

12485.1.1

**From:** Austin, Meredith CAPT  
**To:** Kathleen A. Neary@nga.mil  
**Sent:** 9/23/2010 1:31:22 PM  
**Subject:** RE: NGA Director Visit

It might make you feel a bit better to know that a similar thing happened in 1980 off the Gulf coast of Mexico when the IXTOC I well blew out, discharging over 100 million gallons of oil. Tarballs reached the coast of Texas that needed to be cleaned up, but over the next several years Mother Nature took care of the oil in the water, fisheries recovered and beaches were again supportive of life. There is incredible resiliency to our environment---it's our job to help the process in the most environmentally benign method possible (we don't want to do more damage doing the cleanup---that happened in Valdez when they steam cleaned beaches/rocks---it looked wonderful, but killed all of the little critters under the rocks).

-----Original Message-----  
**From:** Kathleen A. Neary@nga.mil [mailto:Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2010 11:30 AM  
**To:** Austin, Meredith CAPT  
**Subject:** RE: NGA Director Visit

**From:** Austin, Meredith CAPT  
**To:** Kathleen A. Neary@nga.mil  
**Sent:** 9/23/2010 1:31:22 PM  
**Subject:** RE: NGA Director Visit

It might make you feel a bit better to know that a similar thing happened in 1980 off the Gulf coast of Mexico when the IXTOC I well blew out, discharging over 100 million gallons of oil. Tarballs reached the coast of Texas that needed to be cleaned up, but over the next several years Mother Nature took care of the oil in the water, fisheries recovered and beaches were again supportive of life. There is incredible resiliency to our environment---it's our job to help the process in the most environmentally benign method possible (we don't want to do more damage doing the cleanup---that happened in Valdez when they steam cleaned beaches/rocks---it looked wonderful, but killed all of the little critters under the rocks).

Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit

If they don't let you go due to mission requirements, will that mean you have to change your surgery date?

Because of this nomination process, I'm not sure after I throw my hat in that I can change my mind. Trying to understand all that the position entails. Previous incumbent had no communications experience, only production. There is a staff of high level contractors with coms experience and one government person with some. Our new director takes command in August and it will be the first woman for our agency. So, it could be an exciting time.

Kathleen

-----Original Message-----  
**From:** Meredith L. Austin@uscg.mil [mailto:Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2010 10:45 AM  
**To:** Neary, Kathleen A. NGA-RCFPE USA CIV  
**Subject:** RE: NGA Director Visit

Ex 12485  
 Worldwide  
 Court Reporters, Inc.

US\_PP\_USCG246971

TREX-012485.0001