



16790
03 NOV 2020

MEMORANDUM

From:  G.A. Callaghan, CDR
CGD-ELEVEN (dp)

To: Eleventh District Coast Guard Auxiliary Northern and Southern Regions

Subj: UPDATE 1- NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – D11 AUXILIARY
AWARENESS AND GUIDANCE

Ref: (a) Auxiliary Manual, COMDTINST M16790.1 (series)
(b) D11 rescission memo 16790 dated 03 Nov 2020
(c) GUIDANCE ON THE USE OF CLOTH FACE COVERINGS, ALCOAST 124/20
(d) COVID-19: GUIDANCE ON THE USE OF CLOTH FACE COVERINGS -
UPDATE 1, ALCOAST 144/20
(e) ALCOAST 267/20: COVID-19: PLANNING ORDER VERSION 8, Enclosure 13

1. The Eleventh District will begin the second phase of reconstituting the Auxiliary into Coast Guard operations on the date of this memo. All Auxiliary activities shall be performed in accordance with reference (a) and applicable sections of reference (e). Reference (b) cancelled previous COVID-19 D11 Auxiliary Awareness and Guidance.

2. The Eleventh District's top priority is safeguarding the health of the Active Duty, Reserve, Civilian, and Auxiliary workforce and their families while maintaining frontline operations. Below, you will find mandated precautions and approved activities that will allow us to continue incorporating more Auxiliary personnel into Coast Guard missions in a phased approach based on real world conditions and the guidance from cognizant Federal, State, and Local agencies:

- a. CDC's guidance for the higher risk populations is discussed on the following CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html>. Members who fall in the CDC's higher risk populations are strongly encouraged to restrict their Auxiliary activities to electronic means only (e.g. in-home online activities).
 - b. Since locations throughout the District are experiencing varying levels of COVID-19 threats, the current D11, State, and local government's guidance on social and business restrictions shall be adhered to when conducting all Auxiliary activities.
3. The following precautions SHALL be adhered to prior to and during all in-person Auxiliary activities:

- a. Auxiliarists shall assess their personal ability to undertake the activity. This assessment will include the availability of proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), their health history, the health of those in their household, any personal exposure (within the past 14 days) to someone who is ill/tested positive for COVID-19, traveled to a THN 2 or 3 country (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notices.html>) or oversees in the past 14 days, attended a mass public event or gathering either indoor or outdoor where social distancing and mask wear couldn't be maintained, the health of other members they may be interacting with, and the overall risk vs. gain of the activity.
- b. D11 Auxiliary members may form a "COVID Bubble" of no more than 6 people. A COVID bubble is a stable group of 6 members or less who have collectively agreed to limit their in-person Auxiliary activities where they may not be able to maintain social distancing to only each other and agree to follow all mask and social distancing guidelines in their day to day social interactions. Prior to entering a COVID bubble, members should ensure they have not participated in any high risk activities as outlined by CDC and have practiced social distancing and appropriate mask wearing for 10 days prior. Members of a COVID bubble should remain stable for a period of at least 3 weeks before making any personnel changes and a member shall only belong to one COVID bubble at a time. A member must self-isolate for 10 days after leaving one COVID bubble and be symptom free before they may join a new COVID bubble. COVID bubbles may complete Auxiliary activities/training together in an outdoor setting and should maintain social distancing and wear masks as much as possible to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19. Once formed, the list of all members in the COVID Bubble must be emailed to the appropriate DIRAUX Office shared email and OIA. Any changes in personnel or the disestablishment of the COVID Bubble must also be emailed to the appropriate DIRAUX Office and OIA.
- c. Units must evaluate overall risk vs. gain of the activity including added heat stress due to wearing PPE in hot temperatures and ensure that all physical distancing and PPE requirements can be met by the Auxiliarists while on a mission.
- d. All approved activities are to be conducted individually unless otherwise noted below or being conducted with a member of the same household or a member within their established COVID bubble.
- e. Physical distancing of at least six feet will be strictly adhered to unless otherwise noted below or being conducted with a member of the same household or a member within their established COVID bubble.
- f. In line with recent cloth face coverings guidance set forth in references (c) and (d), Auxiliarists must wear a cloth face covering at all times during approved activities. Cloth face coverings of neutral solid coloring (e.g. navy blue, black, gray or white) are authorized.

