

## THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD Washington, DC 20593

## U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY POLICY STATEMENT

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is our steadfast volunteer corps. Our Auxiliary Shipmates assist the Coast Guard with performing our many challenging maritime missions, with boating safety remaining as their core function. Proudly serving alongside our total workforce, Auxiliarists make it possible to more ably accomplish our missions – they are a true force multiplier.

Originally formed as the Coast Guard volunteer Reserve on June 23, 1939, the volunteer Reserve was renamed the Auxiliary two years later. The Auxiliary rapidly expanded as the United States entered WWII, and Auxiliarists assisted in many of the Coast Guard's domestic missions, freeing up active duty Coast Guardsmen for wartime operations.

Today's Auxiliary is defined by this same spirit of patriotism and volunteerism. Auxiliarists continue to lend their unique talents to assist with performing a broad range of Coast Guard missions. Their mission support efforts expand the reach and impact of Coast Guard operations, particularly boating safety initiatives.

The Auxiliary Service priorities include:

- Promoting and Improving Recreational Boating Safety;
- Providing trained crews and facilities to augment the Coast Guard and enhance safety and security of our ports, waterways and coastal regions;
- Supporting Coast Guard operational, administrative and logistical requirements.

We must always remember that it is through public spirit, patriotism and an uncommon sense of civic duty that the members of the Auxiliary give their time, facilities and services – they receive no compensation. Commanders, Commanding Officers, Officers-in-Charge and program managers shall continually strive to enhance *Silver and Gold* partnerships to further the work of the Coast Guard.

I am personally committed to ensuring we maintain an Auxiliary that is robust, well-trained, and always ready.

R. J. PAPP, JR Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard