



## **DIRAUX NOTES FOR “FEBRUARY” OF 2014**

### **FROM THE DESK of CDR Chappelka, District 13 Director of Auxiliary**

In my last three months as a Director I have been asked to provide input on several large projects before I depart. This has been rewarding but intense. My notes will be short for this month.

Just in, the Secretary of DHS has announced that the President intends to nominate Vice Admiral Paul F. Zukunft as the 25th Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard. Vice Admiral Zukunft currently commands U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Area and was an active participant in the last NACON held in San Diego, CA. Zukunft is the German word for “Future” so we shall see what the Zukunft brings.

All indications are, as reinforced by CG senior leadership at this year’s N-Train, is that Recreational Boating Safety, with the emphasis on Public Education, Vessel Exams, the RBS Visitation Program and the State Liaison Programs (SLO) will remain the top priorities for the Coast Guard Auxiliary. While all new initiatives are welcome for consideration those that directly support RBS are most likely to receive endorsement.

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### **FROM THE DESK of CWO Chris Brown, OTO/ASSISTANT DIRAUX**

Greetings D13 Auxiliary!

My talking point this month is to continue our discussion about Aux Data Orders Management (AOM) and the reimbursement procedures. Last month’s contribution centered on the ‘other’ reimbursable comment block within the AOM program but I feel I need to add an additional summary.

Let’s start by discussing the FOUR categories for patrol reimbursement. The most common is FUEL for the facility and in the quantity of dollar for dollar. Any expenditure over \$75 requires an e-receipt attached. Stay tuned for more information however; as there are discussions that the set receipt threshold may be reset to a lesser amount.

The second category for our discussion is Standard Auxiliary Maintenance Allowance (SAMA). You will find a better description in the Auxiliary Operation Policy Manual, Chapter 2.C.3 on page 2-12. My brief summary is that every facility has a SAMA rate and that it is based on the horsepower of the facility. There is a formula created and the intent of this allowance is to “reimburse the facility owner for routine maintenance costs incurred while assigned to CG duties. ... For example, the SAMA rate helps cover more minor/routine expenses such as oil and filter changes ... SAMA is not intended to reimburse 100% of the facility maintenance costs.”

The third category is Basic Allowance for Subsistence (aka food) and the reimbursement rate is based on the fluctuating CG dining facilities assigned cost per meal. For example the current lunch and dinner rate is \$4.60 per attendee.

FINCEN is watching this fund closely and there is another consideration to implement a more constructive meal time policy. Basically, if a patrol reports starting at 0759 rather than 0800 then the crew should not be

authorized the breakfast ration. My original understanding was that a formula w/I the program would authorize this expenditure taking into account patrol orders, etc. Whatever a member would claim would get rejected by the formula but apparently this is not the case. I am working to get clarification of meal times and will provide better examples soon.

The last category is trailerizing/mileage expenses and only is authorized if the facility has a trailer. This fund is reimbursed at the level to the current travel regulations policy that we are under at the time and is actually continually under review.

As with last month's article, my program manager has been bringing 'other' costs to all of the DIRAUX offices attention and the added scrutiny involved. The practice of claiming bottled water on a patrol should be covered by your subsistence allowance and the practice of claiming oil, anti-freeze and fuel additives should be comparable to your offer for use form and mission that was executed. In addition, any petroleum or additive should also be reimbursed by the SAMA fund rather than an 'other' item.

I hope my definitions help us decipher the entitlements and assist in everyone's expectations for patrol claims. If FINCEN, your OIA, or I as OTO, have any questions we will be contacting you directly for discussions about requested miscellaneous items to be claimed.

Thanks in advance; let's continue to keep a sharp eye on each other.

FOREVER AND ALWAYS -- NEXT WATCH!!!

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## **FROM THE DESK of YN1 Jennifer L. Gonzales**

1. PRELIMINARY NOTICE OF TERMINATION of the USCG POV DECAL program and amplifies the requirement for 100 percent ID card checks at all CG units. All designated CG issuing units shall plan to cease issuing CG POV decals no later than 01 JAN 2014. The formal termination of the CG POV DECAL Program is 30 SEP 2014. All CG issued decals should be removed from POV and destroyed by 31 DEC 2014. Members that access DOD bases requiring decals can apply/obtain a DOD decal from that installation.

