

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



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MEMORANDUM

OCT 18 2011

From: M. J. TEDESCO, RADM
CG-11

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. Tedesco".

Reply to: CG-1134
Attn of: Mr. George Borlase
(202) 475-5218

To: CG-731

Subj: FINAL SUMMARY LETTER – STA CHATHAM CLASS C HIPO, SPC-NLB CG-42001 AND SPC-NLB CG-42002 DAMAGED BY BREAKING WAVES, 05 NOV 2010

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

1. SYNOPSIS.

A. On 5 November 2010, at approximately 1740 hours, STA Chatham Special Purpose Craft – Nearshore Life Boat (SPC-NLB) CG-42001 got underway for last light bar report. While outbound the bar between markers two and three, a series of three breaking waves impacted the boat, shattering both windshields and partially dislodging the port windshield. This caused approximately 300 gallons of water to enter the boat. As a result, propulsion and control systems shorted out and rendered 42001 adrift. An ebb current carried 42001 outside the surf zone where it anchored to await support.

B. In response, STA Chatham launched SPC-NLB CG-42002. While 42002 was outbound the bar, a larger, plunging wave struck atop its survivor's cabin, shattering and dislodging both windshields with the impact. The boat took on approximately 150 gallons of water and temporarily lost control of the port engine. Within twenty minutes, 42002 regained engine control, after which it deanchored 42001 and towed it to safer water. CGC Tybee then took over tow of 42001. Both 42001 (under tow) and 42002 proceeded to Sector Southeastern New England in Woods Hole, MA, where they moored safely at 0400 local time on 6 November.

2. Corrective Action. After review of the mishap analysis report, per ref (a), I have recommended corrective action via an internal Final Summary Message (FOUO) to prevent similar future mishaps. A number of corrective actions have already been completed.

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