



John Robert Lawson II  
President and Chief Executive Officer

February 23, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Alberg,

As a member of The Mariners' Museum's board of trustees, I am proud of our partnership with NOAA which has enabled the conservation and interpretation of the USS *Monitor* at The Mariners' Museum.

I was excited to learn about the possible expansion of the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary. I believe that this sanctuary's expansion is long overdue. The 'Graveyard of the Atlantic' is filled with harrowing tales of disasters at sea off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. It is imperative that these wrecks be protected.

I have great faith that the work NOAA is doing to expand the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary will help preserve and present the stories of these sites for generations to come. Wishing you the best for a successful result.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John R. Lawson, II", written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.

John R. Lawson, II  
Member, Board of Trustees  
The Mariners' Museum