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MEMORANDUM

From: 
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VCG

To: Distribution

Subj: FINAL DECISION LETTER ON THE CGC SENECA OTH CAPSIZING, CLASS "B"
MISHAP, 13 JAN 2009.

Ref: (a) Safety and Environmental Health Manual, COMDTINST M5100.47

1. SYNOPSIS. On 12 January 2009 at 1901 local, CGC SENECA visually detected a suspect Haitian sail freighter. CGC SENECA monitored the Haitian vessel throughout the evening and planned for a first light migrant interdiction. On 13 January 2009 at 0529 and 0545 local, CGC SENECA set the AMIO Bill and boat lowering detail, respectively. CGC SENECA worked with CGC CONFIDENCE to recover 37 migrants. At 0858, while along SENECA's starboard side transferring lifejackets, the cutter's OTH capsized in position 21-02.0n 074-42.5w, with 7 crewmembers and 1 Haitian interpreter onboard. All 8 personnel entered the water and were able to climb on top of the overturned OTH hull. After spending 72 minutes in the water the 8 personnel were recovered by CGC CONFIDENCE's CB-L and returned to CGC SENECA.
2. CORRECTIVE ACTION. After extensive review of the Commandant's Safety Board report per ref (a), I have directed corrective action via an internal Final Action Message (FOUO) to prevent similar future mishaps.

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