hook.

Crescent City Harbor is represented by Cruser, Mitchell, Novitz, Sanchez, Gaston and Zimet and Best, Best and Krieger.

Several witnesses including Petrick delivered testimony. Additional witnesses were called through Friday, March 24. The arbitration board concluded its hearing and will now deliberate on its findings. A decision is expected after mid-April.

This story is ongoing. The Triplicate will follow and report, accordingly.