2. Presently, the CG POV decal program is an optional program designed to provide Commanding Officers a tool to help regulate private vehicle traffic on CG units. It has also been used as a tool for security forces to ensure only authorized vehicle were aboard CG units. The program has become a redundant security and access control system over the past 8 years because a 100 percent personal ID check is now required to access all CG/DOD facilities. All vehicle occupants must possess a valid CG, DHS, or DOD issued identification card to gain access to CG units.

3. These policy changes do not impact the requirement that POVs seeking entrance to all CG/DOD facilities must be registered, inspected, and insured Iaw State and local laws.

Here is a couple FAQ's Regarding Base Decal Elimination

Q1.) Why is the Coast Guard eliminating the requirement for vehicle decals?

A1.) Since Sept. 11, 2001, 100 percent I.D. card checks have been implemented at all CG/DoD installations. Authorization to access any Coast Guard installation is based on verification of a valid credential or I.D. card. Vehicle decals were used to ensure vehicles on CG/DOD installations complied with state requirements for vehicle registration and insurance. State programs have become more uniform and efficient and uniform, eliminating one of the main reasons for vehicle decals.

Other issues prompting the change in policy include: Expense in administering the program; decals being moved from vehicle to vehicle and are easily counterfeited and cars sold to non-CG/DOD personnel with current decal still attached, all posed additional security risks to CG/DOD installations.

Q2.) Will this elimination change the requirement for proper licensing and registration for personnel entering the installation?

A2.) Persons using privately- owned vehicles on CG/DOD installations will still be required to meet state and local requirements including valid insurance, vehicle safety inspections, registration, proof of motorcycle safety training (where applicable), etc.

Q3.) When will the elimination of these decals take place?

A3.) The elimination of the requirement for base decals will be effective 01 Jan 2014.

Q4.) How will this affect Auxiliary members coming on the base?

A4.) Auxiliary members are managed separately. You will either receive a temporary pass for a one trip Visit.

Q5.) Will this affect visiting procedures?

A5.) No. Visitors will continue to use the normal visitor procedures established by the installation commanding officer.

Q6.) What should drivers do with the decals currently on their cars once the change is implemented?

A6.) All issued decals should be removed from POV and destroyed by 31 Dec 2014. If your decal expires before then you should remove it once it expires.

Q7.) How will the elimination of decals affect security on CG/DOD installations?

A7.) In addition to our policy of conducting random Anti-terrorism checks, we will conduct command authorized administrative checks, similar to the way security departments conduct Driving-Under-the-Influence checks. These administrative checks will check identification, vehicle licensing, etc. We will also continue to rely on the assistance of the military community to report suspicious or abandoned cars, etc.

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### **FROM THE DESK of Charles K. Claytor, Auxiliary Affairs Specialist**

We sometimes get some very unusual supply requests and then try to fill them the best we can. One item, although not so unusual is Finger Print (FP) cards. Like most supplies, they can be obtained by ordering them through the Auxiliary National Supply Center (ANSC). So if you need FP cards, stickers, flyers, manuals, etc., please have your FSO or SO-MA order them through ANSC.

Please remind your members that Charles DOES NOT enter Activity Reports. That is the sole responsibility of your IS officers. It's not that I don't know how, but rather doing the entire district would be unmanageable.

As we gear up for the upcoming Boating Season, please pay close attention to your member's Boat Crew qualifications. Let's make sure that everyone gets their hours and needed courses before the end of the summer. Trying to play catch-up in late fall and early winter puts stress not only on the members, but your DIRAUX staff as well.

