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## **Cleveland's Waterfront is Open for Business** *While You're On the Water Having Fun, Be Safe!*

**Cleveland, Ohio (May 21, 2021)** — Members of the Cuyahoga River Safety Task Force, law enforcement representatives, maritime & recreational stakeholders, and Cleveland waterfront businesses will participate in a press conference and media mixer convened by Share the River at [Collision Bend Brewing Co.](#) (1250 Old River Rd. Cleveland, OH 44113) on **Wednesday, May 26 at 11:30 a.m.** The event coincides with [National Safe Boating Week](#) (May 21-28, 2021).

There will be prepared remarks from nine stakeholders and a Q&A session, followed by a mixer where media can speak to/interview over 20 press conference partners & invited representatives. A snack and refreshments will be provided.

Stakeholder Speakers:

[U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Cleveland](#) - LCDR Jeremy Maginot, Commanding Officer

[Lake Carriers' Association](#) - Tom Rayburn, Vice President

[The Port of Cleveland](#) - Jared Magyar, Director, Facilities & Operations

[PHASTAR](#) - Drew Ferguson, President & CEO

[Cleveland Metroparks Recreation](#) - Rachel Nagle, Outdoor Recreation Manager

[National Park Service](#) – Andrea Irland, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program representing the [Cuyahoga River Water Trail](#)

[Downtown Cleveland Alliance](#) – Michael Deemer, Interim President & CEO, representing DCA & [Flats Forward](#)

[Cleveland City Council](#) – Tony Brancatelli, Ward 12, Chair of Development, Planning & Sustainability Comm.

Memorial Day weekend is the unofficial beginning of summer and the traditional start of the recreational boating season. Safety of river users, whether recreational or commercial, remains a top priority for everyone. The Cuyahoga River is also experiencing a rising tide of recreational paddlers given the:

- Continued surge in interest in paddle-sports during the pandemic
- Increasing appeal of the 19-month-old [Cuyahoga River Water Trail](#)
- Cuyahoga River winning the [USA Today 10 Best “Best Urban Kayaking Spot”](#)

### **About Share the River:**

Share the River, a 501(c)(3) partner of Lake Erie Waterkeeper, promotes the economic, social and recreational vibrancy of Cleveland's waterfront and hosts the annual [“Blazing Paddles Paddlefest”](#). For Cuyahoga River safety tips visit our [“Know Before You Go On the Cuyahoga River”](#) page.

**About Lake Carriers' Association:** Since 1880 Lake Carriers' Association has represented the U.S.-flag Great Lakes fleet, which today, moves more than 90 million tons of cargo annually. The cargos – including iron ore, limestone, coal, cement, and other dry bulk materials such as salt, sand and grain – are the foundation of American industry, infrastructure, and power.