



# ESPADA



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## San Antonio Company Offering Piracy Protection

San Antonio, KSAT 12

**SAN ANTONIO** -- A local security service company is putting together a plan to help prevent future piracy attacks similar to those that resulted in the capture of a United States ship captain earlier this month.

Espada Logistics and Security company already has teams boarding ships and providing security along the Gulf of Aden between Yemen and Somalia, said company owner Jim Jorrie.

"We do everything we possibly can to keep the conflict from happening in the first place before we would have to engage somebody and someone would get hurt," Jorrie said. "What we're working on at this point is putting together a plan to build a small flotilla of escort vessels."

Jorrie said he plans to establish his ships as they leave the Gulf of Aden and head into the waters off the coast of Somalia, where many of the attacks have been taking place.

"They've just taken their chances and they've paid ransoms when they've been hijacked," he said. "We're looking at a core of investors that understand this opportunity; that understand what the ship owners are having to outlay as far as the additional insurance and the fuel costs."

Funding for the operation should range between \$10 million and \$15 million, but Jorrie said the costs aren't as high compared to what one ship can spend by altering their routes to avoid hijackers.