

AQEC MEMORANDUM 2014-019

OPERATION OF THE FACILITY



QUESTION:

“If the Coxswain or Opfac owner were to experience a medical emergency aboard the facility during a patrol, who on the facility would be responsible to take command of the vessel?”

AQEC/SNC RESPONSE:

During a pre-underway briefing, the vessel owner or owner/operator should make it known to the Crew how to operate the vessel. In most cases, it may be a senior person who knows the vessel, the AOR and procedures for emergency situations (there might be another Coxswain aboard).

The Controlling Authority should immediately be advised of the emergency and should provide appropriate guidance.



The goal is for the Coxswain and Crew to have a basic understanding on the operation of the facility in case of an emergency. During a QE Mission, the QE must be briefed on the operation of the vessel before getting underway.

USCG Fifth District Southern Region Qualification Examiner (QE) Management Process Guide indicates the following:

D. PRE-UNDERWAY

“Before getting underway the QE should know the basics of how to operate the SPECIFIC facility on which he/she will be conducting the QE mission.

Every facility has its own peculiarities. It is helpful to know those ahead of time. Some of the familiarization will take place as part of the standard crew brief of the facility.

If the Coxswain is the facility owner or the owner is on board and becomes a medical emergency the QE can take over the controls and drive the facility to the nearest port for an evacuation by an emergency medical team.”

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AQEC/SNC
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From Quotations with Character by W. David Edman

“Teaching mariners about risk assessment is to explain their actions may affect their life expectancy.”