August 21, 2020

Re: COVID-19 -Port Volume Reduction

To Whom It May Concern:

The New York Shipping Association, Inc. (“NYSA”) is a membership organization that represents the terminal operators, ocean carriers, stevedores and marine related businesses that operate ships, move cargo and passengers, and train and employ longshore workers in the Port of New York and New Jersey (“Port”). NYSA also assists its employer-members in coordinating the hiring of longshore workers to perform their work in the Port. The NYSA workforce in the Port is made up of approximately 3,500 workers.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there continues to be a year over year decrease in imports and exports of container traffic. In addition, a continued reduction in car-ship operations and a complete halt in the Port’s cruise-ship operations have resulted in a further reduction in work opportunities. Unfortunately, we expect these circumstances to continue into the autumn and possibly beyond. Since the industry’s work opportunities depend on the volume of business in the Port, many in the longshore workforce will receive fewer work opportunities and earn less income, some significantly less.

With the above in mind, until the Port resumes normal operations, please consider the request for relief being made by the longshore worker providing you with this letter.

Very truly yours,

John J. Nardi
President