

# THE ASSOCIATION FOR RESCUE AT SEA

## CLIA Award

2021

### **Presented to:**

Captain Domenico Calise and the crewmembers

while serving aboard *CARNIVAL ECSTASY*

At approximately 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 17, 2020 the weather had taken a turn for the worse, the seas were building, and in order to maintain safety, Carnival Ecstasy, which was anchored near Great Stirrup Cay, weighed anchor and set sail for the Florida Straits.

At approximately 8 p.m. during the change of watch on the bridge, Captain Domenico Calise, Staff Captain Giovanni Cesarale, 1st Officer Fabio Lobascio and 3rd Officer Marius Sandru were all busy going about their duties when a Mayday call was received from the motor yacht "Balista" which was located approximately four miles away. As a result of the stormy seas, a crew member on the Balista had been injured in an accident.

Captain Calise waited for another cruise ship that was closer to the Balista to respond; however, they did not respond, and he immediately made the decision to respond to the distress call to see what help Carnival Ecstasy could offer. Other Carnival ships in the vicinity were monitoring the call and immediately offered Captain Calise their assistance.

Upon arrival to the Balista, the situation was assessed, and it was determined that a vessel-to-vessel transfer of the injured party could not be performed because of the rough seas. Carnival Ecstasy's Safety Officer Francesco Cardia organized the rescue operation which included lowering a tender boat into the stormy seas. This operation involved the steady hands and coordination of many team members including Quartermasters Erickson Lorbes and Alex Jr. Tumaliuan (both of whom stayed on duty until the completion of the operation), as well as the ship's Bosun team under the careful watch of Sr. Bosun Norberto Sevilla Posas who has more

than 28 years experience, and his team including Romel Rodriguez, Vijith Theeyanakkan Purayil, Rohit Dutta and Argie Lagutom. Together, they coordinated efforts while maintaining contact with the bridge to safely lower the tender boat and attempt to make contact with the *Balista*.

The ship's physician Dr. Chenna Yenuga, after hearing about the injury, went above and beyond and made the decision to accompany our Safety Officer on the tender boat. Safety Officer Cardia expertly handled the tender boat in the stormy seas successfully rendezvousing with the *Balista*. Dr. Yenuga boarded the *Balista* and treated the patient's injuries which were severe. Dr. Yenuga, practicing all physical distancing protocols, provided the patient with a face mask and a temperature check before making the decision to embark him onto the tender boat and eventually *Carnival Ecstasy*.

Upon arrival to *Carnival Ecstasy*, Ron Roldan and Jason Lagman from Housekeeping, headed up the stretcher team who were ready to transport the patient from the tender boat to the medical center. Chief Security Lou Magana and her team including FSO Floriza Quirante and Richard Gomez, made sure the area was safe and secure and managed the team allowing everyone to perform their job safely and securely. Our Lead Nurse Kirsten - 3 -

McIntyre received the patient, and along with the stretcher team, escorted him to the medical center.<sup>2</sup>

By 10:30 p.m., everyone was back on board, but the work had just begun for our Medical team who evaluated and treated the patient until 2 a.m. Nurse McIntyre stayed with the patient throughout the night to ensure he was stable. The patient was provided food and Internet access, so he could communicate with his family and the *Balista*'s captain.

The next morning, the U.S. Coast Guard arrived via helicopter to perform an airlift evacuation of the patient. All parties above were involved under the direction of Safety Officer Cardia, including our Fire team, headed by Sergio Osorio Chinchilla and his team, including Pramod Kumar, Bikramjit Singh, Munish Guleria, who were on standby and ready to assist.