

BEN R. BROWN JR.

Maritime Safety & Marine Casualty Expert Witness

BOSN Marine Consulting LLC | New Orleans, LA | 713-302-8116 | Ben@bosnmarine.com | www.bosnmarine.com

Doctor of Occupational Safety and Health/M.S. Occupational Safety & Health / Environmental Management | CSP | SMP | NEBOSH-IGC | IOSH

Retired U.S. Coast Guard Chief Warrant Officer and maritime safety professional with 41 years of combined military and civilian experience. Provides independent expert analysis in vessel operations, maritime safety, marine casualties, personal injury, incident investigation, standards of care, and safety-management practices. Retained in 16 matters since establishing BOSN Marine in 2022, with services including technical record review, expert reports, and deposition testimony.

EXPERT WITNESS SERVICES

- Maritime Expert Reports
- Marine Casualty Investigation
- Deposition Testimony
- Trial Testimony
- Rebuttal Reports
- Attorney Case Consultation

AREAS OF EXPERT TESTIMONY

- Vessel operations, seamanship, navigation practices, and watchstanding
- Maritime search and rescue, emergency response, and incident command
- Marine casualty, accident, injury, and root-cause analysis
- Standards of care for vessel owners, operators, masters, officers, and crew
- Safety Management Systems, operational risk assessment, and regulatory compliance
- Commercial and recreational vessel practices, boarding operations, and marine law-enforcement procedures
- Oil-spill, HAZMAT, offshore operations, and marine environmental health and safety
- Expert report preparation, rebuttal analysis, deposition testimony, and trial support

BOSN MARINE EXPERT WITNESS PRACTICE

BOSN MARINE CONSULTING LLC | New Orleans, LA

Apr 2022 - Present

Founder and Principal Maritime Expert

- Retained in 16 expert-witness and consulting matters involving maritime casualties, vessel operations, personal injury, safety practices, and incident causation.
- Analyze pleadings, discovery, vessel records, photographs, video, policies, procedures, regulations, testimony, and other technical evidence.
- Develop clear, defensible opinions grounded in maritime practice, Coast Guard experience, recognized standards, and the available evidentiary record.
- Prepare expert reports and case analyses; provide deposition testimony and in-court appearances when required.
- Consult with retaining counsel regarding technical issues, case strategy, demonstrative concepts, and anticipated opposing-expert opinions.
- Conduct independent incident investigations and causal analysis, including evaluation of human factors, supervision, training, procedures, risk controls, and organizational systems.

SELECTED QUALIFICATIONS

- 21-year U.S. Coast Guard career in vessel operations, search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, command, and emergency response; retired as Chief Warrant Officer, BOSN2.
- Six years of sea duty aboard three Coast Guard cutters; served as Deck Watch Officer, Boarding Officer, Coxswain, Executive Officer, and First Lieutenant.
- Former Officer in Charge, Coast Guard Search and Rescue Station Morro Bay, California; former Executive Officer, USCGC George Cobb, and XPO of Station Golden Gate

- Qualified USCG Surfman #286 and former holder of a 1,600-ton Master Upon Oceans credential for approximately ten years after Coast Guard service.
- Boarded hundreds of commercial and recreational vessels in U.S. and international waters.
- 20 years of U.S. and international marine EHS experience supporting offshore seismic, geotechnical, ocean-bottom-node, drilling, and seabed-investigation projects and land geophysical survey operations.
- Extensive experience with incident investigations, vessel audits, risk assessments, HAZID workshops, emergency plans, and Safety Management System evaluations.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

GLOBAL GEOSAFETY LLC | Houston, TX

Jan 2016 - Present

Owner / Marine EHS Consultant

- Provide marine and land EHS representation to major oil and gas clients, including ExxonMobil, Chevron, and BP, for high-hazard geophysical and offshore projects.
- Serve as project EHS lead and fleet coordinator for seismic, ocean-bottom-node, geotechnical drilling, and seabed soil-sampling operations.
- Audit vessels and contractor management systems; lead risk assessments, incident investigations, and corrective-action verification.
- Apply SEMS, MARPOL, OSHA, IMO, ISM Code, U.S. CFRs, COLREGS, IOGP, ANSI, CAP 437, and SOLAS requirements.
- Supported BP's approximately \$60 million Mad Dog deepwater OBN project and represented ExxonMobil on marine projects in Guyana and Suriname.

