



**Homeland
Security**

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



Date: September 2014
To: Richard Thomas, COS, EXCOM, District Board/Staff
From: D11N RESPONSE TEAM (DSO-AV, DSO-CM, DSO-OP, ASC, AUXLOs)
Subject: District OPS Report/ Respectfully Submitted

HIGHLIGHTS:

OTO NOTES SEPTEMBER 2014

New SECTOR San Francisco AUXLO
RECAP of Current OPS Guidance

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OTO NOTES SEPTEMBER 2014:

New AUXLO/OIA at SECTOR SF

CWO Colin Langeslay has reported in to Sector San Francisco and assumed the duties of the Auxiliary Liaison Officer. He jumped in with both feet and reconciled over 150 patrol reimbursements over the past few weeks. You shouldn't have any lingering payments waiting from July. If you are still awaiting payment from FINCEN, check your email. CWO Langeslay emailed individual owners/operators with requests for amplification or explanation for unresolved patrol claims. For example, the OIA cannot submit a claim to FINCEN if the receipt is unreadable.

RECAP OF CURRENT OPS GUIDANCE

An Auxiliary Operations Instruction should be forthcoming from Sector San Francisco before the end of the calendar year. That document will be crucial to collecting all of the policies into one living document for all hands to read and follow. DIRAUX is providing input and assisting SECSF as needed. In the meantime, here's a recap of the current guidance from SECSF on claims:

- Trailering mileage reimbursement will be capped at 100 miles (both legs combined) unless an exception is specifically granted by the OIA for a major event.
- Submit receipts for all reimbursable costs, even for those items less than \$75.
- Do not claim automobile fuel when trailering or for land mobiles (leave the vehicle fuel field 0); those costs are covered by the mileage reimbursement. The current rate is \$.56 per mile.

-Maximum crew is two times the facilities minimum required crew. Example: 23' boat requires Coxswain and one Crewman, the maximum crew is four unless a waiver is granted by OIA. The OIA will generally run those waivers past me as well.

-Helmets are required for Helo Ops and when supporting tactical boat training at stations.

“GearTober” is Upon Us:

With the end of the fiscal year, I had the opportunity to use funds I have been squirreling away to purchase some more equipment for our facilities. During October, I will be running reports and offering alongside lines, towing bridles (for inland lakes use), quick release hooks, and rain gear first to those members and facilities that have contributed the most hours this calendar year. Take a look at your facility and route any requests for replacement equipment through your flotilla commander.

I try to manage our PPE funds throughout the year to have this capability to assist facility owners with replacing worn and unserviceable equipment. We were especially fortunate this year, thanks to the improved management of our PPE program. Keep up the awesome stewardship!

PPE Notes:

First, the big news: The Office of Boat Forces, CG-731, released the updated Rescue and Survival Systems Manual today. The OTO's and BSX-1 worked closely with CG-731 to clarify the manual's applicability to Auxiliary operations. The revised manual codifies the practices we have been following here in D11N. Next month, I will have a consolidated executive summary of how the changes affect you in the field. Spoiler alert: you will get some more gear; everything else will be in step with our current policy.

I have rain gear available to members who want to wear it in hopes of rain actually falling here in Nor 'Cal. You can route requests through your FS-MA. I will review your crew hours for the past year prior to issuing the rain gear, at \$127 a set, I'd rather not have it collect dust in your closet. Gloves will be issued to all surface operations personnel in the coming months as well.

I still have a drawer full of leak test fluid for conducting the semi-annual maintenance on your anti-exposure coveralls. FSO-OPS' contact me if you have not received a bottle yet.

Have a great Autumn, looking forward to seeing you on the water.
CWO2 Matthew D. James, OTO D11N

LOOK FOR UPGRADE TO THE DSO-OPS REPORT:

Next Month the DSO-OPS report will become the D11N RESPONSE Report. All our leaders in the area of Response will have their reports included into one report. In the past each District Staff Officer has given separate reports but the only report that has been sent to each member is the DSO-OPS report. Land(DSO-CM), Air (DSO-AV) and ASC (AUX SECTOR

Coordinator) reports have only gone to the District 11N Elected Board and appointed District Staff and sometimes has not always been received at the member (worker bees) level. The AUXLOs/OIAs of SECTOR Humboldt and SECTOR San Francisco will also contribute anything they wish to pass on to our members.

