

Date: January 25, 2020 Contact: Sean M. Peoples United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Affairs Officer (860) 989-4292 speoples@bpslawyers.com

## **East Hartford Flotilla Hosted Boating Safety Class**

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary East Hartford Flotilla offered a class on *About Boating Safety* at Goodwin University, One Riverside Drive in East Hartford on Saturday, January 25th. The one-day class was taught by qualified U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary members, Frank Connolly, Sean M. Peoples, David Thiede and Roger Rosella and ran from 8 am. to 5 pm.

This one-day (eight-hour) beginner course gave participants the knowledge needed to obtain a Connecticut Safe Boating Certificate, which includes a Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation (CPWO) from the State of Connecticut. This certificate allows a person (subject to minimum age requirements) to operate a personal water craft or a recreational vessel up to 65 feet in length. Many insurance companies also offer discounts on boat insurance to boaters who successfully complete this course.

Course textbooks were provided to participants. Those who successfully completed the course and passed the test received a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Certificate of Completion, which is needed to obtain the license to operate a boat or personal watercraft in Connecticut waters.

Topics included introduction to boating, safety equipment, safe boating practices, emergencies, other boating problems, boating law, water skiing and other water sports, trailering, navigating rivers and other boating tips.

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary has served as the civilian, uniformed volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard for over 75 years. The 24,000 volunteer members donate millions of hours in support of Coast Guard missions, such as search & rescue, public education and maritime environmental awareness. For more information, please visit www.cgaux.org.

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