

## **SARSAT Weekly Rescues Report for period November 4 to November 10, 2011.**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking System Rescues-Fifteen. The fifteen rescues were in five incidents.

### Incident 1

On 04 November 2011 at 1627 UTC, the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHZ, EPIRB distress signal. After receiving an unlocated alert, Coast Guard District Five (CGD05) used the registration information and learned the S/V SHUNPIKER was underway and issued an Enhanced Group Call (EGC) to try to hail the vessel. At 1646 the signal was detected at 32 01.1N 075 59.4W approximately 150 miles southeast of Charleston, South Carolina. CGD05 tasked a C-130 from Elizabeth City to the SARSAT position. CGD05 then handed the case to Coast Guard District Seven (CGD07). The C-130 arrived at the scene but was not able to communicate with the distressed vessel. CGD07 diverted an AM/VER vessel (M/V ER Albany) to assist the vessel. When ER Albany arrived on scene, they learned the vessel was disabled and had lost all electrical systems onboard. The crew of the SHUNPIKER stated they could not navigate their vessel safely due to inclement weather and had no working navigational equipment. The vessel was on its way to the Bahamas with three people on board. The three people abandoned their sailing vessel and were taken onboard the M/V ER Albany. The ER Albany was en route to Bermuda. **Three SARSAT Rescues.**

### Incident 2

On 5 November 2011 at 1617 UTC, the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 EPIRB distress signal. At 1630 an alert with position 30 00.0 N, 088 04.8 W, 10 NM south of Mobile Bay Inlet, AL was delivered to Coast Guard District Eight (CGD08). Watch standers at Coast Guard Sector Mobile received a satellite phone call from the master of the 38-foot vessel Fountain at 1636 UTC, reporting the vessel sank and all four people aboard were in the vessel's life raft. The master also advised that he activated the vessel's EPIRB and launched flares. Coast Guard District 8 correlated the SARSAT alert with the satellite phone call to Sector Mobile. The Coast Guard Cutter Cobia was dispatched to the SARSAT location. All four persons were recovered and transported to EMS personnel at Sector Mobile. **Four SARSAT Rescues.**

### Incident 3

On 5 November 2011 at 2007 UTC, the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 EPIRB in position 30 39.5 N, 075 00.9 W, 320 NM east of Savannah, Georgia. The S/V Spring Moon's EPIRB was manually activated when the vessel became disabled. Coast Guard District Seven (CGD07) launched an Air Station Clearwater HC-130 to conduct a search of the area. The Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System (AMVER) vessel M/V OCEAN, located 80 NM south of the position, was diverted as well. USCG Communications Area Master Station Atlantic (CAMSLANT) issued a UMIB on HF and CGD07 issued an Enhanced Group Call (EGC). CG1711 located the vessel and maintained watch until it was relieved by the CG1720. At first light, CG1720 reported that M/V OCEAN had arrived on-scene. CG1720 reached their crew day limit and returned to base. The M/V OCEAN took the 3 survivors onboard without

incident. The three persons reported minor injuries. The S/V SPRING MOON was left adrift. The M/V OCEAN will work to coordinate with RCC Bermuda to disembark the three individuals prior to their next port-of-call in Iceland on 17 NOV 2011. **Three SARSAT Rescues.**

#### Incident

On 06 November 2011 at 00:23 UTC, the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHZ PLB at 68 09.6N 151 26.7W approximately 200 miles northwest of Fairbanks, Alaska. An individual on a snow machine activated his PLB when his snow machine broke down and he could not get to the nearest shelter which was 7NM away. Alaska Rescue Coordination Center (AKRCC) contacted the North Slope Borough (NSB) after they received the SARSAT alert. NSB dispatched a two man search and rescue party on snowmobiles to the distress location and rescued the individual. AKRCC updated the NSB search and rescue party each time they received an update from the SARSAT system during the rescue. No injuries were reported. **One SARSAT Rescue.**

#### Incident 5

On 7 November 2011 at 12:17 UTC, the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHZ EPIRB distress signal with encoded position 27 00.0N 77 00.0W, 22 NM northeast of Green Turtle Cay, Bahamas. Coast Guard District 7 (CGD07) received the alert. Later the Royal Bahamian Defense Force (RBDF) asked CGD07 to assist with the fishing vessel Hideout, which capsized with 6 POB in the vicinity of the alert. CGD07 RCC correlated the cases and launched a helicopter to the SARSAT position. The CG helicopter recovered five persons from the water and delivered them ashore. One of the five was deceased. The RBDF continued to search for the 6th crew member, who is believed to have swum ashore. **Four SARSAT Rescues.**

Total number of rescues for FY 12: 25

Total number of rescues for the calendar year 2011: 170

*Significance:* The SARSAT system protects life and property in support of the nation's commerce and transportation systems.