# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD, THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY, AND THE WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

## STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AND THE U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

This Memorandum of Understanding is among the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (hereafter referred to as the Commission), the United States Coast Guard (hereafter referred to as the USCG), and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary (hereafter referred to as the Auxiliary).

The guidelines set forth below describe a process for working in mutual cooperation in the teaching of public boating safety courses and the performance of Courtesy Marine Examinations (CME) in order to create a safer operating experience for Washington boaters. The Commission, the USCG, and the Auxiliary agree to work together according to these guidelines while promoting and encouraging close working relationships among the members of the Auxiliary and the Washington County and City Marine Patrols listed in the Commission's Listing of Approved Law Enforcement Boating Safety Programs (hereafter referred to as Approved Programs).

Now, therefore, the parties agree as follows:

**I. THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AND THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES:**

A. Schedule and administer National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved boating safety courses in the state of Washington through the pertinent Auxiliary administrative structure.

B. Incorporate Washington State boating laws and regulations into all Auxiliary boating safety courses utilizing examination questions provided by the Commission.

C. Work toward participation by local County and City Marine Patrol Supervisors and Lead Officers in the conduct of the classes covering state boating regulations. The Commission's Listing of Approved Programs will be used as a reference for contacting these officers.

D. Provide the Commission with information as to the date, time, and location of boating safety courses and the name and telephone number of a contact person for all courses that are taught under this Memorandum.

E. Verify completion of the Washington State component by stamping the Auxiliary course completion certificate with a stamp provided by the Commission. Students must receive a score of 75% or higher on the examination to receive the stamp.

F. Notify the Commission of the number of classes taught and the number of students successfully completing each class on an annual basis.

G. Continue to perform Auxiliary's CMEs on recreational vessels. This free vessel safety check examines the safety equipment carried or installed on a vessel and checks certain aspects of the vessel's condition. The Auxiliary will accept the State decal which indicates that a vessel safety check was performed by an approved County or City Marine Patrol. An Auxiliary CME decal will be given only by a qualified Auxiliary examiner.

H. Assign an Auxiliary State Liaison Officer (AUXSLO) as a point of contact to work with the state Boating Law Administrator, or designated representative, in the execution of this program.

**II. THE WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES:**

A. Recognize successful completion of NASBLA approved Auxiliary courses (incorporating Washington State boating laws) as meeting state boating education requirements.

B. Provide state pamphlets and/or other materials as appropriate containing current and accurate boating law information for each student attending NASBLA approved Auxiliary courses. New pamphlets and/or periodic updates to pamphlets and materials will be provided as required by changes in Washington State laws.

C. Provide a copy of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission's Listing of Approved Programs for use by the Auxiliary in requesting Marine Patrol Supervisors and Lead Officer presentations at any NASBLA approved Auxiliary courses.

D. Provide the Auxiliary with examination questions covering Washington boating laws and regulations.

E. Provide periodic updates concerning changes in Washington boating laws and regulations through the AUXSLO and/or at Auxiliary meetings.

F. Recognize an original or notarized copy of an Auxiliary course completion certificate as acceptable for any state requirement needing proof of course completion.

G. Issue a stamp for use by the Auxiliary instructors on the course completion certificate as authorized. An abbreviated version of state watercraft regulations will be issued with the stamp.

H. Recognize the Auxiliary CME decal. County and City Marine law enforcement officers

will consider a vessel's display of a current decal as a factor in deciding whether to board that vessel for the purpose of doing a safety equipment check.

I. The Commission and members of the County and City Marine Approved Boating Safety Programs may call upon the Auxiliary for use of their expertise, talents, and skills as needed.

## III. MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. Additions or deletions may be presented and adopted by both parties at any time and will be included in this Memorandum as if part of the original agreement. Any amendments made to this understanding must be with the written consent of both parties.

B. This agreement will not conflict with the current Federal/State Cooperative Agreement between the USCG and the state of Washington and shall be viewed as a supplement to the section on PUBLIC EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

C. The effective date of this understanding is the last date entered below and it may be terminated by either party upon a 30-day written notice. It is agreed among the parties that this Memorandum and its attachments represent the complete agreement among the parties.

D. In carrying out the terms of this Memorandum, there shall be no discrimination against any person because of sex, race, color, national origin, or disability.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, the said parties have herewith set their hands and seals as of the date and year first above written.

**For the United States Coast Guard and USCG Auxiliary:**

APPROVED

Commander, Thirteenth USCG — Date: 9/26/98

APPROVED

District Commodore, USCG Auxiliary — Date: 9-26-98

**For the State of Washington:**

APPROVED

Washington State Boating Law Administrator — Date: 9/23/98

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