



**Homeland
Security**

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



DSO-VE Goals for 2009

To: EXCOM and the District Board:

Highlights

1-Continue to maintain an ALL-inclusive District Vessel Examiner website.

2-Improve the quantity of VSC's performed for the year.

3-Establish the Kayak Rental Vendor Program.

4-Re-establish the RBS "Road Show" visits to other Divisions.

5-Enhance effectiveness of DSO-VE monthly reports.

6-Continue to disseminate information on a timely basis to the flotillas.

7-Continue to promote good will among the VE team

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

9-Continue to provide a welcome letter and an initial VSC decal kit to new examiners.

Details

1-Continue the ALL inclusive District Vessel Examiner website.

With the assistance of Irene Wetzel DSO-CS, I plan to continue to promote and maintain the 1st of it's kind District website EXCULSIVELY to aid the vessel examiner! This site will be designed to aid the examiner. It includes: news, 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.

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

Establish a goal of 7,800 VSC's for the year, if local conditions permit.. This will be a 2% increase over 2008. 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 the previous year, and other Divisions and Districts in the Pacific area. I will continue to offer incentives for examiners to reach the 20 VSC plateau and 60 VSC plateau. Awards will be distributed at District meetings to the DCDR's to be forwarded to the local FC's at the Division meetings. This new target is concurrent with our objective of increasing the number of vessel examiners by about 10%. There will be renewed effort to attain a more uniform distribution of VSC count throughout the District with the aim of having more examiners achieve 20 or more vessel safety checks in the year.

3- Establish the Kayak Rental Vendor Program.

With the assistance of Anthony Budlong ADSO-VE, establish a District-wide kayak rental vendor program District-wide for 2009 after the pilot program during 2008. Workshops are planned at D/Train to fully cover the program and what is expected. This program will be supervised by Tony Budlong ADSO-VE.

4-Re-establish the RBS “Road Show” visits to local Divisions upon request.

The ground work has been laid at the December meeting to re-establish the RBS Road Show with Coast Guard support. This program provides the requesting Divisions and all of their members the opportunity to meet the DSO-PE, PV, and VE. Present training and/or a workshop presentation followed by a question and answer period. During lunch, there is time for one-on-one networking. The requesting Division should submit a request to DIRAUX and the DSO's with a date at least 3 weeks in advance. This allows time for the DSO's to prepare and order supplies. Due to the hectic spring and summer VSC schedule, this program should end by April 1st and commence again on October 1st.

5-Enhance effectiveness of DSO-VE monthly reports.

Make increased use of information e.g. articles with direct applicability to VSC exercise and procedures, reference material useful to the boating public, clarification of ambiguous requirements to facilitate and expedite vessel inspection, etc. As a result of poor support from prior DCDR's, the SO-VE reports to the DSO-VE have been discontinued.

6-Continue to disseminate information on a timely basis to examiners in the flotillas.

This will be done on an as needed basis, following the channel of communication to the SO-VE's through the ADSO, on matters of marked urgency and/or importance, such as National or District news relevant to the VE program. In addition, the new VE site and VSC Newsletter will be a source of communication for ALL vessel examiners.

7-Continue to promote good will among the VE team

I plan to occasionally attend, with the participation of the ADSO-VE team, Division or flotilla VSC outings. The objective is not for the DSO or ADSO to critique examiners or perform VSC's, but provide the DSO-VE the opportunity to understand local conditions. It also provides the local examiners an opportunity for a one-on-one network period with the DSO-VE. When appropriate, the DSO-VE and/or ADSO-VE may participate in actual vessel safety checks along with the concurrence of the local team. 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.

8- 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. Ideally I'd like the ADSO-VE to participate as a qualified instructor. 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 300+ ACTIVE examiners by YE 2009.

9-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 continue to send the new examiners a welcome letter and a VSC starter kit. The member is then added to the VSC Newsletter circulation and their name is printed in the newsletter.

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