

THE AUXESIS

D17 – DIRAUX NEWSLETTER

2nd Quarter

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1 - CROSSING THE BAR

Mr. Roger Estrada

It is with deep regret and profound sadness to inform you of the passing of our fellow shipmate, Sitka Flotilla Commander, Rogelio (Roger) Estrada. Roger suffered a heart attack and passed away July 15, 2006. Roger was a retired Coast Guard Chief Warrant Officer and had been an Auxiliary member for 5 years. He was a qualified Vessel Examiner and an Uninspected Passenger Vessel Examiner and had served two terms as Sitka's Vice-Flotilla Commander before taking the FC office this year. Roger also recently qualified as an Auxiliary Boat Crew member as part of his flotilla's dedicated effort to build an operations program. Roger's contributions to the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary were truly outstanding and reflected his humanitarian nature and a willingness to serve his community. He will be greatly missed.



2 - FROM THE DIRECTOR

LCDR Sue Albright

Independence Day has come and gone. The summer has already been an extremely busy one for all of our flotillas. Even though it's summer, there are still some ABC courses being taught, many of you are on the water doing patrols and responding to assist boaters, Salmon Derbies and the Elmendorf Air Show will be happening soon. In every case, our Auxiliary heeds the call and you folks find the time to assist. I appreciate each and every hour of your time spent on Auxiliary missions. I want to thank all of you for your time and efforts. I enjoy reading your newsletters because it gives me a bigger view of the many things you are all doing. Please know that I do my best to report your accomplishments to the Coast Guard here in Juneau and all the way to Headquarters. Don't ever hesitate to "blow your own horn" by telling my staff and your chain of leadership about what your flotilla members are doing out there. You are all unsung heroes in my book; each and every one of you.

As fall approaches, I urge you to consider assisting your Auxiliary by running for elected office. I have been a Director now for 2 years and it did not take me long to realize that the Flotilla Commander has the most important job in the Auxiliary. The FC is the point person responsible for getting support for the flotilla and getting critical information to the members. Vice Commanders also play a critical role in leadership by supporting their FC. Behind every successful FC there is an exceptional VFC. Take some time to talk to members who have held elected positions. Consider stepping up. I don't think you will be disappointed. You will be challenged, and you will come away with a keener sense of awe and respect for our membership and all they accomplish.

3 – BRAGGING RIGHTS!

a. The following members are recognized for their **member service anniversaries** in the **2ND quarter of 2006:**

APRIL

BETTY CONLEY – 25
BILL CONLEY – 25
MARY AUDINO – 10
CHARLIE AUDINO – 10
MIKE MILLER – 5
SHERRIE MILLER - 5
WILLARD FERRELL - 10
BARBARA FERRELL - 10
PAUL RACENET - 5
JESSIE RIVERA – 5
RICHARD ZAGARS – 30
SHEILA ZAGARS – 30

MAY

CARL THOMPSON – 15
DAVID BRUBAKER – 10
TOMMIE BRUBAKER - 10
ALEXIS KLAPPROTH - 5
JOHN KLAPPROTH - 5

JUNE

TIMOTHY EWING - 5
RAYMOND McCARTHY - 10

b. The following members are recognized for their completion of the following **courses and qualifications** in the **2nd quarter of 2006**:

TRIDENT DEVICE

02-04 LINDA WELLS
02-04 BRAD WELLS

COXSWAIN

03-01 MARIE SCHOLLE
03-02 PATRICIA FAIRBANKS
03-03 DEAN TERCENCIO
02-04 BILL HOLZHEIMER
01-01 DON BRAND

VESSEL EXAMINER (VE)

03-02 ANDY BUHLER
03-02 RICKY SUSEE
01-01 FRED BOEHME
02-04 RICHARD LORD
02-04 MARY SOUTHARD
02-04 CLAUDE BARKER
03-01 JERRY CERRA
03-01 IRENE CERRA

INSTRUCTOR (IT)

02-05 CRAIG WILLIAMSON

GOOD MATE

02-04 CATHEY STERLING

CREW

02-04 NANCY HARVEY
02-04 LOUIS JONES
02-04 CHARLOTTE JONES
03-01 RAY MILLER
02-04 CRAIG WOOLARD
02-04 LISA WOOLARD
02-04 CHRIS PALLISTER
03-01 PAULA McKIBBEN
03-01 CHUCK GEWIN
01-03 ROGER ESTRADA
01-03 MIKE MORRIS
01-03 JAMIE ELSTAD

ICS-100

02-04 MARY MURPHY

CONGRATULATIONS!!

c. The following members are recognized for their **Sustained Auxiliary Service Award** – presented for every increment of **750 volunteer hours** of cumulative Auxiliary service as entered in AuxData. - **2nd quarter of 2006**:

DON BRAND – First Award

TOM KANE – First Award

NATALIE POE – First Award

LINDA SHOGREN – First Award

MARILYN COFFMAN – Second Award

LINDA WELLS – Fourth Award

DAVID BRUBAKER – Fourth Award

SIGURD MURPHY – Fifth Award

SANDY MAZEN – Seventh Award

ROY STODDARD – Tenth Award

d. The following personnel have been approved as **NEW MEMBERS** in the Coast Guard Auxiliary:

Welcome to D17!

1ST QUARTER

JIM OLSON – JUNEAU
JAMIE ELSTAD – SITKA

2ND QUARTER

KERRY WOOD - KODIAK
MARK OVERBEEK - KODIAK

...new members con't...

TED ALLIO – SITKA
ORSON SMITH- SEWARD
ANN STOCKMAN – WHITTIER
DONN MARTIN – JUNEAU
BARBARA ANDERSON – JUNEAU
HELEN WILLIAMS – JUNEAU

JACKIE HERTER - KODIAK
DEBBIE ROHRER - KODIAK
MICHAEL BARNETT - KODIAK
MARTHA BARNEET - KODIAK
IRENE CERRA - FAIRBANKS
JERRY CERRA – FAIRBANKS
JOHNNY KERR – VALDEZ
DANIAL SYPECK – JUNEAU
CHESTER FROST – JUNEAU
LESLIE FROST – JUNEAU
MIKE TOMLIN – ANCHORAGE
KELLEY TOMLIN – ANCHORAGE
KATHY PAINTER – VALDEZ
CLINT PRINDLE – SEWARD
TAD MORRIS – KODIAK
TAMI AMBERG – KODIAK
TOM YOUNGBLOOD – HOMER
ED FRY – KETCHIKAN
JASON HARRIS – KETCHIKAN
CHRIS ROUSSELL – KETCHIKAN

2nd Quarter TOTAL D17 MEMBERSHIP: **384**
APPLICANTS PENDING PSI RESULTS: **13**

4 – SPECIAL RECOGNITION

“To Dean Terencio: Congratulations! You have been awarded a Region Six Letter of Commendation by the National Water Safety Congress for your work as a boating safety educator. Your extra effort regarding a particular difficult class in a forest fire area – a six day ordeal hindered by heavy smoke and difficult transportation – was cited as an example of your dedication to teaching boating safety.

You were nominated for this award by Michael Folkerts, Commander of the RBS in Juneau early this year. We want you to know how much we appreciate the effort that you and other educators make to help boaters be safer on the water. There is no doubt that boating safety education saves lives, but without instructors like you, few boaters would have the opportunity to learn.

Thank you again for your effort and hard work.

Sincerely, Randy Henry, Region VI Vice President, National Water Safety Congress.”



Mr. Dean Terencio, Anchorage Flotilla, holding his award.

5 - OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENT!

Congratulations to Gary Taylor and Shane Taylor for earning the Coast Guard Auxiliary Operational Excellence Award. The Operational Excellence Program provides Auxiliary boat crews a challenging opportunity to highlight their proficiency and skills through the completion of a series of evaluated scenarios. This recognition program is not mandatory, and does not replace qualifications or certifications but is intended to give qualified Coxswain/Crew an incentive to train and increase proficiency by working together as a highly trained and coordinated crew. Gary and Shane will each receive the Auxiliary Excellence "E" Ribbon and a certificate of completion and a Program E-decal will be issued for the OpFac. More information about this program can be found in the Auxiliary Manual, COMDTINST M16790.1F, Chapter 11.A.13.b and COMDTINST 16794.4 dtd August 21, 2003.

6 - Coast Guard Operational Dress Uniform (ODU) policy for D17 Staff

Although D17 Auxiliarists do not work in the Federal Building, D17 members are considered part of the D17 staff. The below message from our Chief of Staff, is just a reminder to all, that you are representing the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary and you have the responsibility to wear the uniform correctly. Working Blue uniforms were discontinued for Active Duty and Reserve members on 08/09/2005, however Auxiliarists may still wear their working blues until unserviceable. The Auxiliary Operations Polo Shirt may be worn as an alternative to the Working Blue Uniform Shirt however it is not authorized as an alternative to the ODU Shirt (Blouse) in D17. The Uniform Distribution Center (UDC) is now fully stocked with all items needed for the ODU uniform. Further uniform information may be found in the current Auxiliary Uniform Procurement Guide - <http://www.auxpdept.org/pdf/UniformProcurementGuide7-06.pdf>

"As of 01 July 2006 the Coast Guard Operational Dress Uniform (ODU) is authorized as an optional uniform for District Staff in the Federal Building.

