



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

DEC 18 2006

Dr. Douglas Scott
President
Society for Historical Archaeology
15245 Shady Grove Road
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Dr. Scott:

Thank you for your letter. I support the Society for Historical Archaeology's recommendation to incorporate the UNESCO Annex rules into the National Marine Sanctuary Program's guidelines and will ask my staff to follow them as a matter of practice and policy. The UNESCO Annex rules are already standard practice by many NOAA archaeologists, and are included in the RMS *Titanic* guidelines, working documents, and operations guidelines. We will also consider proposing regulations to incorporate the rules as part of the sanctuary regulations.

I look forward to following the progress in your efforts. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (301) 713-7235.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. Basta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Daniel J. Basta
Director

National Marine Sanctuaries Program



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