



**Homeland
Security**

U.S. COAST GUARD

Sector Upper

Mississippi River



Marine Safety Information Bulletin #11-06

This bulletin is used purely for informational purposes to assist the maritime community within the Sector Upper Mississippi River Area of Responsibility. Its purpose is to advise relevant parties of emerging information & situations that may impact our Marine Transportation System as well as facilitates cooperation among the involved parties regarding actions that we may be taking and/or that you may need to employ in the interest of safety/security.

Uninspected Passenger Vessel Operations

September 1, 2006

1. Uninspected passenger vessels (UPVs), popularly known as "Six-Pack" vessels, are permitted to carry six or fewer passengers for hire. Passenger-for-hire is defined by the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) as "a passenger for whom consideration is contributed as a condition of carriage on the vessel, whether directly or indirectly flowing to the owner, charterer, operator, agent, or any other person having an interest in the vessel." UPV operations include, but are not limited to; fishing guide, para-sail, sight seeing, and ferry vessels.
2. In accordance with 46 CFR 15.605, a person who operates a vessel that carries one or more passengers-for-hire is required to have a valid Coast Guard license suitable for the vessel's route and service. In accordance with 46 CFR 26.20-1, this license must be in the operator's possession and be available for immediate production upon request of a Coast Guard officer.
3. Any person who fails to have a valid Coast Guard license, while operating an uninspected passenger vessel with passengers for hire onboard, will have the voyage terminated and will be subject to a maximum civil penalty of \$27,500.
4. For information regarding the application process to obtain a Coast Guard uninspected passenger vessel operators license, contact the Regional Exam Center in St. Louis by phone at (314) 269-2504.
5. Any questions regarding this information bulletin may be addressed to the Prevention Department, Sector UMR at (314) 269-2686.

J. J. JONES
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Acting Captain of the Port