

FROM THE HELM

Last meeting, some enterprising souls at DIRAUX gave me the opportunity to pass out well-earned performance awards to a number of Flotilla members. Members were recognized for performance in operations, vessel inspections, program visits, and public education. All of these areas are recorded in AUXDATA, the system that is intended to record and reflect some measure of our worth. Performance in these areas is entered in AUXDATA by means of our 7030's.

There was also another set of awards presented that night, the Auxiliary Sustained Service Award. This award is presented to Auxiliarist contributing a documented total of 750 volunteer hours of Auxiliary service. This award also uses AUXDATA information, including that entered from the 7029's.

Unlike the 7030's, the 7029's are generated by the individual Auxiliarist. Thru this self-reporting, the Coast Guard gets a true account of the full effort put forth by its Auxiliary. Also, it is the only means each of us gets to actually account for our time. So, I am encouraging increased use of the 7029's to report our time. If not for the job, think of the jewelry

Fredrick C. Combs Flotilla Commander



Annual Service Performance Award-Operations

Fred Schlachter Harvey Niblack Bill Boluk Bob Phelps Dave Caswell



Sustained Auxiliary Service Hank Dinenno- First Bill Boluk- Eighth and Ninth Fred Schlachter- First Harvey Niblack- First and Second



Annual Service Performance Award-VE-PV Bill Boluk



Annual Service Performance Award-PE Bill Boluk

FROM THE VICE COMMANDER

Welcome aboard transferred members Diane and Neal Buck. After months of waiting the Bucks are now officially members of Flotilla 56. Diane and Neal have been very active with the Flotilla serving in Operations as crew (Diane) and Coxswain (Neal), and for PA events. Welcome aboard also to new member Valerie Treffeissen-Hammel .

Recently a lot of you probably received phone calls on your home and cell phones, along with e-mail messages. This was a test of a new database system to be used in emergency situations – Hurricanes, etc. Once the system has the bugs worked out you will be given a menu, example: "I am ok do not need assistance press 1, I need assistance but not an emergency press 2, I am in need of assistance immediately press 3." This system uses your info as it appears in AUXDATA, when activated it will keep trying your cell phone, home phone or e-mail until it receives a response.

Flotilla Staff Officer's please remember to submit a monthly report to your Division Staff Officer, most of us are already doing this but some how our Flotilla was mentioned as one of those who's staff officers were not submitting reports. Even if you have nothing to report send a message to the Division Staff Officer stating there is nothing to report.

Lets all have a safe and productive summer.



VESSEL SAFETY EXAMINATIONS



Kudos to those Vessel Examiners who participated in the Safe Boating Week Vessel Safety exam blitz while I was away in Kentucky last month. Congratulations are also in order to Bill Boluk who became recertified as a vessel safety examiner.

Completing exams is a rewarding experience that includes teaching individuals about boating safety but also includes the reward of accomplishing a much needed service to the general public. As mentioned in an earlier issue of <u>The Pilot</u>, Florida remains the "Fishing

Capital of the World" with 2.8 million anglers. In Indian River County alone, these fishing enthusiasts have 10,493 pleasure craft registered as 25 feet or less in length. It looks like we have our work cut out for us!

Another exciting thing that has happened is that our flotilla has surpassed our goal for completed vessel safety exams this year. We presently have completed 118 exams and it's only June! Our goal for the entire year was 112.

I know we'll continue to keep up the good work. Thank you to all who have helped reach this goal and keep in mind we still have another 6 months to complete more safety vessel exams.

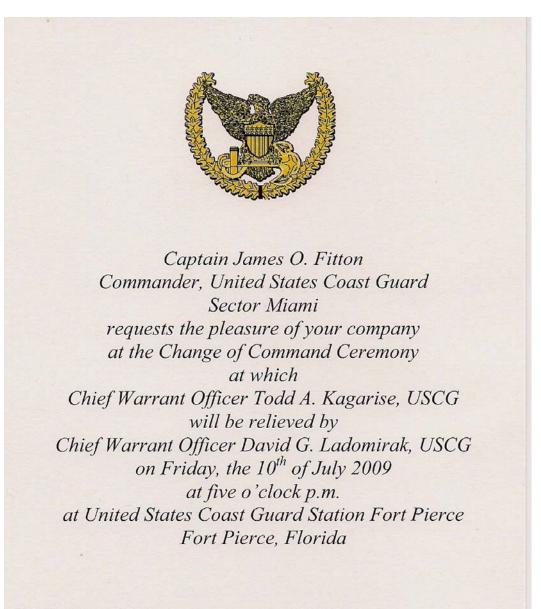
Sandy Thiel FSO-VE

(Editors note: While on "vacation" in Kentucky Sandy completed a total of 51 vessel examinations. These exams are credited to our flotilla.)

