

ALCOAST 505/08

COMDTNOTE 1500

SUBJ: AUXILIARY PURSUIT OF COAST GUARD MARINE SAFETY, SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION QUALIFICATIONS

A. MARINE SAFETY MANUAL, VOLUME 1, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT, COMDTINST M16000.6 (SERIES)

B. AUXILIARY MANUAL, COMDTINST M16790.1 (SERIES)

1. THE AUXILIARY CONTINUES TO PROVIDE A GREAT SERVICE TO THE COAST GUARD, ENHANCING ITS ABILITY TO ACCOMPLISH A WIDE ARRAY OF MISSIONS, INCLUDING MANY DUTIES RELATED TO THE MARINE SAFETY FIELD. THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED TO CLARIFY THE ROLES AUXILIARISTS CAN FILL AS MARINE INSPECTORS AND THE ELIGIBILITY OF AUXILIARISTS TO EARN THE CG-MSSEP QUALIFICATION. THE COAST GUARD OFFICE OF SHORE FORCES (CG-741) AND THE OFFICE OF AUXILIARY AND BOATING SAFETY (CG-542) ARE COMBINING EFFORTS TO REVISE CURRENT AUXILIARY MARINE SAFETY, SECURITY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (MSSEP) QUALIFICATIONS. UPDATES TO THAT INITIATIVE WILL BE ADDRESSED UNDER SEPCOR AT A LATER DATE AND WILL INCLUDE THIS GUIDANCE.

2. COAST GUARD AUXILIARISTS SUPPORTING MARINE SAFETY MISSIONS PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE AS MEMBERS OF TEAM COAST GUARD. AUXILIARISTS ARE PERMITTED AND ENCOURAGED TO SERVE AS MARINE INSPECTORS WHO ASSIST A COAST GUARD MILITARY MEMBER OR CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE SERVING AS A LEAD INSPECTOR. AUXILIARISTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO: SERVE IN ANY CAPACITY AS LEAD INSPECTOR OR LEAD PORT STATE CONTROL OFFICER, ORDER THE TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT SHUT DOWN OF FACILITY OR VESSEL OPERATIONS, ISSUE NOTICES OF VIOLATION, LETTERS OF DEVIATION, OR CAPTAIN OF THE PORT ORDERS, OR SIGN OR ISSUE PAPERWORK ASSOCIATED WITH SUCH ACTIONS TO VESSEL OR FACILITY OPERATORS.

3. THE PRACTICE OF AWARDED AUXILIARISTS CG-MSSEP QUALIFICATIONS IS BEYOND A REASONABLE SCOPE OF AUTHORITY WITH WHICH THEY SHOULD BE VESTED. THEREFORE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSEL SAFETY EXAMINER QUALIFICATION WHICH HAS BEEN SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED, AUXILIARISTS SHALL NO LONGER BE AWARDED CG-MSSEP QUALIFICATIONS OR THE ASSOCIATED ACTIVE DUTY INSIGNIA PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED BY REF A. AUXILIARISTS MAY PURSUE QUALIFICATIONS AND TASKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE AUXILIARY MARINE SAFETY INSIGNIA. AUXILIARISTS WHO EARNED THE ACTIVE DUTY MARINE SAFETY INSIGNIA PRIOR TO THIS MESSAGE ARE AUTHORIZED TO WEAR IT IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF B.

4. THE VAST EXPERIENCE OF AUXILIARISTS IN THE MARINE SAFETY FIELD SHOULD BE UTILIZED TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH ABOVE. CHAPTER 2 OF REF B CONTAINS A LISTING OF AUTHORIZED AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES.

5. ANY QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MR. JOHN SEDLAK (CG-5432) AT (202) 372-1240, LCDR KATHRYN DUNBAR (CG-5421) AT (202) 372-1265 OR LCDR SAMUEL GOSWELLEN (CG-7411) AT (202) 372-1344. EMAIL IS THE PREFERRED CONTACT METHOD.

6. RDML JAMES A. WATSON, DIRECTOR OF PREVENTION POLICY FOR MARINE SAFETY, SECURITY AND STEWARDSHIP, SENDS.

7. INTERNET RELEASE IS AUTHORIZED.