## **Top-Flight Maritime Firm Hired to Assist Claimants in El Faro Case.**

Recently inducted into the Daily Business Review's Hall of Fame for a verdict awarded in a severe personal injury case arising out of owner negligence related to a cargo vessel, maritime specialists Scott A. Wagner & Michael T. Moore of Moore & Co. have been retained to help assist claimants in the tragic sinking of El Faro.

Moore is the Chairman of the Coast Guard Foundation as well as the International Seakeepers Society while Wagner is the Vice Chair of the Admiralty Law Committee for the Florida Bar. Wagner and Moore, a trial team for more than a decade, seek to leverage their expertise in the courtroom with their dedication to and focus on maritime law in achieving positive results for their clients.

Earlier this year, the pair returned from Guam after trying a case on an eerily similar set of facts related to the sinking of a commercial tuna fishing vessel that also resulted in the death of crew members. In that case, the duo persuaded the District Court of Guam to render an 85-page opinion slamming the Vessel Owners for a litany of negligent acts that included providing an unseaworthy vessel to its crew and elevating money over safety. Following the Court's ruling, a jury returned a verdict for the Captain's widow and children in excess of 4 million dollars.

The El Faro sank off the Bahamas with 33 crew on board. El Faro lost propulsion the morning of Oct. 1 while caught in the path of Hurricane Joaquin. A week-long search by the U.S. Coast Guard turned up one body and some debris, but no signs of the crew, making the sinking the worst disaster involving a U.S. cargo ship in decades.