The ODU uniform will be worn IAW ALCOAST 380/04 which revised the wear policy published in the latest Uniform Regulations. Removal of the ODU Blouse is NOT authorized at D17. Read the ALCOAST. Here are some of the highlights of the ALCOAST, "The ODU and its accompanying accessories shall be ironed and polished as necessary to ensure a sharp, professional, military appearance. Collars, lapels, sleeves, and pockets shall lay flat. Military creases in shirts are not authorized. Boots shall be well blackened and polished to a shine. While the ODU is not a liberty uniform, it is, when worn to this inspection ready standard, appropriate for limited wear on local mass transit, during informal off-base lunches, visits to DOD facilities (e.g. exchanges), and brief stops while transiting to and from home/office. The ODU is not appropriate for general after hours liberty (e.g. lounges and shopping) or for wear in more formal settings.

To ensure that we can meet un-foreseen military obligations, E7 and Above are required to maintain ready access (in the Federal Bldg) to a Tropical Blue Long or SDB uniform while wearing ODU at D17.

Members are responsible for ensuring they are in the right uniform of the day to meet military and other professional obligations, visiting other commands, or places of business.

Unit CO's should ensure their units are in compliance with and enforce ODU wear policy consistent with ALCOAST 380/04."

*Capt David T. Glenn
Chief of Staff*

7 - FROM THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



Lori Cook

Noreen wrote a great article for this edition (see below) which highlights and answers some of the most frequently asked questions about training and qualifying in the operations program. We have created a new check-off sheet that lists all of the requirements for Crew and for Coxswain/PWO. FSO-OPs and QEs should ensure all requirements have been completed as listed on this check-off sheet before signing their qual letter and before submitting qual package to the Director's office. Please remember that Applicant (AP) members shall not conduct "hands-on" or underway training until results of their background check have been received for the Operations Support (OS) level status and a basic boating safety class must be completed for the Basically Qualified (BQ) status. Your FSO-IS should be able to help you determine the quals that have been entered into your AuxData record. Current Crew members and Coxswains should be checking their AuxData records to ensure their annual and 5th year re-certs have been completed, received and recorded to prevent end of year REYR (lapse).

Hey! It's close to election time! Please start thinking about your local elections! Are you going to run for Vice-FC, FC or a Division level office? Great! Please submit your STTR for the upcoming AMLOC-A course (see #8 below). Division and District level elections will be held in September and Flotilla Elections should be completed and reported through your chain of leadership to DirAux NLT October 31 (per "District Timelines"). This gives the selected candidates time to prepare their business plans and select a cabinet (appointed officers). Appointed officers should be selected and reported through your chain of leadership to DirAux NLT December 10. This also helps us to prepare our reports and complete the D17 Telephone Directory a get it out to the field in a timely manner.

Thanks!

Lori

8 – AMLOC-A IN ALASKA!

"D17 Scores Another "C" School September 22-24, 2006 in Anchorage"

The Chief Director's Office was able to obtain additional training money this year and has agreed to hold a class in Anchorage, AK for the Auxiliary Mid-Level Officer Course (AMLOC-A) course.

This course in the Auxiliary Leadership Training Continuum is the second in the series of three and follows AUXLAMs (AUX-02). Adapted from the leadership program of the Coast Guard It offers mid-level leadership and management skills beyond the basics, with greater emphasis and insight into problem solving and the understanding and development of people skills.

AMLOC-A is a leadership training course. It is an exceptional class for any Auxiliarist who would like additional leadership training. This course will be open to all D17 members. Members who are currently holding an elected position (DCP, VCP, FC or VFC) and/or have already attended AUXLAM-A & B will receive first priority. There is plenty of room for all who are interested. We have 35 seats available.

Anyone interested should submit a Short Term Training Request (STTR) to your FC. FC's should forward all "approved" requests to Lori Cook. Electronic STTR's do not need member or FC signatures. <http://forms.cgaux.org/archive/a7059f.pdf>

Course Code: 501805

Name: AMLOC Part A

Start Date: 9/22/06

End: 9/24/06

Duration: 3 days

Max # students: 35 students, 2 instructors.