The new RESPONSE report will be sent to every member in the District. With contributions from Mr. James, all the above which will create one package of important information.

END OF FISCAL YEAR:

All patrol claims need to be completed as soon as possible after the completion of the patrol. Be aware if not completed in a timely manner the orders may be cancelled and thus never reimbursed. Speaking of Fiscal Years, the new Appropriation account numbers for next FY are now available in AOM, so orders requests can now be entered for October 1 or later. If you do have any activated patrols on the calendar that did not occur for any reason, please ensure that you have gone back into AOM and Cancelled that patrol, as otherwise it is still holding obligated funds and we want to use those funds for real patrols.

AOM UPDATE:

It is suggested that whenever you see there is a new release of AOM marked on the AOM Home Page that you select the "Release Notes" and read them. Some changes are simple bug fixes, but some "fixes" have other consequences, or may affect how you do your claims. For example, in the most recent change a couple weeks ago, one change listed was: " SCR 1420: Meals clear out whenever itineraries are changed and the default for all meals is UNCHECKED. This prevents members from automatically submitting meals." This means that you may have to explicitly select your lunch (or other authorized meal) for any crew members for which you provided that meal and click that, or you will not get reimbursed for it. If government or member provided, then you wouldn't claim it. So watch for the check marks for meals you believe you should legitimately be reimbursed for.

Speaking of Comments Fields, please be sure all patrol requests include the designated information (Purpose, Comms, Other OGA/Aux, Coxswain name and cell phone number, estimated u/w times) when you first make the request. Then AFTER the Patrol, as part of putting in your claims information, you must add to the Comments field what you did on the patrol (as we used to put in the Comments field in POMS). If training, what topics. If you worked with a CG unit, what unit, doing what. Include SAR case references or other actions. This is a part of doing the claim and reporting what you did on that patrol.

Please request your orders at least 8 to 10 days in advance, order requests that suddenly show up a few days in advance will be canceled unless requested by the Coast Guard or other controlling Agency. The point of contact and their phone number from who made the request needs to be in the comments section of the orders for all requests from other than the OIA.

OPERATIONS 2014 EVENT CALENDAR:

The year is slipping away quickly. Please work with your members as to when your 2015 Event will take place. Remember to please check the OPS Calendar and not infringe on a date already spoken for. Also if QEs come from afar it will be easier for them to find lodging, at the government rate, when another popular event (bicycle races, school registrations, music festivals or ??) is not occurring in your area.

For flyers, regarding these events please go to the District Calendar:

OPERATIONS OPEX/OPTREX EVENT CALENDAR - - 2014 & 2015

	2014	
SEP 13-14	Flotilla 5-5 OPTREX	<u>Bodega Bay, Wil Sumner</u>
OCT 17-19	Flotilla 03-10	Delta, Contact Dean LaChapelle
	2015	
APR 30- MAY 3rd	Flotilla 3-9	Antlers, Lake Shasta, Contact: Carl Pierce
May-09	Division 1	Berkeley Yacht Club, Contact: R. Celia

UNDERWAY HOURS TO DATE:

Unable to run a current AUXINFO report for the September Report. Trust it will be repaired for the October report

<p>Respectfully, COMO Gail L. Ramsey Primary e/mail: Deltapony2@juno.com Office Phone: (510) 437-3500 Cell: (510) 708-4629</p>	<p>DIRAUX OFFICE HOURS: 0730 to 1530 Mon thru Thurs ID card and New Member Processing Mon thru Wed 0730 to 1300 By Appointment Only Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) issue, by appointment only. Tuesday is the designated "AUX Tuesday" walk-in days when most of the staff is available for customer service. ALL SERVICES ON FRIDAYS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. DIRAUX E/Mail Address: D11AUX Northern@uscg.mil</p>
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