CHANGE OF COMMAND FOR STATION COMMANDER

Below is the Flotilla's invitation to the COC for Station Fort Pierce . This represents a wonderful opportunity to be a part of this impressive and moving ceremony and to bid Todd and Regina Kagarise farewell. Please let me know by return email if you plan to attend and I will forward our attendance numbers. Let me know by June 16. We'll arrange carpools later.

Fred Combs F. C.



RSVP by June 17, 2009 (772) 464-6100 or Jose.F.Tabar@uscg.mil Uniform Military Guests: Tropical Blue Civilian: Business Casual

Reception Immediately Following Ceremony

UNIFORMS AT FLOTILLA MEETINGS

The choice of uniform for scheduled Flotilla meetings is left up to individual Flotilla's. Traditionally in Flotilla 56, attendees wear the Tropical Blue uniform to Flotilla meetings. As we are a uniformed service, we do wear uniforms to represent the Coast Guard and it's Auxiliary at official functions. However, a Flotilla meeting does not have to be a formal dress occasion. In order to allow more flexibility, I propose that any approved auxiliary uniform be considered appropriate for wear at our monthly meetings.

Fred C. Combs FC



WHATS NEW ON THE WEB

Weakened'' Hurricane Systems Harm Boats Far Inland, Too

Historically, whenever a hurricane comes ashore along the Gulf or Atlantic coasts, that's where the most damage is found. But even though a tropical storm system weakens significantly as it moves over land, it will often continue to carry a significant punch over a wide area inland - possibly hundreds of miles from landfall. With the start of the 2009 hurricane season June 1, Boat US says inland boat owners should take these storms seriously and make preparations, even though the system may no longer be classified as a hurricane. Boaters can get some free hurricane preparation help, including a hurricane preparation worksheet, an in-depth Guide to Preparing Boats and Marinas for Hurricanes, and checklists for what to do before and after a hurricane strikes, from the Boat US Hurricane Resource Center. The web site also helps boaters monitor incoming storms with up-to-the-minute storm tracking tools and live satellite imagery.

[Posted: May 28, 2009. Source: Bruce Johnson, DVC-BL]

Qualification Guide

The T-Department has added a new tab on its web site, titled "Qualification Guide". This guide is an "Individual Development Planning Guide" and will help ALL Auxiliarist determine what qualifications they wish to certify and participate in. DSO-MT's may find this document very helpful in developing Training Programs for their District. The table of contents allows the reader to immediately reach a particular section, by clicking on the heading. All links throughout the Guide will be helpful in offering detail about the certifications described. This Guide provides useful instruction to all users and its use will enhance the value to the Auxiliary of those taking advantage of its contents. Fifth District Northern Region developed this document and the training department recognized its incredible potential and wishes to make it available to all of our members! It's a MUST SEE! Please provide feedback to the BC-TSW (webmaster). [Posted: May 21, 2009. Source: Gail Venezio, DC-T]

Policy Revision/Registration Form: Auxiliary Search Coordination and Execution-AUXSC&E TTT

Please see the new policy revisions related to the AUXILIARY SEARCH, COORDINATION, AND EXECU-TION (AUXSC&E) COURSE TRAINING POLICY REVISION 1. (DATED: 1 May 2009). In order to be admitted to an AUXSC&E or AUXSC&ETTT course, the student must complete the AUXSC&E Registration Form. This registration form is a new requirement. Effective 1, June 2009: successful completion of the AUX-NAV course is a prerequisite before taking the AUXSC&E TTT course. All current AUXSC&ETTT qualified instructors are not subject to this requirement. Please review the Policy Revision. The new policy and registration form can be found on the Training web page under AUXOP Courses. http://www.cgaux.org/training/ AUXOP_New2.htm