CHEVRON | Houston, TX

Oct 2013 - Dec 2015

Senior Health, Environment and Safety Specialist

- Set global HES direction for marine seismic activities and supported a \$20 million seismic program involving 109 personnel.
- Developed audit processes, operating procedures, contractor-evaluation tools, and management-system alignment with IOGP expectations.
- Led incident investigations using TapRooT and evaluated contractor Safety Management Systems for compliance and effectiveness.
- Co-authored and supported industry development of the Geophysical Contractor Management System Assessment (GCMSA).

BHP BILLITON PETROLEUM | Houston, TX

Sep 2010 - Oct 2013

Senior HSEC Specialist

- Led HSEC for marine seismic surveys, geotechnical investigations, and site surveys in international operations.
- Facilitated HAZID workshops, managed risk registers, supervised field advisors, and developed project EHS and emergency-response plans.
- Conducted incident investigations using the Incident Cause Analysis Methodology and ensured corrective actions were implemented.
- Managed vessel and office audits, environmental assessments, permitting support, and oil-spill contingency planning.

BK SAFETY CONSULTING, INC. | Houston, TX / International

Jun 2007 - Sep 2010

Owner / Marine EHS Consultant

- Led global marine seismic and geotechnical projects for clients including Hess, Woodside, BHP Billiton, and ExxonMobil.
- Based in Perth, Australia, for one year while managing EHS aspects of offshore, nearshore, and onshore geotechnical and geophysical work.

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD LEADERSHIP

Chief Warrant Officer (BOSN2), Retired | 21 Years of Service

- Officer in Charge, Search and Rescue Motor Lifeboat Station, Morro Bay, California.
- Executive Officer, USCGC George Cobb; First Lieutenant, CGC Key Biscayne; Executive Petty Officer, Station Golden Gate.
- Readiness Officer, Pacific Strike Team, with extensive HAZMAT, oil-spill response, decontamination, and Incident Command System training.
- Search and Rescue Coxswain, Surfman, Deck Watch Officer, Boarding Officer, Small Arms Instructor, and Law Enforcement Petty Officer.
- Led and participated in high-risk maritime rescues, vessel boardings, law-enforcement operations, and major environmental responses.
- Supervised air-monitoring and decontamination activities with the EPA during the World Trade Center environmental response.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH, 3.93 GPA) - Columbia Southern University

M.S., Occupational Safety & Health / Environmental Management - Columbia Southern University

B.S., Liberal Arts; Minor in Psychology - Excelsior College

CERTIFICATIONS, CREDENTIALS & MEMBERSHIPS

- Certified Safety Professional (CSP)
- Safety Management Professional (SMP)
- NEBOSH International General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety
- Member, Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH)
- Member, American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP)
- Member, Southern Yacht Club (SYC)
- ISM Code Lead Internal Auditor
- OSHA 30-Hour
- TapRooT Incident Investigation
- Incident Cause Analysis Methodology (ICAM)

SELECTED TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

COLREGS; SOLAS; MARPOL; International Safety Management Code; U.S. Coast Guard regulations; U.S. Code of Federal Regulations; OSHA; SEMS; IOGP guidance; vessel auditing; marine operations; risk assessment; safety leadership; incident command; emergency response; oil-spill response; HAZMAT response; human factors; causal analysis; corrective-action evaluation.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Case screening and consultation | Technical document review | Expert and rebuttal reports | Deposition preparation and testimony | Trial preparation and courtroom testimony | Site and vessel inspections | Incident and root-cause analysis