

Panama, May 21, 2020
Letter No.106-01-238-DGMM

**Ship-owners, Ship operators,
Resident Agents,
Registry Users**

To whom it may concern,

This General Directorate of Merchant Marine reaffirms that any annual safety inspections or special inspections, performed by a flag inspector duly authorized by the Republic of Panama, will only be coordinated through the Flag State Section of the Navigation and Maritime Safety Department of this General Directorate, following the procedures and legal principles established for it.

The company **Egyptian Company Pharaohs Marine** has been coordinating and performing annual safety inspection on board the Panama merchant fleet in exchange for commissions, through supposed accredited and qualified personnel. Such coordinations, inspections and collections do not have the authorization and are outside the procedures established by the General Directorate of Merchant Marine; these facts can lead to a potential danger for the safety of navigation, crew safety and marine environment protection, seeking to tarnish the Panama Registry's image.

In this regard, this General Directorate of Merchant Marine informs that the company **Egyptian Company Pharaohs Marine** is not authorized by the Panama Maritime Administration to coordinate and perform any type of inspections/surveys on board Panama flag vessels, as well as its personnel, are not inspectors/surveyors authorized by the Republic of Panama to perform inspections/surveys on Panama flag vessels, much less authorized to collect dues without legal support according to our current national legislation.

The companies authorized by the General Directorate of Merchant Marine of the Panama Maritime Authority are listed in our Merchant Marine Circular No. 374, which can be verified through the following link: <https://panamashipregistry.com/circulars>.

Likewise, the official means for the coordination and authorization for an Annual Safety Inspections/surveys or special inspections are through the following email accounts:

- asi@amp.gob.pa
- jlortega@amp.gob.pa

Finally, we reaffirm that this Maritime Administration is committed to the faithful compliance of its fleet, with the international standards given from the International Maritime Organization, of which we are part, as well as, we have all the disposition to maintain an integrated collaboration and open communication with all our users, in order to avoid future incidents due to unauthorized third parties not accredited by the Republic of Panama.

Without further ado, we are pleased to give our most sincere consideration and appreciation.



RAFAEL N. CIGARRUISTA G.
General Director

RNCG/JLC/RJ