[Posted: May 20, 2009. Source: Gail Venezio, DC-T]

AUXDATA ACCESS

A directive has come down from the Department of Homeland Security that all accounts that remain inactive for 45 days will be locked. Effective 1 June 2009, OSC will make the change to AUXDATA. If you have access, please make it a point to sign-on the system at least once a month to maintain your access and keep from having your access locked and eventually deleted. This applies to both the Production and Training databases. *[Posted: May 12, 2009. Source: Marilyn McBain, DVC-IS]*

USCG Licensing Courses Discounted.

New partner, Mariners School, offers USCG Captain's License Courses in an on-line format. Mariners Learning System T is an exclusive suite of online courses that offer a great solution for students that want to earn their Captain's License, however, due to personal time constraints, need the additional flexibility online learning offers. For the 25% discount being offered to Auxiliary members, go to: http://www.shopauxiliary.com/. Click on Members Only and log in; then click on the Mariners Learning System logo. [Posted: May 4, 2009. Source: Posted by Bruce Johnson, DVC-BL]

Introduction to Auxiliary Personnel and Membership Course Now Available

A new online course - Introduction to Personnel and Membership – is now available on Auxiliary E-Learning. This course will be of interest to anyone who would like to learn how to recruit, enroll or retain members. It takes the student through the subject matter in a systematic way, introducing existing and new Auxiliary materials and evaluating the student's progress. The course should be particularly useful to new personnel services officers and flotilla commanders, who have an essential role in enrolling new members. You can access the course at: http://64.207.134.26/usr/moodle2/course/view.php?id=27 You may need to create an Aux E-Learn account if this is your first visit. If you have any questions or comments on the course, contact course developer Vincent "Tex" Boyer at vincentboyer@bellsouth.net or DC-Td Nick Tarlson at nick@tarlson.com. [Posted: May 2, 2009. Source: Nick Tarlson, DC-Td]

<u>Member Activity Log (ANSC-7029) and Mission Activity Report (ANSC-7030) - Posted w/o Instructions</u>

The Member Activity Log, ANSC-7029 (02-05) and the Mission Activity Report, ANSC-7030 (04-09) have been posted without instructions. These forms are in addition to the current ANSC-7029 and ANSC-7030 and are intended for electronic filing using email. NOTE: These forms can be saved and reused. This will save you from having to reenter data (i.e.: Member ID, Name, Division, Flotilla, etc.) that does not change over time. Simply open a saved form (i.e.: my documents/7030-mission1.pdf), make your edits, save with a new name (i.e.: my documents/7030-mission2.pdf), then submit the new form via email.[*Posted: Jun 3, 2009. Source: William Blandy, BC-IWN*]



NEXT STAFF & FLOTILLA MEETING TUESDAY JUNE 16TH STAFF MEETING 1800 GENERAL MEETING 1900 SEBASTIAN CITY HALL ANNEX 1245 MAIN STREET SEBASTIN DEADLINE NEXT *PILOT* TUESDAY JUNE 23TH. SEND SUBMISSIONS TO LINDA BOLUK FSO-PB @ lindybok@yahoo.com OR MAIL TO 530 DRAWDY WAY SEBASTIAN, FL 32958 5

U.S. Coast Guard Aids to Navigation Team Ft. Lauderdale: "Together Everyone Achieves More"

On May lst, the Ft. Pierce Aids to Navigation Team and I attended the Change of Command of the Ft. Lauderdale ANT in Ft. Lauderdale. We used the Cutter Cormorant's van and left very early in the morning. An early breakfast at IHOP in Fort Lauderdale was the gathering place for many who traveled to attend.

The Aids to Navigation Team Ft. Lauderdale was commissioned in 2004 after being moved from Miami. The unit consists of eight enlisted personnel, and two vessels, a 23' and 26' TANB. The unit's area of responsibility is from Jupiter Inlet on the east coast and runs south to Key Largo. Their area continues west through the Everglades National Park, proceeding north to Naples.

