

Auxiliary Marine Safety Administrative and Management Qualification
Section 3: USCG Auxiliary Prevention Directorate Structure and Function

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of Section 3, the member will be able to:

- 3.0 Access and locate resources on the National Auxiliary Prevention Directorate website.
- 3.1 Compare and discuss the definition of the term “Prevention” as it is used in Marine Safety (MS) vs. its meaning and use in Recreational Boating Safety (RBS).
- 3.2 Identify and describe the Prevention Directorate Staff positions and their major responsibilities.
- 3.3 Identify and discuss the two major mission areas located in the Prevention Directorate.
- 3.4 Identify and describe the five Divisions within the Prevention Directorate and their primary responsibilities.
- 3.5 Describe the Auxiliary Prevention activities that support achievement of mission goals.
- 3.6 Identify and describe the structure and function of Auxiliary Marine Safety Staff at the District level. What is the relationship between District MS Staff and the National Prevention Directorate? Between District MS Staff and the District Divisions? How is the District Prevention structure different from that of the National Prevention Directorate?
- 3.7 Identify and describe the structure and function of the Division MS Staff; what is the relationship between the SO-MS and the DSO-MS? Between the SO-MS and the FSOs-MS within the Division?
- 3.8 Identify and describe the structure and function of the Flotilla MS Staff.
- 3.9 Describe what MS/MEP activities are available for member participation. What are the requirements, if any, for participation in these activities?

3.0 Prevention Directorate Structure and Function

3.1 Structure and function of the national Prevention Directorate

3.1.1 Prevention Directorate Structure

The Prevention Directorate website can be found at the following link:

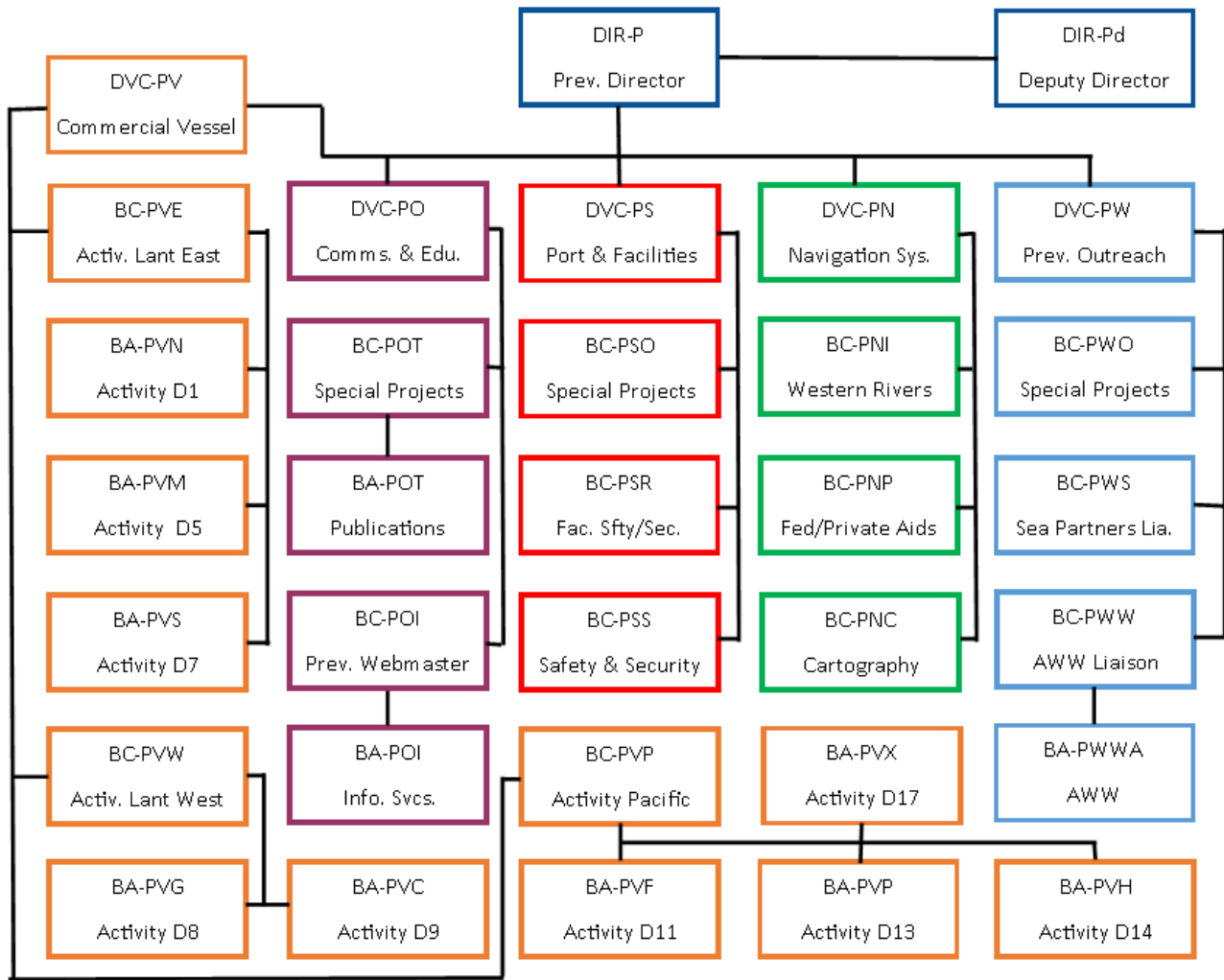
<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=p-dept>

