



**Marine Safety Information Bulletin**  
**04-14**  
**February 4, 2014**

**Requirement to Report Vessel Groundings and Other  
Marine Casualties**

In recent months, there has been an increase in vessels that have suffered marine casualties that have not been reported to the Coast Guard as required by regulations. Title 46, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 4.05-1, outlines the type of marine casualties that must be reported to the Coast Guard, and requires that these reports be made immediately after addressing safety concerns that may occur as a result of a casualty. In addition to the “immediate” reporting requirements, Title 46, CFR, Part 4.05-10 requires vessel operators to notify the Coast Guard, in writing, within five days after a casualty has occurred.

To assist in the reporting of marine casualties, the Coast Guard announced, in the Federal Register, on January 14, 2014, the availability of proposed guidance in the form of a draft Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC). This NVIC, titled “*Title 46, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 4 Marine Casualty Reporting Procedures Guide with Associated Standard Interpretations,*” provides specific guidance for the identification and reporting of marine casualties to promote compliance with federal casualty reporting requirements.

The Federal Register notice is available at:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-01-14/pdf/2014-00443.pdf>

The draft NVIC is available at:

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketBrowser;rpp=25;po=0;D=USCG-2013-1047>

This notice will be posted on the Coast Guard HOMEPORT website at <http://homeport.uscg.mil> as well as on the Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) Website at [www.uscg.mil/d8/vtspportarthur](http://www.uscg.mil/d8/vtspportarthur). If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call MSU Port Arthur’s Prevention Department at (409) 719-5070. With your cooperation, we will collectively keep our waterways safe, secure, and at peak operating capacity.

**G. J. PAITL**  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port