

**INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
ORGANIZATION**



**ORGANISATION HYDROGRAPHIQUE
INTERNATIONALE**

IHB File No. S1/3038

**CIRCULAR LETTER No. 39/2006
3 May 2006**

RETIREMENT LETTER FROM NOAA DIRECTOR

Dear Hydrographer,

The attached letter was received from the Captain Roger L. Parsons, the National Hydrographer of the United States of America announcing his retirement and introducing his successor, Captain Steven R. Barnum. We are forwarding it for your information in order that Captain Parsons may convey his appreciation for the productive relationship he has experienced with you through the IHO.

The Directing Committee takes this opportunity to congratulate Captain Parsons on a successful career as a hydrographer, to acknowledge the contributions he has made to the IHO and to welcome Captain Barnum to the IHO.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Barbor', written in a cursive style.

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR
Director

Encl: Letter from Capt. R.L. Parsons



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
Office of Coast Survey
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282

April 26, 2006

Dear Colleagues,

I will be retiring from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on May 31, 2006, after completing 31 years of service, and will be succeeded as the United States National Hydrographer and Director, Office of Coast Survey, by Captain Steven R. Barnum on May 6. My career with NOAA has been extremely rewarding and I particularly value my last three years with Coast Survey and my interactions with the members of the International Hydrographic Organization.

Captain Barnum brings 26 years of operational and managerial experience to his new position and I am confident that he will enjoy the same productive and cooperative relationships that I have had with all of you. I know Captain Barnum shares my commitment to work through the International Hydrographic Organization in collaborating to advance hydrography with the purpose of ensuring safe and environmentally-sound maritime commerce throughout the world.

It has been my privilege to serve as Director, Office of Coast Survey, and I have particularly enjoyed meeting and working closely with many of you in the international hydrographic community. NOAA's Office of Coast Survey will celebrate its 200th anniversary next year and the men and women of NOAA look forward to continuing their proud surveying and mapping tradition through strong partnerships with their counterparts around the world.

Very respectfully,

Captain Roger L. Parsons, NOAA
Director