Since its commissioning, the team has helped with Habitat for Humanity and responded to 3 major hurricanes falling out of their AOR. In 2005 the unit made CG History being a part of the first Mobilized ATON Strike team to open up the vital ports and waterways from Biloxi to Lake Pontchartrain after Hurricane Katrina made landfall.

Captain James Fitton, Commander, Sector Miami presided at the Command. Senior Chief Boatswain's Mate Gregory "Mike" Winans was relieved by Prospective Officer in Charge Chief Boatswain's Mate Dennis T. Southworth who will be the Team's third Officer in Charge.

The Change of Command Ceremony marks the formal passing of responsibility, authority and accountability of command from one officer to another.

Agnes K. Mical, FSO-NS



Left - Right BM3 Shaw, FN Ramos, FN Nees, Agnes Mical, FN Braden, BM2 Severns.

Photo by BMC Audette

STATION FORT PIERCE ANT PARTICIPATE IN TOWER TRAINING MAY 9 IN MIAMI



OPERATIONS

Year to date we have done 25 vessel patrols. In March we did 7 patrols with 1 cancelled due to lack of Crew.

On April 18th we had a non-mandatory Operations workshop. There was very good attendance. The core issue was two way communications between the coxswain and crew. If anyone who missed the workshop wants the CD workshop program e-mail me and I will get you a copy.

The SAR training exercise that was scheduled for April 28^{th} was cancelled due to rough sea conditions. It has been rescheduled for Saturday, June 6^{th} , 2009. Due to personnel having gone north for the summer the flotilla will only be supplying two facilities for the rescheduled exercise. Details have not yet been finalized but it is expected to be generally the same as before. One likely change is that the search area that was furthest offshore will be moved closer to shore. This will reduce transit times and keep the search aircraft nearer to shore. As soon as I get updated details I will forward them to all participants.

Bob Phelps, FSO-OP

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Wilson Riggins Vice Division Commander again urged all members to submit the 7029 Member Activity Form. Many of our members do not bother. Sadly it is mostly the members who have been in the auxiliary for many years. The amount of money that gets budgeted to the auxiliary in part comes from the hours shown on the 7030 and the 7029 forms. It is not a big deal to jot down any activity you did that was auxiliary related. If any one has any questions about what info is recorded on 7029 let me know.

Bill Boluk FSO-IS



PUBLIC EDUCATION

We have an ABOUT BOATING SAFELY program on Saturday June 13th at the Chamber building in Sebastian. Any one interested in helping as an aide contact me.

I am having a Cardiac Catheterization done on Friday the 12th. So I won't be able to participate. Fred Schlachter, Fred Combs, Harvey Niblack, Rich Steinbach. and Agnes Mical have offered to put on the program, Thanks gang.



FLOTILLA 56 PROMOTES SAFE BOATING FOR NATIONAL SAFE BOAT WEEK

Flotilla 56 had a very active National Safe Boating Week. The Flotilla received Proclamations declaring the week of May 16th through May 22nd as National Safe Boating week in Vero Beach and Sebastian. A Vessel Safety Exam blitz was held at Riverview Park in Vero Beach as part of the week. Flotilla 56 teamed up with the other Flotilla's that work with Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce to man informational exhibits at the Sta-



tions Open House.

Left– FC Fred Combs as Vero Beach Mayor Sabin Abell reads Safe Boating Week Proclamation. Below– Vero Beach City Council as Proclamation is being read . Photo by B. Boluk





Left - Sebastian Mayor Richard Gilmor presenting National Safe Boating Week proclamation to VFC Bill Boluk & FC Fred Combs. Photo by L. Boluk

Right– FC Fred Combs making remarks after receiving Safe Boating Week proclamation from Mayor Gilmor. On right VFC Bill Boluk and on left Mayor Gilmore Photo by L. Boluk



PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Safe Boating Week Vessel Exam Blitz- 05 May 2009 from 0900 to 1600 at Riverside Park, Vero Beach FL. We completed 9 vessel exams and four boaters signed up for our next Boating Safety class.

The turn out of Flotilla members was great. Vessel Examiners Hank Dinenno, Agnes Mical, Bill Boluk and Rich Steinbach did the vessel exams. Harvey Niblack and Fred Schlachter manned Harvey's facility "Obsession" which served as static display with all required and recommended safety equipment. Flotilla Commander Fred Combs, Linda Boluk and Mike Wisniewski worked the Safety display tent. Valerie Treffeisen-Hammel "member-in waiting" also assisted in the event

Agnes and Linda did double duty by providing and preparing a delicious BBQ lunch for all the Watch Standers.

