
Section E. Other Agencies and Partnerships

Introduction This section describes some of the Auxiliary's cooperative efforts with other Government agencies and new partnerships. It also describes basic procedures and expectations for the formalization of cooperative efforts and partnerships.

E.1. Agencies Various agencies help the Auxiliary promote VSCs and PE activities on water resource projects under their control. These agencies include:

- a. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- b. National Park Service
- c. Bureau of Land Management Tennessee Valley Authority

Reservoirs, impoundments, and other recreational water resource projects are popular among thousands of boaters who trailer boats from inland areas. Many boaters have had little or no boating safety indoctrination. To help with such instruction, liaisons have been established with applicable agencies. General approval has been received for providing the Auxiliary with available facilities, where practical. Before Auxiliary units use any of these facilities for operations, PE, or VSC programs, the Director must contact the appropriate agency manager to establish liaison. The Director will provide information to and receive guidance from the manager relative to expected Auxiliary activity. Their full cooperation, as a courtesy and as a practicality, must be obtained.

E.2. General Services Administration The Coast Guard has a cooperative policy agreement with the Public Building Service of the GSA concerning Coast Guard Auxiliary use of available space in GSA-controlled buildings to conduct PE courses. Due to expanding Auxiliary education programs, the need for classroom space is increasing. Often, a problem of suitable classroom space availability presents scheduling difficulties for sponsoring Auxiliary units. Conveniently located GSA-controlled building spaces, largely in metropolitan areas, should, if made available to the Auxiliary, provide valuable additional classroom resources. When potential classroom spaces are under its control, GSA has agreed to help the Coast Guard. Such actions are subject to the Federal Property Management Regulations. Directors are authorized and encouraged to help Auxiliary units get these classroom spaces.

E.3. New Partnerships

The Coast Guard Auxiliary also participates in partnership agreements with outside agencies. If a partnership program is desired, the cognizant District Commander's legal staff, DCO's legal staff, the Chief Director, and Commandant (CG-0944) will review and develop an appropriate course of action consistent with policy and long-range goals of the Auxiliary program. Final approval of any course of action shall be made by the Chief Director.

E.4. MOU/MOA

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) may be used to ensure that all parties involved in a cooperative effort or partnership are aware of the associated objectives, plans, and expectations. An MOU is a document that describes very broad concepts of mutual understanding shared by the parties. An MOA is a document that describes in detail the specific responsibilities of, and actions to be taken by, each of the parties so that their mutual objectives can be achieved. MOUs/MOAs shall be composed, formatted, and processed in accordance with provisions of this section and Memoranda of Understanding/Agreement, COMDTINST 5216.18 (series). Subsidiary documents (e.g., Memoranda or Statements of Intent) shall not be employed.

Early communication and coordination with interested offices and the use of e-mail for reviewing and editing a draft MOU/MOA is encouraged. Prior to submitting an MOU/MOA for approval and signature, the originator shall ensure that the MOU/MOA does not conflict with any preexisting agreements.

The Director shall ensure that an MOU/MOA to which the Auxiliary is a signatory is reviewed and approved by the appropriate DSOs, DSO-LP, district program offices, and the district legal office. The DCO, DCAPT, DCDR, or FC, as appropriate, may serve as signature authority for such MOUs/MOAs. This authority may be delegated to the DCOS, VCDR, or VFC if the corresponding elected leader is unable to sign. The Chief Director shall ensure similar review at the Coast Guard Headquarters level for an MOU/MOA with service-wide implications. The NACO may serve as signature authority for such MOUs/MOAs. This authority may be delegated to the VNACO or an elected DNACO if the NACO is unable to sign.
