



**Homeland  
Security**

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
District 11 Northern Region**  
*Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah*



## DSO-VE Goals for 2014

To: EXCOM and the District Board:

### Highlights

- 1-Improve the quantity of VSC's performed for 2014.**
- 2-Support the Dockwalker Program for 2014.**
- 3-Continue to expand the Kayak VSC Program for 2014.**
- 4-Enhance effectiveness of DSO-VE monthly reports.**
- 5-Continue to provide a welcome letter to new examiners.**
- 6-Continue to disseminate information on a timely basis to the vessel examiners.**
- 7-Provide new Examiner training at the PCA Training Fair-twice a year.**
- 8-Continue to maintain an ALL-inclusive District Vessel Examiner website.**
- 9- Provide two Vessel Examiner workshops at D/Train in Sacramento.**
- 10-Continue to promote good will among the D11NR VE team**

### Details

**1-Improve on the quantity of VSC's performed for the year.**

Establish a goal of 12,500 VSC's for the year. I plan to ask the SO-VE's and FSO-VE's to buy into this goal. Progress will be monitored and posted throughout the year and will be compared to previous years, and other Divisions and Districts in the Pacific area. Incentives are in place for examiners to reaching the 60 VSC plateau. Hopefully water levels will cooperate.

**2- Support the Dockwalker Program for 2014.**

A Dockwalker class for Vessel Examiners or anyone with an interest at D/Train on Sunday morning. In addition Vivian Matuk will be invited to offer a short presentations at the Vessel Examiner classes at the PCA Fair.

**3-Continue to expand the Kayak VSC Program for 2014.**

Plan to expand the kayak VSC program District-wide. This program is starting to gain momentum as regular boating has declined due to economic reasons and low water levels. Paddlecraft VSC's will continue be reported separately in my monthly reports to help examiners keep focus on this program.

**4-Enhance effectiveness of DSO-VE monthly reports.**

The report format will be similar to previous years.

**5- As in recent years, continue to provide a welcome letter and an initial VSC decal kit to new examiners.**

As each NEW examiner is qualified, the DIRAUX sends the DSO-VE a copy of the qualification letter. Within days of receipt of the letter, the DSO-VE will email the new examiners a welcome letter and the member then is added to the VSC Newsletter circulation and their name is printed in the newsletter.

**6- Continue to disseminate information on a timely basis to the vessel examiners.**

This will be done on an as needed basis through the District email program, which has proven to be an effective tool in communication. This tool unfortunately eliminates the communication chain, but it assures that important time sensitive information from National or District relevant to the VE program gets directly to the member and not held up at one of the staff positions. In addition, the new VE site and VSC Report will continue to be a source of communication for ALL vessel examiners.

**7- Provide new Examiner training at the PCA Training Fair-twice a year.**

Continue to provide an introductory Vessel Examiner letter to the new member that is in AP status. In addition, continue to provide a training opportunity for members at the 2-day PCA Fair in February and August. ADSO-VE's will participate as qualified instructors. Encourage local Divisions and Flotilla's to promote these workshops and addition to providing their own, with the intent of developing interest and further expertise in the program, while obtaining a more homogeneous approach to and application to VSC requirements. Ideally I'd like to see at least ONE new examiner per flotilla. Ultimate goal is to have 330+ ACTIVE examiners by YE 2014.

**8-Continue to improve the ALL inclusive District Vessel Examiner website.**

With the assistance of Jan Jewell ADSO-VE/CS, I plan to continue to promote and maintain the District website EXCULSIVELY to aid the vessel examiner! The site includes; forms, job descriptions, reports, the VSC Newsletter, and many outside links that the examiner does NOT have to search for, and many other aids and materials.

**9- Provide two Vessel Examiner workshops at D/Train in Sacramento.**

I plan to provide (2) workshops at D/Train in March. Information from the N/Train workshops will be provided as well as an opportunity to discuss local issues. Depending on availability many handouts will be available.

**10-Continue to promote good will among the D11NR VE team**

Scheduling and local conditions permitting, I plan to occasionally attend Division or flotilla VSC outings. The objective is not for the DSO to critique examiners or perform VSC's, but provide the DSO-VE the opportunity to understand local conditions. When appropriate, and along with the concurrence of the local team, the DSO-VE may participate in actual Vessel Safety Checks. These visits provide local examiners an opportunity for a one-on-one network period with the DSO-VE. This effort is construed to be of mutual benefit in order to continue to provide a homogeneous approach to vessel examinations. A pre-agreed upon calendar would be established for these visits.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michael J. Lauro DSO-VE 11NR

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