



Date: August, 2019  
From: DSO-OP Stolz  
Subject: Surface Response Report for August, 2019

1. OTO Message
2. PPE Request
3. PCA Advanced Coxswain Workshop
4. OPTREX report and update

1. Greetings All,

Please see attached cell phone policy and the message below. Please disseminate to the fullest and don't hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns.

V/R,  
BOSN Dustin Finkelson

To: All DIRAUX (dpa)  
All Auxiliary (AL AUX)

Subj: CELL PHONE USE ONBOARD AUXILIARY FACILITIES

Ref: (a) U.S. Coast Guard Boat Operations and Training Manual Volume I, COMDTINST  
M161 14.32D

(b) Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual, COMDTINST M16798.3E

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this policy letter is to provide guidance on the use of cellular phones, phone applications, and handheld devices while underway on Auxiliary surface facilities under orders.
2. ACTION. All Auxiliarists must comply with the provisions in this Policy Letter. Internet release is authorized
3. BACKGROUND. Reference (a), chapter 3, section F.2 states the use of cell phones/texting devices and phone applications aboard Boat Force assets is prohibited without permission of the Coxswain; permission can be granted only on a case by case basis. This policy was incorporated into the annual Auxiliary Operations Workshop presentations but was never incorporated into Auxiliary directives.
4. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. These changes will be incorporated into the next revision of reference (b).
5. MAJOR CHANGES. Major changes to the communication policy specifically the use of cell phones/texting devices and phone applications:
  - a. Auxiliary Patrols. A facility must have two-way communications with any Coast Guard unit; any Auxiliary Station or Detachments; any federal, state, or local agency (e.g., Army Corps of Engineers, police, fire department, etc.); or any local marina that agrees to maintain the scheduled communication guard, relay official information between the Coast Guard and Auxiliary facility. Local marinas must understand and agree to immediately report a loss of communications with the Auxiliary Patrol to the Coast Guard when the reporting period is exceeded.
  - b. **VHF-FM is the primary method for communications during ordered patrols. The use of mobile phones and phone applications aboard Auxiliary Surface Facilities (vessels) is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Coxswain and only on a case by case basis. The Coxswain should take into consideration a variety of factors using risk management principles before allowing the use of mobile phones. When a crew member is allowed**

to use a mobile phone, the Coxswain will assure that there is a proper lookout posted and the rest of the crew are attentive to their duties. The helmsman is prohibited from using a mobile phone.

6. **DISCLAIMER.** This Policy Letter is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it a rule. It is intended to define requirements for Auxiliary personnel and is not intended to, nor does it impose legally-binding requirements on any party outside the Coast Guard.
7. **QUESTIONS.** Questions concerning this policy letter should be directed to the Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety, Auxiliary Division COMDT (CG-BSX-1) at [CGAUX@uscg.mil](mailto:CGAUX@uscg.mil). This policy letter and other policy documents are posted on the CG Auxiliary website at: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=T-DEPT&category=risk-mgt>
8. **REQUEST FOR CHANGES.** Units and individuals may recommend changes in writing via the chain of command to Commandant (CG-BSX-1), ATTN: Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety, Auxiliary Division (CG-BSX-1), U. S. Coast Guard Stop 7501, 2703 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AVE SE, WASHINGTON DC 20593-7501.

## 2. PPE Request

Just a reminder that Mike Brown will still be handling PPE request and concerns and he can be contacted best by email at [m.brown.uscgaux@gmail.com](mailto:m.brown.uscgaux@gmail.com). He will need the requesters name, ID number, flotilla, size, etc.

## 3. PCA Advanced Coxswain Workshop

During the Fall PCA we are switching up the operations training with an Advanced Coxswain Workshop. Coxswains are the primary surface operation mentors and trainers so by helping them improve their skills should result in better trained future coxswains and crew members. The class will be taught by Qualification Examiners. Although the class is directed to current coxswains the class will be open to all levels of surface operations personnel from initial crew candidates to long time coxswains.

## 4. OPTREX update

### OPTREX Schedule 2019

UPDATED 07AUG2019

Date	Host	Check-ride date	Comments
August 16 & 17	Division 7	August 17 <sup>th</sup>	Location: Jordanelle Res. Contact: Mike Williams
August 24 & 25	Division 11	August 24 <sup>th</sup>	Location: Lake Tahoe Contact: Bruce Martin
August 31	Mult-Division	August 31 <sup>st</sup>	Location: Stockton Contact: Tommy Holtzman
September 14 & 15	Division 6	Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	Location: TBA Contact: Wally Smith
September 27 - 30	Division 10	Sept 28 <sup>th</sup>	Location: Don Pedro Contact: Howard Ratzlaff
October 18 - 20	Flotilla 55	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup>	Location: Doran Beach Park, Bodega Bay Contact: Doug Twitchell
October 25-27	Flotilla 88	October 26 <sup>th</sup>	CANCELLED

Consult the district calendar for additional or missing information shown on this schedule

Respectfully Submitted,