



NATIONAL MARITIME INTELLIGENCE-INTEGRATION OFFICE
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**NATIONAL MARITIME INTELLIGENCE-INTEGRATION OFFICE
ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL AWARD OF MDA EXCELLENCE AWARD**

October 26, 2016, RADM Robert Sharp USN, Director of the National Maritime Intelligence-Integration Office (NMIO) and Chair of the National Maritime Domain Awareness Executive Steering Committee (MDA ESC), presented the inaugural MDA ESC Award for MDA Excellence to Mr. Ronald Bounds from the Delaware Information and Analysis Center. RADM Sharp presented the award to Mr. Bounds during the 2016 National Fusion Center Association Annual Training Event in Alexandria, VA.

The MDA ESC recognized Mr. Bounds' efforts over the past five years for the design and continual development of the Delaware Maritime Security System to provide protection to numerous Delaware Bay critical maritime infrastructure sites. This past year, Mr. Bounds developed interagency relationships with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Delaware Bay Pilots Association leading to the integration of additional maritime sensors into the Delaware Maritime Security System thus increasing the Delaware Bay maritime security community's ability to expand its support to countering illegal fishing, maritime polluters, and protecting critical infrastructure.

RADM Sharp stated "It is a pleasure to honor Mr. Bounds' work in Delaware Bay on behalf of the MDA ESC. His work is a great example of how federal, state, and local governments, working with private organizations, can collaborate to create a safer and more secure maritime domain in our coastal waters. The committee principals and I look forward to recognizing more maritime professionals like Mr. Bounds in the years to come. We are truly thankful for our partnership with the National Fusion Center Association to make this award become reality."

The Director of National Intelligence, in cooperation with the Navy and Coast Guard created NMIO in 2009 to advance governmental collaboration and unity of effort as outlined in the *9/11 Commission Report*, the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, and the National Strategy for Maritime Security. NMIO facilitates information sharing and collaboration across the Global Maritime Community of Interest, which consists of U.S. Federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial governments; maritime industry; academia; and our international partners. Learn more about NMIO online at <http://nmio.ise.gov/index.htm>.