



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

The Honorable Maura Healey
Governor of Massachusetts
24 Beacon Street, Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

JUL 27 2026

Dear Governor Healey:

Thank you for your inquiry requesting U.S. Navy assistance in recovering data and remains from the wreckage of Fishing Vessel (F/V) LILY JEAN. We are deeply sympathetic toward the families affected by this tragedy. However, the U.S. Navy is unable to fulfill your request for salvage and recovery.

We remain in contact with the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), who maintains the lead in the investigation into the sinking of F/V LILY JEAN, and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). It is our understanding both the USCG and the NTSB have the requisite information to conclude the investigation. We have received no request to recover the vessel. Furthermore, according to the Salvage Facilities Act, any services rendered would be on a reimbursable basis. The Supervisor for Salvage and Diving operate under a government organization request, and contracting and funding would be required for the Supervisor for Salvage and Diving to initiate action. We will remain in contact with the USCG and the NTSB as the investigation continues.

I am deeply sorry about the loss of life associated with this wreckage and our thoughts are with the families and friends of all those involved in this incident during their time of grief.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Hung Cao", is written over a horizontal line.

Hung Cao
Acting