

Firm petition

By **Uche Usim**

AN oil trading firm, Twinstomp Energy Limited, has petitioned the Nigerian Navy, Marine Police, the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) and other relevant authorities over the death of nine out of its 12 Nigerian crew members, who were aboard the company's vessel, MT Tank (IMO no 8681460) that collided with another vessel, MT Elixir (IMO no 9282510) along Bonga terminal, offshore Warri, Delta State in the early hours of Monday, October 19 this year.

The petition dated October 19 was signed by Olumide Oyewole of Andrias & Co. Legal Practitioners, the solicitors of Twinstomp Energy Limited.

Oyewole in the petition, a copy of which was made available to *City Today*, called for a comprehensive probe into the accident with a view to unravelling the true cause of the mishap.

He stressed that out of his client's 12 crew members involved in the accident, only three were rescued alive.

"Apart from the

loss of the ship, MT Tank, we understand that only one body has so far been recovered of the nine dead crew members. We understand that out of the 12 crew members, only three were rescued alive. We seek your assistance by using your good office to cause a thorough investigation to be conducted on the matter," he said.

Oyewole gave the coordinates of the accident site to be 04 degrees 27 degrees North and 004 degrees and 27 degree East, even as he alleged that MT Tank was sunk by MT Elixir.

He gave the names of the Nigerians onboard as Kulo Eddy Osang, Arerebo Arepade Clifford, Finecountry Timipouadeh, Akindele Akinbanjon, Odafe E. Offeh, Magaji Joshua, Isaac Kojo Money and Salami Malcolm. Others are Ejila Philip, Moses Apobowei and Sambo M.

Effort to speak with the DG of NIMASA proved futile. But senior staff in the agency confirmed receipt of the petition. According to the source, who spoke under anonymity because the DG had not made