



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

31 OCT 2022
FM: CHDIRAUX
TO: ALAUX
ALAUX 039/22
SUBJ: PASSING OF PAST NATIONAL COMMODORE

1. We are saddened to inform all Auxiliarists of the passing of Past National Commodore Peter W. Melera who passed away on October 25, 2022. Commodore Melera led an incredible life dedicated to service to our Nation in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.
2. Commodore Melera joined the Auxiliary in 1974 and was an active member in his flotilla in Rye, NY. He proudly served in several positions, and as the National Commodore from 1995-1996. He was an outstanding leader who helped form our organization into what it is today. His testimony on April 25, 1996, to the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, helped assure passage of the "Auxiliary Act" into law. This piece of legislation redefined the Auxiliary and provided authorization for the Commandant to utilize Auxiliarists to ". . . assist, the Coast Guard. . . in performing any. . . function, power, duty, role or mission or operation authorized by law," and, most importantly, it provided the legal protection for us to do so. This was indeed a watershed event for the Auxiliary and laid the legal groundwork for the truly multi-mission organization it is today and further enfranchised it as a member of "Team Coast Guard".
3. COMO Melera is survived by his wife, Barb, son, Peter Franklin, daughter by marriage, Pam and four grandchildren. Service will take place at Christian Community Church of Faith; 355 State Route 7 Richmondville, NY on Friday, November 4, 2022 at 11:00 AM. Please join us in sending thoughts and prayers to Commodore Melera's family and friends in this difficult time.
4. Internet release is authorized.

For many reasons including the value of keeping communication lines clear and open as well as facilitating access to training and educational tools, all Auxiliarists are urged to have their own email address and to keep it updated in AUXDATA.

*All ALAUX's are posted on the Chief Director of Auxiliary web site located at: [CHDIRAUX ALAUX](#)

If you have a question regarding this ALAUX, please seek resolution within your Chain of Leadership and Management (COLM) including up to your servicing District Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX). If your question still cannot be resolved after that, then please email CGAUX@uscg.mil.