

FBI boards another Synergy-managed boxship in Baltimore

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NTSB

The Federal Bureau of Investigation and other agencies boarded another boxship managed by Synergy Marine at the port of Baltimore on Saturday morning, days after the *Dali*, this year's most famous vessel accident, left American waters.

Officials from the US Environmental Protection Agency's Criminal Investigation Division and Coast Guard's Investigative Services joined FBI agents onboard the Singapore-flagged, 10,000 teu *Maersk Saltoro* for what was described as "court authorized law enforcement activity".

Nearly six months after it made headlines around the world for bringing down Baltimore's largest bridge, the *Dali* containership, also managed by Synergy, finally left American waters on Thursday and is headed to Ningbo in China for further extensive repairs.

The US Department of Justice filed a \$103m civil claim against the owner and manager of the *Dali* containership last week, alleging negligence and unseaworthy conditions led to this March's dramatic accident in Baltimore which brought port operations to a halt for months.

The damning 53-page claim filed at the US District Court for the District of Maryland against Grace Ocean and Synergy Marine details the moments leading up to the March 26 accident that saw the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse with the loss of six lives. The claim details how the vessel lost power, regained power, and then lost power again before striking the bridge.

Legal cases surrounding this year's most high-profile shipping accident are expected to run for many years costing hundreds of millions of dollars.

Lawyers for the families who lost loved ones when the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapsed six months ago are also suing the owners of the *Dali* containership for personal injuries, adding to a slew of lawsuits surrounding the vessel.