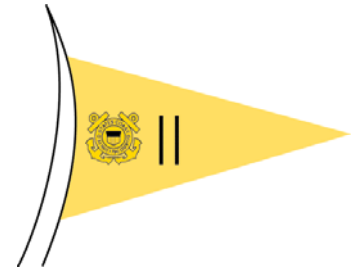


# UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY



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To: Bill Crouch, VCO 8CR

Subject: OPERATIONS REPORT OF FEBRUARY 2005 CONFERENCE

The Eighth District Coastal Region had a really outstanding year in 2004. Many thanks go to all the members of the Operations Department and to Fred Deyeso, DSO-OP for the many hours and missions in 2004. Most of the time we set goals to make an increase in numbers of missions or hours for the coming year; however my goal will be to redefine and refine the missions to refine the process for the year.

Working with the Contingency Planning Committee we will better define the location of our assets as well as the missions needed. Also we will define the where, when and who to control the missions and assets for incidents/emergencies. This tasking will require the Committee to work with our Active Duty Counterparts to better know their needs and desires for incidents/emergencies.

We will work to better understand the Patrols Management Orders System (POMS) as well as make it work for ALL of us. The system is designed to have each coxswain/owner to request patrol orders on line, have someone to approve the patrol, the coxswain to close out the orders, the administrator to approve and forward to the Finance Center (FINCEN) for payment. Some Divisions presently have a coordinator to complete the coxswain function and where it works is great, but I would warn them to have several members trained in case this member is out of pocket. When the system works properly a member will be paid for their patrol within 10 days from the time he/she submits the completed patrol. We must also assure the member knows this will close out the patrol, but will not record the information into AUXDATA for credit, at this time. This will still be an Information Services (IS) function. We need for every boat owner to know they must have their vessel current on the facility inspection report so the system will authorize orders for the patrol. The new form 7003, dated 01 January 05, will reflect the option for other operators for the vessel.. This is needed for paying the patrol in the case of other operators using the vessel. Earlier 7003,reports are obsolete and will be returned to the originator.

We need to recruit members with facilities with the additions of missions for the Marine Safety Program. This type of patrol is growing faster than our boats on the program. We are fortunate the PE, VE, PV and PA programs has greatly decreased the need for Search and Rescue missions. Our ability to respond to the SAR missions with the increase MARSEC missions will stretch our ability to respond.

I desire to see the boat crew mentor program be improved so the boat crew candidate will receive the very best training possible. We need quality training to obtain the most qualified boat crew members for the safety of our crews as well as the ability to complete our missions. Before a Qualifying Examiner is called the candidate should be 100% ready for the checkout, otherwise the mentor has not completed his/her duties and responsibilities to this candidate.

This year will bring a lot of challenges to our members; however we can and will handle these as they come up. I look forward to having a great time working with a bunch of great people.