



February 8, 2015

Mr. David Alberg
Superintendent
Monitor National Marine Sanctuary
100 Museum Drive
Newport News, Virginia 23606

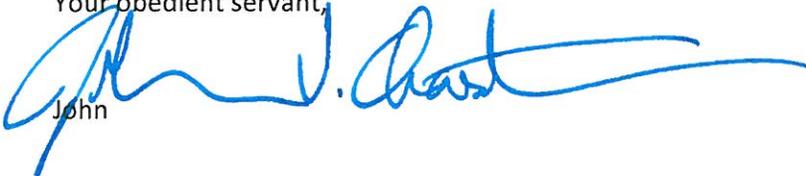
Dear Dave,

I would like to take this opportunity to express the USS *Monitor* Center's complete and enthusiastic support for the proposed expansion of the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary. The prospect of preserving various wrecks from the severe storms that ravage North Carolina's Outer Banks, as well as being able to tell the stories of the legions of submariners and merchant seamen that lost their lives during World War II in 'Torpedo Alley' is a very compelling and important effort.

The USS *Monitor* has a successful multi-decades- long partnership with NOAA. Our work together regarding the recovery, conservation and interpretation of the USS *Monitor*'s turret and other iconic artifacts has truly made a difference. Here at the USS *Monitor* Center we have created the largest marine metals archaeological conservation laboratory in the world. Our successes continue to place the USS *Monitor* Center and the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary on a national and international stage. The prospects of the Center's resources being available to assist in the conservation of future artifacts recovered from the expanded *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary is a win-win for all concerned.

Everyone here at the USS *Monitor* Center is excited about the possibilities; and we strongly advocate the expansion of the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary. If I can be of any further assistance in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Meanwhile, I remain,
Your obedient servant,


John

John V. Quarstein
Director, USS *Monitor* Center & Foundation