This website is the most current repository for all information about Prevention including structure and function of the Directorate, courses, qualifications, missions and resources for use by members in mission performance. The mission of the Prevention Directorate is to plan and administer Auxiliary programs in support of the US Coast Guard Operations Directorate.

The term “prevention” as it is used in the Auxiliary refers to public education and contact to help “prevent” recreational boating incidents and accidents. In Marine Safety the term “Prevention” refers to one of the four Directorates in the Response/Prevention Group of the Auxiliary. Prevention programs are responsible for working to “prevent” safety, security and environmental incidents in marine environments, including both fresh and salt waters through direct and indirect missions supporting USCG actions (found in the Prevention Department of the USCG), member activities and public outreach.

The Prevention Directorate serves two major Coast Guard missions: **Navigation Systems** and **Marine Safety/Environmental Protection**. **Navigation Systems** is one of the five Divisions of the Prevention Directorate; Marine Safety includes four additional Divisions: **Commercial Vessels, Port and Facility Activities, Prevention Outreach and Communication and Education**. See the diagram on the next page for the Prevention Directorate structure.

Prevention Directorate Organization Chart



The Directorate is led by the **Director (DIR-P)**, who is assisted by a **Deputy Director (DIR-Pd)**. Each Division is led by a **Division Chief (DVC-P_)**, assisted by one or more **Branch Chiefs (BC)** and their **Branch Assistants (BA)**. For a detailed listing of the current Directorate Staff, go to the following link:

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/staff.php?unit=P-DEPT>

3.1.2 Prevention Directorate Function

The Prevention Directorate plans and manages programs in support of US Coast Guard policy, standards, and program alignment for USCG prevention activities

to achieve Marine Safety, Security, and Stewardship mission success.

The Directorate also provides resources to support these missions as well as links to other related programs and resources, and provides both training and support for **District Staff Officers** in Marine Safety (**DSOs-MS**).

The **DIR-P** reports to the **ANACO Prevention/Response** and his **Deputy ANACO**, and is responsible for the management and operation of the Prevention Directorate to achieve mission and Strategic Plan goals in a timely manner. The **DIR-Pd** assists in the achievement of these goals and assists the Prevention Directorate staff to answer questions and resolve issues as needed.

The **Navigation Systems Division**, led by the **DVC-PN**, is responsible for AToN and PAToN Verification, Bridge Verification and Administration, and Chart Updating missions. The Division also provides member training to earn the qualifications necessary to perform those missions. There is a C-School held by the USCG to further train Auxiliary members who are Aid Verifiers as well. Visit the national Prevention Directorate website to become familiar with the functions and materials available for Navigation Systems missions and training.

The **Port and Facilities Activities Division**, led by the **DVC-PS**, is responsible for Container Inspections, Marine Safety-oriented Marine Observation Mission (MOM) patrols, Regulated Facilities (not Auxiliary vessels), Port State Inspections (Foreign flag vessels including ocean-going cruise ships) and Waterways Management including marine event planning and support. There are several MS qualifications available for members to earn that allow them to provide support to the USCG as force multipliers to assist in mission achievement within these areas. Visit the national Prevention Directorate website to learn more about

these programs and explore the training available.

