

International Cruise Victims



International Cruise Victims (ICV) is an international organization with members throughout the world, currently represented by over 20 countries. Under the ICV International News Section, many stories will be found in the original language. Google can be used to translate many of these articles into English or whatever you use.

International Cruise Victims (ICV) Update on the Cruise Vessel Security and Safety Act

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PHOENIX--As a result of the Cruise Vessel Security and Safety Act, (CVSSA) which was sponsored by ICV in 2010, the U.S. Coast Guard issued a January 16th, 2015 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. This document describes and solicits public comment on several proposed regulatory actions.

Included were mandated items such as peep holes in cabin doors, security latches and time-sensitive key technology. Notably among the actions detailed was video surveillance which requires cruise ships to maintain electronic video surveillance in order to assist in the investigation of crimes and provide evidence for prosecution. This footage should be made available, upon request, to law enforcement officials during an investigation. Several of these requirements are already in place and a complete summary of items can be viewed on the [ICV website](#)

Included in the CVSSA was the requirement for a Man Overboard System on all cruise ships. ICV is particularly proud that their continuous advocacy has resulted in the Coast Guard proposing regulatory action which would require a ship to “maintain a fall-overboard image capture system, or a fall-overboard detection system, or some combination of both.” The system should record the incident’s date and time to assist search-and-rescue or law enforcement personnel. That data would be kept for 14 days after disembarkation and an additional 120 days in case of a report of someone going overboard.

The need for such an action can clearly be seen in the course of the recent rescue earlier this month, when the [crew of a Disney cruise ship rescued](#) a Royal Caribbean passenger adrift at sea off Cozumel, Mexico. **The passenger had fallen off of a Royal Caribbean cruise ship without any**



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awareness of the incident. Disney credited a combination of passengers and crew from their ship, Magic with spotting the man in the water, lowering a lifeboat, and getting him onboard the Disney ship.

ICV will continue their efforts to oversee the final regulations making every attempt to see that the various proposed actions meet the intention of the CVSSA. Our work with members of Congress has already begun on this issue.

ICV, an all-volunteer group, began in 2006 with just four members and now has members and friends in 25 countries. Our goal is to provide support to victims of crime on cruise ships while advocating for laws to protect passengers and hold cruise lines accountable for the safety and security of their passengers.

The International Cruise Victims Association, Inc.

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