

Unified Command General Objectives

1. Address safety of passengers, crew and responders.

- Identify hazards & risks.
- Provide coordinated response.
- Stabilize the vessel.
- Account for all personnel.
- Evaluate and treat injuries.
- Determine need for evacuation.

2. Respond to potential and actual security threats.

- Evaluate cause of casualty.
- Make timely notifications.
- Mobilize outside security as needed.

3. Mitigate threat of pollution.

- Control source—minimize amount spilled.
- Arrange for response contractor to protect sensitive areas & recover and dispose of pollutant.

4. Manage Information

- Internal communications—Establish effective flow of information to and from scene, and between command post and response partners.
- External communications—Joint media coordination to provide “best” information source.

5. Restore Maritime Operations.

Coast Guard Response Expectations

- Notification at earliest time. Maintain an open line to USCG as needed to share information.
- Accurate reports of situation—damage, injuries, pollution, cause if known.
- Immediate update of significant events & timely information sharing.
- Local participation and representation with authority to act on behalf of owner / operator.
- Timely arrangements for pollution and salvage response.
- Accountability of all passengers and crew.
- Establish shore side management and support for evacuees.
- Participation in Joint Information Center for media relations.
- Understanding of NIMS ICS.

**KNOW YOUR RESPONSE PARTNERS!
SEE INSIDE FOR MORE ACTIONS.**

United States Coast Guard



Multi-Agency Quick Start Guide for Passenger Vessel Emergencies

Plan and Prepare
Today
To
Prevent and Respond
Tomorrow

Edition 2.0

Multi– Agency Quick Response Guide for Passenger Vessels

USCG Rescue Coordination Center:

- Verify information & location. Complete notifications
- Reduce comms to ship to extent possible. Contact owners, agents for info to permit Master to address emergency.
- Coordinate with company on response plans.
- Assume SMC. Initiate Checklist.
- Issue UMIB / AMVER
- Launch / divert assets.
- Designate On Scene Commander (OSC).
- Determine status: numbers, injuries, missing, etc.
- Assign dedicated communicator and Maintain open line with company/agents as required for rapid info
- As needed, establish satellite comms w/ vsl.
- Notify Sector/COTP and request safety, security zone
- Request SAR Plan of Cooperation (large cruise ships)
- Support Master requests assistance.
- Request PAX/Crew List from agents, NOAA/SANS.
- Initiate Passenger Accountability procedures.
- Coordinate w/ owner & agents for commercial resources.
- Alert local communities resources
- Dispatch USCG Liaison officer to company EOC
- Contact FAA for temporary airspace restriction
- Coordinate with UC for staging and landing areas.
- Alert Public Affairs and CBPS.
- Complete ICS 201 form for situation brief.

Vessel Owner:

- Activate Crisis Action Team.
- Establish comms with ship and USCG RCC. Maintain open line as needed.
- Request local USCG Liaison officer at EOC.
- Share status information regularly.
- Assist Master with stability analysis and supplement decision support system. Share info.
- Commence logistics for possible passenger evacuation.
- Initiate passenger accountability process. Share information.
- Coordinate actions / information with Unified Command.
- Contact Flag State, Class, underwriters.
- Initiate spill and security plans.
- Ensure required state and local notification made.
- Activate JIC process w/ USCG – release initial media statement.
- Establish 800 number
- If no agent, initiate actions below

STATE

- Activate pollution, medical, and law enforcement actions / support as needed.
- Provide SOSOC for UC.

USCG Sector Command

- Form & Dispatch Away Team as needed.
- Prepare ICP and initiate Unified Command process as needed.
- Distribute contact info
- Liaison to RCC Juneau & Agents
- Execute applicable provisions of Area Maritime Security Plan.
- Establish and direct enforcement of safety / security zones.
- Direct shore / waterside MHLS patrols.
- Evaluate for security threat.
- Coordinate terrorism investigation with FBI (if appropriate).. Increase MARSEC level (if appropriate).
- Coordinate NOAA SSC
- Initiate pollution response
- Investigation initiation
- Comms with ship thru D17 or company EOC conference type calling
- ACP Checklists Reviewed

Unified Command

- Assume command.
- Set organization and objectives. Distribute.
- Initiate IAP development. “Planning P”
- Manage On-scene info flow. Ensure effective information sharing.
- Establish effective communications on scene. Complete comms plan and distribute
- Coordinate with law enforcement for investigative and security support.
- Stand up JIC w/industry. Issue joint release at earliest time.
- Maintain comms link to industry EOC for current info and plans.
- Assign tasks and responsibilities.
- Coordinate Customs Border Protection Service for evacuee clearance
- Establish and maintain effective liaison with key stakeholders.
- Support passenger accountability process.
- Establish secure landing sites: decon, triage, medical transport, Pax. Transport, crowd control.
- Monitor/assist evacuee transport.
- Set Security for reception center.

Vessel suffers disabling casualty.

IMMEDIATE

WITHIN TWO TO FOUR HOURS

Ship:

- Contact CG and company EOC at earliest time.
- Assess damage to vessel/stability.
- Extinguish/contain fire.
- Initiate damage control.
- Treat injured personnel. Report to USCG.
- Request MEDVACs as required.
- Determine need for evacuation.
- Evaluate cause of casualty for security threat.
- Mitigate possible release of fuel.
- Keep passengers informed of situation.
- Provide dedicated communicator for reports to EOC & USCG.
- Provide regular updates of status and changes
- To extent possible, ensure pax and crew have identification prior to evacuation.
- Maintain communications with SAR OSC.

Agents:

- USCG / owners updated on resources.
- Establish comms with EOC (owner) & USCG
- Arrange for any immediate requests from vessel's Master/ owner.
- Send liaison to RCC and Sector Juneau
- Update resources dispatched.
- Identify and contact all other available commercial assets in region for potential use.
- Souls on Board List to EOC ,RCC and reception center.
- Logistics for evacuation. Find reception ctr.
- Initiate process to activate reception center.
- Alert Red Cross / Salvation Army
- Locate interpreters.

Port Community

- City Mgr notified
- Activate Shore-side Emergency Plans.
- Hospital(s) recall available staff
- Harbormaster prepares City-owned port facilities. Assist with landing site ops.
- Assist w/ establishment of reception center(s)
- Provide triage, medical treatment, patient transport for injured persons landed ashore.
- Provide reps for UC.

- **SAR OSC:** Support master, direct rescue resources on scene, serve as single POC for master, recover PIW, establish check in / out for resources, track evacuee numbers and destinations, provide status updates to SMC/Sector.

- Coordinate/supervise special teams support (EOD, Strike Team, CSST, NOAA, FEMA, etc.)
- Coordinate marine firefighting support.
- Supervise spill response (source control, containment, recovery, protection of sensitive areas, disposal and decontamination).
- Evaluate damage survey/ approve salvage plan/supervise salvage operation.
- Implement law enforcement requirements for pax. control.
- Coordinate requirements for damaged ship transit, port entry.
- Locate interpreters