



## **Marine Safety Information Bulletin 06 – 10**

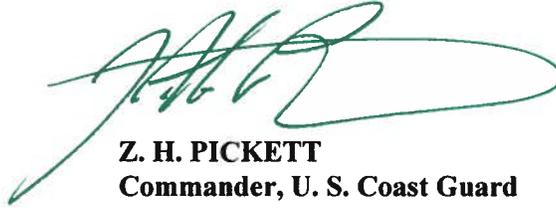
### **TOWING VESSEL BRIDGING PROGRAM**

**In a continuing effort to educate mariners about towing vessel safety, Marine Safety Unit Port Arthur is conducting voluntary dockside towing vessel examinations. Owners and operators of towing vessels are encouraged to contact LT Jason Rimington or CWO Bobby Conners at (409) 723-6581 or (409) 723-6587 with any questions regarding the program or to schedule an exam today.**

**The Towing Vessel Bridging Program (TVBP) was established to ensure that Coast Guard and towing vessel industry personnel are prepared for the regulatory requirements (46 CFR subchapter M) expected to be released sometime in the near future.**

**The towing vessel exam decal is issued based upon compliance with existing 46 CFR Subchapter B and C requirements and is valid for three (3) years. During the voluntary examination period deficiencies noted may delay the issuance of the decal, but no civil penalty action will be taken and deficiencies will not be posted to the port state information exchange.**

**The Coast Guard has posted information regarding all aspects of this program on the Coast Guard Homeport website. To access this information, you can visit the following web address:  
<http://homeport.uscg.mil>>Domestic Vessels>Towing Vessels.**



**Z. H. PICKETT  
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port, Acting**