

Christian & Company

MARINE SURVEYORS

KELLS W. CHRISTIAN

1276 Scott Street • San Diego, California 92106

Phone: 619-223-7380

LITIGATION SUPPORT • MARINE CLAIMS • VESSEL INSPECTIONS

Accredited Marine Surveyor with over 30 years experience. Expertise in recreational and commercial vessels. Regional Director of Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors (SAMS) for two years. Prominent member of numerous other industry organizations. Unwavering commitment to continued education and tracking current regulations, industry trends, and market conditions. Ability to understand technical functions from multiple angles and explain them clearly in lay-person terminology. Accomplished speaker, writer, educator, and communicator. Raised the bar for quality customer service.

Integrity • Impeccable Reputation • Ethical • Diligent

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

CHRISTIAN & COMPANY MARINE SURVEYORS, INC., San Diego, California

1995–PRESENT

PRINCIPAL

- Manage day-to-day operations of business and staff. Conducted/oversaw over 9,900 marine insurance claims (300 per year) and 23,000 condition and valuation inspections (700 per year) for wood, fiberglass, steel, aluminum, and ferro cement pleasure yachts, commercial passenger vessels, and commercial fishing vessels. Travel globally to assist with claims and vessel inspections.
- Provide expert witness testimony with adherence to the highest of standards as set forth by the American Boat and Yachting Council, the National Fire Protection Agency, and the United States Coast Guard. Ascribe to the Code of Ethics and By Laws of SAMS.
- Developed a thorough system of inspecting vessels inclusive of the following: structural integrity analysis, dry dock inspections, sea trials, electrical systems, propulsion system, fuel system, machinery, navigation, overall cosmetic appearance, and general condition.
- Attend and instruct at continuing education events, including International Boat Builders Exposition seminars, numerous American Boat and Yachting Council seminars, and local, regional, and national symposiums for SAMS.
- Developed a program for State Farm Insurance geared toward training their marine claims managers and adjusters. Created text and course materials and taught classes.
- Authored numerous articles available at Themarinesurveyors.com

Marine Claims Assistance - Vessel Inspections
1276 Scott Street – San Diego, CA 92106
TEL 619.223.7380 800.944.4789 FAX 619.223.7390
office@themarinesurveyors.com - themarinesurveyors.com

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THE MARINE SURVEYORS, INC., Jacksonville/Orlando/San Diego

1990–1995

REGIONAL MANAGER/FIELD TECHNICIAN

- Performed over 2,000 claims assignments for recreational and commercial vessels.
- Determined cause of loss; performed inspections to determine claim-related damages.
- Served as liaison between policy holders and repair facilities. Negotiated repair costs. Obtained discounts when appropriate.
- Performed over 1,500 condition and valuation surveys for underwriters and buyers.
- Oversaw hiring and training of technicians for the Jacksonville, Orlando, and Seattle offices.
- Played key role in the San Diego area for marketing, developing new business, and providing services (including P & I theft claims and expert witness services in County and Federal courts).

MARASSIST, INC., Jacksonville, Florida

1988–1990

GENERAL MANAGER

- Managed a repair business for commercial and recreational vessels up to 80 feet long.
- Supervised start to finish work for general maintenance, painting, and electrical repairs.
- Provided preparatory education for United States Coast Guard Captain's license examinations. Implemented a comprehensive training program for the Marine Division of the Jacksonville Fire Department.
- Delivered vessels to destinations in the United States and Bahama Islands.

ST. JOHN'S RIVER TAXI, INC., Jacksonville, Florida

1989–1990

CAPTAIN

- In charge of operating a river taxi service consisting of 4 vessels carrying 26 passengers each.
- Provided general maintenance and repair services.
- Oversaw passenger safety issues in compliance with state and federal regulations.

SEATOW INC., Jacksonville, Florida

1985–1987

CAPTAIN

- Provided services in all phases of the towing and salvage business.
- Operated the towing vessel; located and recovered vessels in distress; raised submerged vessels; performed salvage and wreckage removal services.

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PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Surveyor for San Diego Unified Port District, 2004 - 2005, 2013 - present
Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors, AMS #301, Regional Director (2001–2003), current member
International Association of Marine Investigators, member, 2003
American Boat and Yachting Council, member, 1995
San Diego Port Tenants Association, member, 1995
Marine Underwriters of Southern California, member, 1995
San Diego Insurance Adjusters Association, member, 1993

CERTIFICATION/LICENSING/EDUCATION

American Boat & Yachting Council Standards Accreditation (A.B.Y.C.), 1995 - present
Extensive continuing education, including SAMS and NAMS regional, national and international symposiums, ABYC training programs, IBEX (International Boatbuilding Exposition) conferences, etc...
Vessel Fire Fighting Certificate (United States Coast Guard Approved), Pyrotechnical Institute Inc., 1989
Lifeboat Competency Certificate, United States Coast Guard, 1989
Diesel Engine Service Training, Caterpillar, 1992
Insurance Adjusters License (#2819521), State of California, 1993–2011 and 2019 - current
U.S. Coast Guard Captains License, Vessels up to 50 gross tons and Commercial Assistance Towing Endorsement, 1988–1998
B.S., Mathematics, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 1987

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