



**Date: February 7, 2013**

## **Panama Registry Approves AdvanFort**

Panama City, Panama -- The AdvanFort Company was officially approved Wednesday by the Panama Maritime Authority (PMA) to conduct counter piracy operations aboard vessels flying the Panama flag.

“We at AdvanFort are very pleased that the world’s largest flag state has vetted our company and approved our highly trained operators to protect their ships from piracy attack,” said Captain William H. Watson, president of AdvanFort. “I want to personally thank Alfonso Castillero, Panama’s General Director of Merchant Marine, for the professional manner in which this approval was handled.”

To facilitate the process, Mr. Watson travelled to Panama to meet with Mr. Castillero and with Mrs. Nyxkhari Ardilla, of the Maritime Ships Security at the PMA.

The Resolution (Number 106-26-DGMM) is dated on 4 February 2013 and was signed Wednesday by the general director, following an extensive review by the PMA’s Technical Committee and Legal Department.