



MCIB

Marine Casualty Investigation Board
Bord Imscrúdú Taismí Muirí



**INTERIM REPORT
OF AN INVESTIGATION INTO
A MARINE CASUALTY
INVOLVING
THE FISHING VESSEL
BOY JASON
IN OR AROUND
160 MILES WEST
OF CO. KERRY
ON OR ABOUT
4 FEBRUARY 2025**

**REPORT NO. MCIB/340/INTERIM
(No.4 OF 2025)**

The Marine Casualty Investigation Board (MCIB) examines and investigates all types of marine casualties to, or on board, Irish registered vessels worldwide and other vessels in Irish territorial waters and inland waterways.

The MCIB objective in investigating a marine casualty is to determine its circumstances and its causes with a view to making recommendations for the avoidance of similar marine casualties in the future, thereby improving the safety of life at sea.

The MCIB is a non-prosecutorial body. We do not enforce laws or carry out prosecutions. It is not the purpose of an investigation carried out by the MCIB to apportion blame or fault.

The legislative framework for the operation of the MCIB, the reporting and investigating of marine casualties and the powers of MCIB investigators is set out in The Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Casualties) Act, 2000.

This report is published under and in accordance with the Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Casualties) Act 2000 as amended by the Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Casualties) (Amendment) Act 2022 and/or under and in accordance with the European Communities (Merchant Shipping) (Investigation of Accidents) Regulations 2011. It is not published under the Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Accidents) Act 2025, Parts 1 and 5 of which were commenced by the Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Accidents) Act 2025 (Commencement) Order 2025 S.I.188 of 2025 from 1 June 2025.

In carrying out its functions the MCIB complies with the provisions of the International Maritime Organisation's Casualty Investigation Code and EU Directive 2009/18/EC governing the investigation of accidents in the maritime transport sector.

Section 34 of the Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Casualties) Act, 2000, as amended by Section 12 of the 2022 Act, requires that where the Board is unable to publish a report within 12 months of the date of the casualty, it shall publish at least one interim report of the investigation during that period.

This is an interim report and no conclusions should be drawn from its contents.

Report MCIB/340/Interim published by the Marine Casualty Investigation Board.
4th December 2025.

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The Marine Casualty Investigation Board was established on the 25th March 2003 under the Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Casualties) Act, 2000.

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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The fishing vessel (FV) Boy Jason departed from Castletownbere, Co. Cork on 29 January 2025 at 13.00 hours (hrs), for a planned ten-day voyage, fishing for prawns on the Porcupine Bank, off the west coast of Ireland. The vessel fished for four days without incident, but was unable to fish on the 3 February due to bad weather. On 4 February at 06.00 hrs the crew were preparing the nets to be shot, when the leading deck hand got tangled in a net bag rope, and was inadvertently hoisted by the net winch and dropped to the deck. He suffered a heavy impact to his head and was unresponsive. The crew made prolonged efforts to revive him, but were unsuccessful and the injured fisher passed away.
- 1.2 The weather at the time was reported as rough and the vessel was pitching and rolling heavily. There was also a substantial amount of free water on the aft deck where the crew were working, and this made working conditions difficult.
- 1.3 The vessel immediately headed back to Castletownbere where she arrived at around 02.00 hrs on 5 February 2025.

Note: Times are local time = UTC +1 (Co-ordinated Universal Time +1).



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