A big thank you to Susan Rienzo, for distributing the press releases to all media outlets. The event was announced on several of the local radio stations

Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce Open House was held on 16 May 2009 from 1000 to 1400 at the station. Our Flotilla worked jointly with Flotilla's #58 and #59. A big thank you to our Watch Standers. Fred Combs, Bill and Linda Boluk, Neal and Diane Buck, Harvey Niblack, Agnes Mical, Hank Dinenno, John Neugebauer, Fred Schlachter and Kelly Young all served as representatives of Flotilla 56. CWO Todd Kagarise hosted a hot dog & cold beverage gathering on the Quarter Deck for all Auxiliary watch standers. It was a good time to compare notes with other flotilla members. Rich Steinbach, FSO-PA

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK EVENTS cont.

Vessel Safety Blitz: Photos: Top Left Harvey Niblack's OPFAC "Obsession" displaying Vessel Exam banner. Top right Hank Dinenno & Bill Boluk performing Vessel exam.





Right: Harvey's OP-FAC Serving as static safety display. Below Left: Safety & Boating information booth. Fred Schlachter sitting in rear. Bottom Right: Rich Steinbach & Bill Boluk preparing to do Vessel exam.



Photos by Harvey Niblack & Linda Boluk





NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK EVENTS cont.-

Coast Guard Station Open House May 16 2009







Top Left: FC Fred Combs & PFD Panda (Ron Lancour Flotilla 58). Top Center: Agnes Mical & Harvey Niblack. Top Right: Linda Boluk & Flotilla 59's FC Diane Riggan. Center Right: The Fred's, Combs & Schlachter. Above: Harvey Niblack, Neal & Diane Buck. Above Right: Harvey Niblack, Gary Barth FC-58, Fred Combs & Fred Schlachter Right: Fred Combs, CWO. 3 Todd Kagarise & his wife Regina.





NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK EVENTS cont. Coast Guard Station Open House









Top Left: Agnes Mical with photo display of ANT functions she designed for Open House. Top Right: Bill Boluk & Pauline Roan from Flotilla 58 setting up display tables. Center Left: Sebastian's Marine Patrol unit. Center Right: Station's front entrance.

Left: Linda Boluk & Agnes Mical with PFD Panda.

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK EVENTS cont. Coast Guard Station Open House







After the close of Open House CWO3 Kagarise & his wife Regina hosted a gathering on the Quarter Deck for all the auxiliarist's who had worked the event. It was a great way to end an enjoyable day.





Open House photos provided by Neal Buck, Rich Steinbach, FC 58 Gary Barth & Linda Boluk. U.S. Department of Homeland Security United States Coast Guard Commanding Officer U.S. Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce

MEMORANDUM

From: T. A. Kagarise, CWO3 CG STA Fort Pierce

To: Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 56

Subj: LETTER OF APPRECIATION

1. Please accept my sincere appreciation for your support of our National Safe Boating Week Open House on 16 May 2009. Your commitment to furthering boating safety is most commendable and is a testament to your dedicated service to the boating community of the Treasure Coast. The months of planning and preparations culminated with an impressive community outreach event, made possible by your determination to sustain a key Auxiliary Cornerstone: Recreational Boating Safety. More than 1500 visitors that attended Saturday's event were treated to many informative and interactive exhibits, all staffed by an enthusiastic, knowledgeable Auxiliary member.

2. Especially satisfying was the spirit of cooperation exhibited by members of all participating Flotillas. This team concept worked exceptionally well for this event and fostered partnerships that will undoubtedly enhance training and operational effectiveness in other Auxiliary mission areas.

3. I am proud to work alongside each of you as we move forward in our efforts to promote safe, responsible boating. Thank you for your service.

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UNLESS ANNOUNCED DIFFERENTLY ALL FLOTILLA STAFF & GENERAL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT SEBASTIAN CITY HALL ANNEX 1245 MAIN STREET SEBASTIAN

A VOLUNTEER IS NEEDED TO BRING REFRESHMENTS FOR THIS MONTHS MEETING. IF YOU CAN PROVIDE REFRESHMENTS LET DAVE CASWELL KNOW.