Lastly, I want to send a shout out to our Facilities Manager, Gary Proudlock. For several years now, Gary has been coming to the DIRAUX office and assisting us in approving and entering facilities into the database. He then prints the approval letters includes the appropriate decals and mails them out. I can assure everyone that this is a tedious and important job here at DIRAUX. Gary has faithfully administered the job saving me valuable hours to dedicate to other important actions. Thank you Gary from all of us here at DIRAUX.

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## FROM THE DESK of Shirley A. Blanchett, Auxiliary Affairs Assistant

### **PICTURES OF YOURSELF DURING MILITARY DUTY, PEACE CORPS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, OR OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE:**

Do you have pictures of yourself from your time served in uniform or other public service? The DIRAUX is requesting pictures of our Auxiliary membership who have served through many different avenues. We are collecting items for the history of the Auxiliary in the Thirteenth District and the uniformed public service of many of our members. Please submit pictures that you would like to share, along with year and type of service, to the DIRAUX office. Point of contact: Shirley Blanchett, email: [shirley.a.blanchett@uscg.mil](mailto:shirley.a.blanchett@uscg.mil)



Ed Madura, FL 18, last person on the right  
USCG 41327, Port Angeles, WA June 1980



David Larkin, FL 42  
Kuwait, Naval Coastal Warfare Sqd 33

### **FOR YOUR SITUATIONAL AWARENESS, RECENT CG COMPASS BLOG ARTICLE:**

<http://coastguard.dodlive.mil/2014/02/celebrating-the-u-s-coast-guard-auxiliaries-75th/>

You should expect a 75th Anniversary announcement ALCOAST in the next few days as well. This soon-to-be-released ALCOAST is intended to put unit commanders on notice that this is a big celebratory year for us, and encourage the gold side to take advantage of opportunities to highlight their AUX. This ALCOAST will be followed with a second "Happy Anniversary" message closer to the actual June 23rd anniversary.

Following our lead, Headquarters is also requesting photos, interviews, stories and artifacts that reflect our experiences as volunteers and as members of the public who have been impacted through the volunteer efforts of our Coast Guard Auxiliary. Please take note of this article written by Tom Ceniglio regarding the Auxiliary's 75th anniversary, and a chance for our membership to contribute to this year's celebration events.

**AUXILIARIST OF THE WEEK:** To submit a request for Auxiliarist of the Week you do not have to go through the Awards Committee. If you have an Auxiliarist in mind for the AUX of the Week award all you need to do is email a paragraph telling the DIRAUX what the Auxiliarist did to merit the award and attach a couple of pictures of the candidate. E-mail your request to: [Shirley.a.blanchett@uscg.mil](mailto:Shirley.a.blanchett@uscg.mil)

**COAST GUARD PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS:** We have coloring books, stickers, color-ons, and activity books available for interested flotillas. Please send an email to [shirley.a.blanchett@uscg.mil](mailto:shirley.a.blanchett@uscg.mil) to make a request.



Saturday, April 26, 2014 – 6:10pm

Rangers vs. Mariners

**Promo code: Military**

Join the Mariners for a special pre-game program honoring the United States Armed Forces, Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary, service veterans & support organizations. Discount tickets are available for all military service personnel, as well as their families and friends. Plus, fans in attendance will receive a special commemorative military coin courtesy of the Mariners & Boeing at the Conclusion of the game. (Limit 15,000)



#### PRICING

- View Level Seats reduced to \$11
- Main Level Seats reduced to \$25
- Terrace Club Seats reduced to \$30

**DEADLINE TO PURCHASE:** Friday, April 25 at NOON

**Please note:** This special offer is online only and is not available at Team Stores or box office outlets.

**Promo Code: Military**

[http://seattle.mariners.mlb.com/sea/ticketing/special\\_event.jsp?group=salute\\_armedforces](http://seattle.mariners.mlb.com/sea/ticketing/special_event.jsp?group=salute_armedforces)

To Order 20 or more tickets or if you require wheelchair seating

Please call Elizabeth McCloskey at (206) 346-4519.

- Groups of 20 or more will have their group name displayed on the scoreboard following the 4th inning.

Groups of 20 or more will receive a voucher for 2 complimentary tickets to a future game (excluding Home Run games).

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