



ERIK NASARENKO
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Karen L. Wold
Title: Senior Deputy District Attorney
Telephone: (805) 662-1718
Email: Karen.Wold@Ventura.org

Approved: KBD
Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021
Release No.: 21-059

Settlement Reached in Environmental Case

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Frank Sal Aliotti (DOB 01/27/65), of Monterey, entered a settlement following an unlawful deposit of toxic substances into the Channel Islands Harbor.

On February 9, 2021, routine maintenance activities on the commercial fishing boat “El Dorado,” captained by Aliotti, caused a substantial amount of paint debris to float into the harbor and coat nearby aquatic life. Aliotti fully cooperated with the investigation and instituted remedial measures shortly thereafter to ensure a similar incident does not occur in the future.

Under the terms of the settlement, Aliotti will pay \$4,000 for investigative costs and a \$1,000 civil penalty to the District Attorney’s Office. In addition, Aliotti will pay \$15,000 to the Channel Islands Harbormaster to provide oil spill response equipment, and aerial and underwater drones to conduct image surveillance during safety operations in the harbor. The settlement also requires Aliotti to comply with all applicable laws related to California Fish & Game Code section 5650.

This settlement is the result of a joint investigation conducted by the California Department of Fish & Wildlife and the District Attorney’s Office Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit.

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