

M/V Golden Ray Response BM2 Jeremy Shaw

On scene Commander/
Coxswain



Petty Officer Shaw

- Time in Service: Nine Years
- Coxswain: Five years
- Current unit: USCG Station Brunswick
- Time at unit: Three years
- Cases as a Coxswain: 24



Initial Report

- On the morning of 08 September 2019 around 0130, Station Brunswick received a call from 911 dispatch that the vessel GOLDEN Ray had overturned and was sinking.
- The 45741 (45 RBM) boat crew consisted of: CXC was BM2 Shaw, CXB/ Crew/ Navigator/ BTM BM3 Szep, BO/Engineer/ Crew MK1 Backman, Crew/ Engineer MK3 Shubin, Crew/ BTM/ Engineer, MK3 Beniot.



Initial Report Cont.

- The Crew launched from station Brunswick at 0154 in route to St. Simons sound.
- Sea state was two-three feet at five seconds with and EBB tide.
- Once on scene, Sector Charleston and station were notified.
- Other Assets on scene were: CG 29139 (29 RBS-2), two Brunswick tug boats, Georgia Dept of Natural Resources (DNR), Sea Tow Responder and two Pilot Vessels.



First 11 Crew Members

- The Two tugs positioned themselves on the stern and port aft trying to stabilize the vessel from listing more to the port.
- The vessel Golden Ray was already at a seventy Degree list. CG 45741 was able to get in contact with a pilot boat and confirmed that there was 24 crew members and pilot on board the vessel Golden Ray.
- The Pilot on board the Golden Ray was directed to lower a fire hose through the bridge down the port bridge wing.



First 11 Crew Members Cont.

- Once the fire hose was lowered, approximately 0256, the first crew member came down the bridge wing and the CG 45741 retrieve the crew member. This process was repeated 11 times.
- In the process of removing the first crew member, CG 45741 was damaged.
- CG 45741 rendered first aid to those who needed it. The CG 29139 arrived on scene to bring crew members to shore.



First 11 Crew Members Cont.

- At 0344, CG 45741 transferred 11 crew members to CG 29139 so that the crewmembers could be examined by local EMS.
- During the Transfer Georgia DNR was able to retrieve two additional crew members.
- The CG 45741 then returned to retrieve additional people from the M/V GOLDEN RAY.



Chief Engineer

- The Last crew member retrieved that night was the chief engineer. He was trapped in a state room below the port bridge wing.
- He was able to break a window and tie two extension cords together and lower them down.
- The CG 45741 tied a sixty Foot line to the extension cords. He pulled the line in and was able to make a secure way down.
- At this time, the vessel Golden Ray had caught fire and Black smoke filled the area around the CG 45741.



Chief Engineer Cont.

- After the CG 45741 cleared smoke from the cabin, they returned to get the Chief Engineer.
- At 0654, the Chief Engineer was directed to come down. He was able to slide down from the M/V GOLDEN RAY to the CG 45741 using the extension cords and line.
- At 0657, the remaining crew members were transferred to the CG 29139 to receive EMS treatment.
- During the transfer of the Chief Engineer, the CG helicopter retrieved an additional crew member from the starboard bridge wing and lowered the remaining crew members from the aft area down to the tug.



Last 4 Crew Members and Fire Team

- The last four crew members were reported to be trapped in the engine room. The CG 29139 had transferred a local fire rescue team.
- Local fire rescue and the CG rescue swimmer were transferred to the port aft section of Golden Ray by the CG 45741.
- They made an attempt to open a hatch to continue with the rescue but determined that the risk was too great due to fire and smoke.



Last 4 Crew Members and Fire Team

- The CG 45741 transferred the fire team and rescue swimmer over to the ST. Simons pier and continued to stand a security zone around the vessel.
- At approximately 1100 CG 45471 returned to Station Brunswick to switch crews and get fuel.
- At approximately 1630, the original crew of CG 45471 assumed the security zone and continued communication with trapped crew members by tapping on hull.