Training Location: Westmark Hotel - Anchorage

Address of Location: 720 West Fifth Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2198, 1-800-544-097

9 - COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSEL EXAMINER (MS-527) COURSE

There are currently two CFVS Examiner courses scheduled for FY2007. Please submit a STTR to request this course.

Course Code: 500304

Duration: 5 Days

How To Apply: Submit Short Term Training Request (STTR) via FC to DirAux

Prerequisites: This course is available to CG active duty, CG civilian, CG Reserve, CG Auxiliary, Third Party and Tribal Examiners. Top priority for class quotas will be given to members who presently fill a CFVS billet or members that are actively conducting CFVS dockside exams for any district or unit. Consideration for class quotas will also given to operational boarding officers that conduct 4100F boardings while underway seeking a better understanding of the voluntary dockside program.

Special Info: None

Purpose

This course is designed to provide boarding officers and fishing vessel dockside examiners (including CG Auxiliary, Tribal Examiners) with technical skills and a comprehensive understanding of federal regulations applicable towards the commercial fishing vessel industry. Trainees receive instruction in terminology, laws, regulations, directives, and tools applicable to commercial fishing industry vessels. They are provided with technical skills and training in fishing vessel equipment and systems regulated by the Coast Guard. Systems include, but are not limited to lifesaving, fire fighting, machinery, stability, subdivision, and occupational safety. This course includes hands-on drill instructor training that incorporates basic firefighting and pool training where members are given an opportunity to don immersion suits and board life rafts in the water.

Convening Dates

Facility Name	Start Date	End Date	Session #
CG TRACEN YORKTOWN	12/4/2006	12/8/2006	14
CG TRACEN YORKTOWN	6/4/2007	6/8/2007	15

10 – PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION AWARDED TO THE COAST GUARD

See the actual award citation here:

https://www.piersystem.com/posted/786/PUC_citation.119247.doc

R 091412Z JUN 06
FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-1//
TO ALCOAST
BT
UNCLAS //N01650//
ALCOAST 317/06
COMDTNOTE 1650

SUBJ: AWARD OF THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION TO THE COAST GUARD 1. ON MAY 25, 2006, AT THE COMMANDANT'S CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY, PRESIDENT BUSH PRESENTED THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (PUC) TO THE U.S. COAST GUARD FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT AND OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN ACTION FROM AUGUST 29 TO SEPTEMBER 13, 2005, IN PREPARATION FOR, AND RESPONSE AND RECOVERY TO DEVASTATION WROUGHT BY HURRICANE KATRINA. THIS AWARD WILL APPLY TO ALL OF TEAM COAST GUARD SINCE THE RESPONSE TO KATRINA WAS AN ALL-HANDS EFFORT.

2. WHILE ALL PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATIONS ARE AUTHORIZED BY THE PRESIDENT UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 10694, EACH MILITARY SERVICE HAS A DISTINCT RIBBON TO DESIGNATE THEIR RECEIPT OF THE AWARD. ALTHOUGH A COAST GUARD PUC DOES NOT CURRENTLY EXIST, THE COAST GUARD IS WORKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY IN DEVELOPING THE DESIGN FOR THIS NEW COAST GUARD-SPECIFIC RIBBON TO BE USED FOR THIS AND ANY FUTURE COAST GUARD PUC. FOR HURRICANE KATRINA, THIS RIBBON WILL BE WORN WITH A SPECIALLY DESIGNED HURRICANE DEVICE ATTACHED. ONCE THE DESIGN AND PRODUCTION IS APPROVED, A ONE-TIME ISSUANCE OF THE RIBBONS AND DEVICES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE FIELD FOR ALL RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD. DETAILS TO FOLLOW VIA SEPCOR. WE ANTICIPATE HAVING OUR FIRST SHIPMENT OF THE NEW RIBBON WITHIN SIX MONTHS.

3. COAST GUARD PERSONNEL ARE REMINDED THAT THEY ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO WEAR THE NAVY PUC (HORIZONTAL STRIPES IN BLUE, YELLOW, AND RED) TO SIGNIFY RECEIPT OF THE PUC FOR HURRICANE KATRINA OPERATIONS.