The **Commercial Vessel Activities Division**, led by the **DVC-PV**, is responsible for two types of commercial vessels: **Inspected** and **Uninspected**. **Inspected Commercial Vessels** include domestic vessels such as T-Boats, K-Boats and 6-Passenger vessels. **Uninspected Commercial Vessels** include uninspected passenger vessels (**UPVs**), uninspected towing vessels (**UTVs**) and commercial fishing vessels (**CFVs**). Training is available for members to earn the qualifications necessary to assist the USCG in achieving mission completion; visit the Prevention Directorate website to learn more about this program area and the resources available.

The **Prevention Outreach Division**, led by the **DVC-PW**, is responsible for various programs that affect our marine and freshwater environments, including America's Waterway Watch (AWW), Sea Partners, Aquatic Nuisance Species and Living Marine Mammals Resources, and the Good Mate program. There are qualifications available for Auxiliary members to earn which will enable them to assist in achieving these missions, as well as other resources and links on the national Prevention Directorate website. Many missions do not require a formal qualification, allowing members with background knowledge in Marine Safety and Environmental Protection (acquired through Marine Safety training courses found on the Directorate website) to support activities that interest them.

The **Communication and Education Division**, led by the **DVC-PO**, is responsible for design and maintenance of the Prevention Directorate website, publication of the Directorate newsletter **Safety Lines** and other literature, the Marine Safety Training programs and materials including the Marine Safety Training

Ribbon and Marine Safety Insignia, special projects and many resources, available both on the website and through links posted there. Visit this area of the national Prevention Directorate website to become familiar with the MS/MEP resources and links.

3.2 District, Division and Flotilla Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Structure, Function and Activities

Each Auxiliary District, Division and Flotilla has a Staff Officer for Marine Safety, each of whom is responsible for managing the MS/MEP program within their own level. They address and work with all aspects of the MS/MEP program, and may also provide mission augmentation for Sectors within their District as needed. The duties of each Staff Officer will be discussed in Section 4.

The **District Staff Officer for Marine Safety (DSO-MS)** leads the MS/MEP program for their Auxiliary District and has a staff of **Assistant District Staff Officers for Marine Safety (ADSOs-MS)**. These ADSOs-MS may be assigned by area or topic depending upon the needs of the DSO-MS, the District and the needs of its Sectors. At the District level, unlike the national level, the Marine Safety program is separate from the Navigation Systems program although both programs deal with prevention of marine incidents and protection of the natural marine environment. The DSOs-MS are trained by the national Prevention Directorate Staff and receive both resources and other support as well; they report to the Prevention Directorate regarding progress and issues with MS/MEP programs within their Districts. In turn, the DSOs-MS provide program structure, training and guidance for the Division MS Staff Officers.

Each Division within the Auxiliary District appoints a **Division Staff Officer for Marine Safety (SO-MS)**, but there are no Assistant MS Staff Officers at either the Division or

Flotilla level because these units are smaller in geographic area and number of members served. The SOs-MS report to and receive assistance and resources from the DSO-MS, and provide the same for the FSOs-MS within their Division.

Each Flotilla within a Division appoints a **Flotilla MS Staff Officer (FSO-MS)** to administer the MS/MEP program for the Flotilla members. The Flotilla is where the members receive MS/MEP training and also where the mission execution is done by interested, trained and qualified members. The FSOs-MS report to the Division SO-MS and receive training, assistance and resources from the SO-MS.

Members may engage in many different MS/MEP missions such as those requiring a qualification and some that do not require any specialized qualification for participation. Examples of types of missions that require qualifications include, but are not limited to, Container Inspections, Commercial Fishing Vessel exams, Life Raft Inspections and Uninspected Passenger Vessel exams as well as most Sector augmentation activities. Missions that interested members may participate in without any qualification include activities like Sea Partners presentations, beach clean-ups, America's Waterway Watch presentations or observation missions, Public Affairs and Public Education events where MS/MEP information and materials may be presented to the general public, or presentations on various MS/MEP topics at educational institutions. Visit your District, Division and Flotilla websites to see what is available in your area. A list of the MS/MEP Auxiliary-modified qualifications that may be earned (if needed by the Sector) and used to augment USCG missions can be found in the Communications and Education Division on the national Prevention Directorate website.

NOTE: The Captain of the Port (COTP) will determine which qualifications are needed by the Sector and those that may be offered to Auxiliarists interested in earning them.