



16798.3
October 1, 2003

Eleventh Coast Guard District, Auxiliary, Southern Region Policy Directive 03-09

Subj: USE AND SCHEDULING OF COASTIE THE SAFETY BOAT

1. **PURPOSE.** To establish policy concerning the use and scheduling of the Eleventh Coast Guard District Auxiliary, Southern Region, Coastie the Safety Boat.

2. **BACKGROUND.** Coastie the Safety Boat, one of a growing fleet now numbering approximately 40 within the Auxiliary, was purchased as a major public educational tool to convey boating and water safety to the general public, concentrating on the juvenile audience. Coastie represents a significant financial outlay and as such mandates the use of trained instructors and handlers. Coastie may be used at boat shows, parades, schools, hospitals, and any other event where a favorable image of the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary and boating safety message may be conveyed. Coastie will be used with two Auxiliarists; the "handler" is responsible for Coastie's movement and is Coastie's voice through a 2-way radio link, the second Auxiliarist is out in front of the audience to convey the boating safety message. The use and impact of Coastie is limited only by the creativity and ability of the instructor/handler team.

3. **DIRECTIVES AFFECTED.** This Policy Directive supersedes all other Eleventh Coast Guard District, Auxiliary Southern Region Policy Directives, which contain provisions concerning Coastie the Safety Boat.

4. **SCHEDULING.** The use of Coastie will only be scheduled through the D11 SR Operations Training Officer (OTO).
 - A. Generally, the schedule will be on a "first-requested, first available" basis. However, it may be necessary to compromise this schedule policy. Any such compromise or revision will be based on factors such as length of the request(s), size of the audience (with a larger audience potentially having priority), physical location, physical proximity of the two request(s) that may permit flexible scheduling based upon times, etc. In all cases the conflicting request(s) will be coordinated with the requesters to attempt resolution.

 - B. Divisions requesting Coastie will do so directly to their Division Captain. Flotillas requesting Coastie will do directly to their Flotilla Commanders, Division Captains and Flotilla Commanders will then forward each request directly to D11 SR Operations Training Officer for final approval. Requests for Coastie may be made verbally with a follow-up in writing or by e-mail. Information required to permit scheduling is:

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- (1) Date (s)
- (2) Location
- (3) Function (boat show, hospital, parade, etc.)
- (4) Estimated audience age and size
- (5) Proposed instructors/handlers; or a request for instructor/handler
- (6) Security arrangements to prevent vandalism to Coastie while in use
- (7) Trailer parking arrangements and security
- (8) Individual towing trailer
- (9) Point-of-Contact

C. OTO will respond to each request within three days of receipt.

D. In no case will the trailer or Coastie be transported when inclement weather makes driving hazardous. Should such weather occur after Coastie is on location, the Program Manager will be notified and return Coastie will be delayed until safe transport is possible.

5. **LOGISTICS**. The user is responsible for the pickup and return of Coastie, trailer and accessories.

A. In cases where back-to-back scheduling occurs, the first user will be responsible for pickup and transport to the second user. The second user is responsible for return to the home location.

B. Users are responsible for procuring necessary PE material for handouts, etc.

C. For liability coverage purpose, Auxiliarist shall be under (normally non-reimbursable) travel orders while transporting Coastie and while using Coastie in an approved event. Travel orders may be obtained by contacting the Director of Auxiliary office and providing date (s), location and event.

D. Transportation of Coastie will normally occur by towing the Coastie trailer. In all cases Coastie will be in the handling dolly and the dolly physically secured to the trailer before movement. Prior to movement safety chains will be checked and all trailer lights checked for proper operation.

6. **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**. Maximum exposure of Coastie is a primary objective.

A. To achieve the objective, media will be conducted and press releases will be prepared by the user. Photographs and video recordings are desirable

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B. Copies of such material will be given to the Program Manager for inclusion in a photo album and historical record.

7. **TROUBLE/MALFUNCTION/DAMAGE**. Users are responsible to Contact the OTO in the event of any damage or malfunction immediately upon notice of Coastie.

A. The greatest potential for problem is the discharge of batteries. Users must be aware of this potential at all times. Batteries are located:

- (1) Within Coastie for locomotion and accessory functions
- (2) Within the radio control unit used by the handler
- (3) Within the two belt-packs worn by handler

B. Specific instructions for monitoring and replacing the batteries are contained in the Instructors/Users Manual accompany Coastie.

C. A second potential problem is radio frequency interference with the control system. This can even result form TV stations in specific cases.

D. Mechanical malfunction of Coastie drive system or accessories is also a concern. Auxiliarist normally will not repair Coastie to operational status.

8. **RECORDS**. It is necessary that records of Coastie's use be maintained. As a minimum, the hours Coastie is used and the number of people attending the demonstration are required to be entered into the usage log accompanying Coastie. The type of PE material distributed is desirable. Any malfunction, interference with the radio controls or mechanical trouble will be documented.



G. R. HAACK
Commander, U.S. Coast Guard
Director of Auxiliary, Eleventh District Southern Region

Coastie Sign-Up

Date Of Event: _____

Date of Pick-up: _____

Date Of Return: _____

Location of Event: _____

Nature of Event: _____

Vehicle Description: Make: _____ Model: _____

Color: _____ License Number: _____

Insurance Company: _____

Policy Number: _____

Person picking up and returning: _____

Flotilla and member number: _____

SSN: _____ Contact Number: _____

Email address: _____

Person(s) operating Coastie: _____

Storage location (if over night): _____