



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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**Houston International Seafarers' Center
Honors Port Houston's Executive Director Roger Guenther**

HOUSTON, TX - The Board of Directors of the Houston International Seafarers' Center has selected Roger Guenther, Executive Director of Port Houston, as the recipient of the Seafarers' Center's 2017 Bronze Anchor Award. The Bronze Anchor Award recognizes an individual or organization that has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to promoting the center's mission and vision, and has served as a leader and advocate for the welfare of seafarers.

Mr. Guenther will be officially honored as the recipient of the Bronze Anchor Award at the Seafarers' Center's Maritime Gala on May 6, 2017. The gala has moved to a Spring date to coincide with the opening of the center's new facility located at Port Houston's Turning Basin Terminal.

"Mr. Guenther has proven over the years to be an advocate of the Seafarers' Center and its mission. He has assisted chaplains and Seafarers' Center staff in navigating the regulatory and bureaucratic landscape associated with a working port, and faithfully supported our efforts in delivering humanitarian services to seafarers," as the center announced earlier this year.

"I am honored to be selected as the recipient of this award," Mr. Guenther said. "The efforts of the Seafarers' Center to provide a welcoming and supportive environment at the port for our seafarers is important and appreciated."

The Seafarers' Center Maritime Gala is the primary fundraiser for the Houston International Seafarers Center. The gala's theme, "Building Our Future," marks the beginning of a new era for the center, as it continues in its mission of outreach to seafarers visiting Port Houston from across the globe.



Roger Guenther, Executive Director of Port Houston

About the Houston International Seafarers' Centers

The Houston International Seafarers' Center is a "home away from home" for seafarers visiting the Port of Houston. Chartered in the late 1960's and early 1970's as a non-profit organization, the center has served millions of visiting seafarers. The center exists as the result of a deep desire and concern within the local maritime industry, followed by active support and involvement of the community and local churches, to provide a safe and welcoming recreational and spiritual environment on land for those who have chosen the mariner profession. <http://houstonseafarers.com/events/>

About Port Houston

For more than 100 years, the port has owned and operated the public wharves and terminals of the Port of Houston -- the nation's largest port for foreign waterborne tonnage and an essential economic engine for the Houston region, the state of Texas, and the nation. It supports the creation of nearly 1.175 million jobs in Texas and 2.7 million jobs nationwide, and economic activity totaling almost \$265 billion in Texas -- 16 percent of Texas' total gross domestic product -- and more than \$617 billion in economic impact across the nation. For more information, visit Port Houston's website at: www.porthouston.com.

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