900 Seaway Drive Fort Pierce, FL 34949-3039 Phone: (772) 464-6100 Fax: (772) 467-2524

16790 18 May 2009

Reply to Attn of:

MEMORIAL DAY

Members of Flotilla 56 participated in the Memorial Day Ceremonies at Riverview Park in Sebastian. The attendance was the largest seen at this event. After the ceremonies Flotilla members gathered for lunch at Woody's BBQ for some good food & fellowship.



Top Left: Forward Dave Caswell to rear FC Fred Combs' Center L-R: VFC Bill Boluk, FC Fred Combs, Edward Young, Kelly Young, Bob Phelps, & Dave Caswell. Below left crowd of attendees. Photos by B. Boluk, Dave Caswell.





CRITERIA FOR SERVICE AWARDS

Annual Service Performance Award-Operations

The Operations Service award is awarded for supporting Coast Guard units and missions, including surface operations, air operations, and operational watchstanding (such as communications watchstander, OOD, manning the SAR desk, etc.). The operational **O** device for underway (excluding underway for training), surface mission activity (sixty or more hours), or for airborne aviation mission activity (excluding training) (thirty or more hours). Support for on-the-water readiness exercises does qualify as operational service. No combination of surface and air operations is allowable for this award. Support activity includes categories 01, 02, 03, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 51, 52, 53, and 54 identified on AUXDATA report 4. Activities 30 (AtoN-Federal) and 31 (AtoN-private) and 32 (Bridge Administration) should be for afloat activity, service ashore, for this award.



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The VE/RBSVP Service award is awarded for completing sixty or more Vessel Safety Checks, which include examinations of recreational boats, personal watercraft, commercial fishing vessels and uninspected passenger vessels, or conducting sixty or more Recreational Boating Safety Visitor Programs or conducting a combination of VSCs, CFVEs (Commercial Fishing Vessel Exams and RBSVPs, which totals at least sixty checks/ visits. Also, the award may be earned by conducting a total of twenty CFVEs.



Annual Service Performance Award-PE

The Public Education Service award is awarded for IT and/or ITs aides completing thirty or more hours of instruction (in PE or Member Training), or serving as an ITs aide for sixty or more hours, or completing a combination of IT hours and ITs aide hours to total at least thirty credits (one IT hour equals one credit and one aide hour equals one-half a credit, for example, twenty hours as an IT equals twenty credits and twenty hours as an aide equals ten credits, totaling thirty credits and qualifying to receive the award).



This award is presented to an Auxiliarist contributing a documented total of 750 volunteer hours of Auxiliary service. Subsequent awards are presented for each additional 750 hours of service until the tenth award is achieved. Auxiliarist indicate multiple awards by adding 3/16-inch bronze or silver stars, until the tenth award, at which time an hourglass device will be used. This award includes a miniature medal, ribbon, and certificate. Eligibility for this award is documented by the Director, using AUXDATA information, whose staff shall then forward the initial medal/ribbon set issue and a prepared certificate to be presented per district/regional policy. Subsequent awards receive the star or hourglass device and a certificate showing the number of hours being recognized.

Information obtained from District 7 Material Store site.

June 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 JOINT SAR EXERCISE
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 EXAMPLE 13 ABS CLASS CITY HALL
14 FLAG DAY	15	16 STAFF MEETING 1800 GENERAL MEETING 1900	17	18	19	20
21 FATHERS DAY	22	23 pilot deadline	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Cutter Blue Fin

Photo by R. Steinbach

PRIVACY ACT STATEMET

Telephone numbers and addresses of members are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. As a matter of policy roster of names, addresses and telephone numbers shall not be made available to the general public or any outside organization. Privacy of all rosters shall be safe guarded and the page clearly labeled. The publication of these rosters, addresses, and telephone numbers on any on-line service including the internet is prohibited by the Privacy Act of 1974

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard



OFFICIAL BUSINESS



FSO-PB 530 DRAWDY WAY SEBASTIAN, FL 32958 FIRST CLASS MAIL