- g. All clothing, and cloth face coverings shall be washed/cleaned upon completion of each mission/day.
 - h. Hand sanitizer or other means of washing hands and supplies for disinfecting shared items should be available.
 - i. If gloves are worn, they shall be discarded and replaced at the completion of any interaction and hands will be sanitized after removing gloves.
4. The following Auxiliary activities and associated training activities have been approved. Each participating Auxiliarist SHALL be current in Core Training, submit a High Risk Certification form (ANSC-7101) and a request for assignment to duty to the appropriate OIA for review and approval before any non-virtual Auxiliary activity is completed. All virtual activities are authorized and do not require the submittal of an assignment to duty request. A new Aux-COVID-19 High Risk Certification Form does not need to be submitted with each request for assignment to duty as long as the member states that the form has been submitted and there are no changes to the member's status. If you are requesting to complete an activity as part of a COVID bubble, a list of members in the COVID bubble must be submitted to the OIA and DIRAUX.
- a. Private Aids to Navigation and Bridge Verifications. Missions that can be completed from land are authorized. Missions may also be completed via surface patrol only if part of an approved patrol within a COVID bubble.
 - b. Marine Dealer Visits or RBS Program Visits (PV). Individual visits may be made to marine dealers for 'no-contact drop-off' of up-to-date boating safety materials only. The public-facing or Q&A portion of this Auxiliary mission is prohibited.
 - c. Telecommunications. Missions that can be completed with a single member and do not involve public interface are authorized.
 - d. Vessel Safety Checks (VSC). May be completed if they can be performed without boarding the vessel. The Examiner may stand alongside the vessel from a pier or a trailer as long as they maintain social distancing from the owner. Auxiliarists should leverage technology to complete VSCs via photographs.
 - (1) Examiners will work with the vessel operator/owner to work through a vessel exam. Examiners should have owners point to or hold up items and take pictures of items that cannot be viewed from outside the vessel. If space permits and social distancing can be maintained, there may be more than one examiner at a site (i.e. marine dealer parking lot), but for the exams, only one examiner/trainee may be working in concert with the vessel owner.
 - (2) Sign-in sheets are recommended for areas where more than one exam is being requested (i.e. boat ramps) to assist in flow and order of the exams. The examiner

should maintain control of the sign-in sheet and write the owners name and contact information down to minimize the handling of clip boards and pens. If a clipboard or pen is handled by multiple people it must be sanitized after each use.

- (3) If it is determined that a complete vessel exam cannot be completed while maintaining the above social distancing practices, the boat owner should be directed to the virtual VSC checklist (<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=V-DEPT&category=virtual-safety-check>) and the examiner should retain the owners contact information so they can be contacted when social distancing requirements have been relaxed and the VSC can be completed.
- e. Operational Facility (OPFAC) Inspections. OPFAC inspections may be completed in accordance with regional policy so that the majority of the inspection is completed virtually with specific key items verified in person by a qualified VE.
- f. Proctoring. Member to member exam proctoring is authorized as long as PPE is worn and six feet of physical separation is maintained at all times. Only one-on-one testing may be conducted.
 - (1) For tests proctored on a computer, hand sanitization should be used by the proctor and the student before using the keyboard.
- g. Citizenship Verifications. Potential new member citizenship verifications may be completed as long as PPE is worn and six feet of physical separation is maintained at all times. Only one-on-one verifications may be conducted.
- h. Operational missions as requested and authorized by Sectors and Air Stations. Sector/Air Station Commander requested Operational/ Marine Safety/ training activities must be authorized by the appropriate active duty OIA. OIAs will determine when each mission is to be conducted and should work with the Auxiliary Sector Coordinator to assign Auxiliarists as needed. In accordance with the COVID19 PLANORD, each mission requires the OIA's completion of the Pandemic and Emerging Infectious Disease Risk Assessment and implementation of appropriate risk mitigation strategies. In accordance with AUXILIARY COVID-19 RECONSTITUTION GUIDANCE, all members performing ordered patrol missions must take Blood Borne Pathogens Training (Course #100293) and provide a copy of course completion to the OIA and DIRAUX. The requesting CG unit must insure that Auxiliary members are trained and outfitted with all required COVID-19 safety protocols and PPE. Approved Operational/ Marine Safety/Training activities are as follows:
 - (1) Watchstanding
 - (2) AUXCHEF
 - (3) Marine Inspections (Commercial Fishing Vessel Exams and other Inspections as approved by Sector Prevention Departments).

- (4) Underway Training: Auxiliarists can now request orders through AUXDATAII solely for underway training. All crewmembers must be in the same COVID bubble.
- (5) Support to the Port Safety and Security Program including providing facilities to perform the Maritime Observation Missions (MOM), performing harbor and anchorage patrols, providing assistance to Coast Guard Forces in safety zone enforcement or performing port facility and vessel verification visits. For any surface or air patrol, all crewmembers must be in the same COVID bubble
 - i. AUXCLERGY. Qualified Auxiliarists can perform the AUXCLERGY mission if requested by an Eleventh District Chaplain.
 - j. Office work and other activities not specifically listed. At the request of a CG unit and with Unit Commander or Division Chief approval, office work and other activities not specifically listed, to include Aux HS, may be authorized. If an activity is approved, the requesting unit must ensure CG facility access is authorized for the Auxiliary member under local policy or request access accordingly.
5. During this second phase of reconstitution, all other public-facing and person-to-person operations and activities will continue to be prohibited. Classroom training sessions or meetings/conferences shall continue to be conducted via electronic means (GoToMeeting, Skype, WebEx, etc.), and not in person. Likewise, Auxiliary public affairs activities that can be conducted electronically (e.g. in-home online activities) are authorized.
6. For the most up to date status from the CDC regarding this disease, how to take precautions against it, and the current and forecasted analytic data on COVID-19 cases can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>.
7. COVID-19 has created a dynamic worldwide situation subject to policies and procedures that can rapidly and significantly change. As the situation evolves, we will continue to provide updates on the status to this phased plan as we work together to define the “new normal” in the Eleventh District.

#

Copy: CG Sector San Diego
CG Sector LA/LB
CG Sector San Francisco
CG Sector Humboldt Bay
CG Air Station San Francisco
CG Air Station Sacramento