4. **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: ALL CG ACTIVE DUTY, RESERVE, AUXILIARY, AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WHO WERE AFFILIATED WITH THE COAST GUARD AT ANY TIME DURING THE PERIOD (29 AUGUST 2005 - 13 SEPTEMBER 2005) ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE AWARD.**

5. PLANNING IS UNDERWAY FOR UPDATING THIS AWARD AUTOMATICALLY FOR ALL QUALIFIED PERSONNEL. UNLESS SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED BY CG-1221, UNITS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO ENTER THE CG PUC IN DIRECT ACCESS.

6. QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO MR. GABLE AT 202-267-2249 OR CWO LEWIS AT 202-267-1288.

7. INTERNET RELEASE AUTHORIZED.

8. RADM PAUL J. HIGGINS, ACTING ASSISTANT COMMANDANT FOR HUMAN RESOURCES, SENDS.

BT



11 - FROM THE OPERATIONS TRAINING OFFICER (OTO)

BMC Robert Gross

Howdy folks. I've a few points regarding POMS (of course) I'd like to share with you.

- Everything is based on East Coast time. Let's say you put in a patrol for Saturday evening. If I haven't activated the patrol, it disappears/is cancelled by POMS automatically. So, if your patrol hasn't been activated, for whatever reason, you either need to call me (before 2000 Alaska Time) or not go on patrol. Remember... if you don't have an activated patrol, you can't go.

- Having said that, SAR is SAR and I'll get with the Coxn of Record to take care of creating a patrol order number.
- I'm getting the patrol orders for the times POMS was down into the computer. This includes Memorial Day. If you and I have spoken about rebuilding patrols, please go into POMS and check the calendar. If you see your patrol, it's ready for you to fill out and submit as usual. If you don't see your patrol, keep checking. I appreciate the patience.
- I'll be in the bowl area August 9th. I'd like to meet with members who still want to walk through POMS and/or have an open discussion on how we need to improve as a District. We'll maintain professionalism at all times. POMS has been much better this year than it was last year. We will continue to improve.

I've appreciated the work we've accomplished together over the summer and would like to compliment our operators and crew. We've had some great saves out there... ones we can truly be proud of. Keep up the great work.

BMC

12 - JUNE SAMA

Due to system re-programming, Standard Auxiliary Maintenance Allowance (SAMA) was not paid out to most Auxiliary Coxswains in June. This problem has now been corrected and the CG Finance Center is working to make retro-active payments per POMS. Thanks for your patience.



13 – FROM THE AUXILIARY PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Noreen Folkerts

QUALIFYING IN THE OPERATIONS PROGRAM

Just a reminder: Please make sure that when you pass any online course, be it through the National Website or through another agency such as FEMA, that the information is faxed, emailed or mailed to the Director's Office. This also holds true of any classroom courses you take and receive a certificate for. Once we have received that information, your accomplishment can be entered into the AuxData system if applicable and also entered into your record here in the office.

This is especially important when a member takes a boating safety course that will change their status from Initially Qualified (IQ) to Basically Qualified (BQ). Once BQ you can be certified in many of the Auxiliary's programs.

That being said, once you receive your Operational Support (OS) rating as a new member, you can then start the hands-on training (on the water) for the Boat Crew program. You're all excited . . . Just when you think you have accomplished all the tasks for Crew or Coxswain from the list in your manual and anticipate going on patrol the next weekend, the Director's Office receives your paperwork and you get an email indicating that before your certification can be issued you must also complete some of the Incident Command System (ICS) courses now required for that program. Why do you need Incident Command System courses to be a crew person anyway!? Since 9-11 and the disasters like Hurricane Katrina it has become apparent that when our Operations people are called out to assist in a disaster relief situation it is important that they understand some of the basics of the way the Incident Command is set up, therefore making them better team players.

So what all do I need to be qualified as Crew or Coxswain anyway . . . Some of these things are not listed on the check off sheets in my manual? It's simple. Here is a checklist to add to your task sign off sheets. Once you have completed all the tasks on the checklist and the Director's Office has verification of doing so, you will be issued the certification. It's not as daunting as it may look. If you have any questions about the process for qualifying, contact your Operations Staff Officer

(FSO-OP), your Member Training Officer (FSO-MT) or your Flotilla Commander. Becoming qualified in any Auxiliary program is an accomplishment to be proud of and the more you put into it, the more the reward as a volunteer.

What if I'm already qualified in the Operations Program . . . Do I need to do the ICS courses? The answer is yes. If you are currently qualified as Crew, Coxswain or Personal Watercraft Operator, you have until December 31, 2007 to complete the required ICS/IS courses listed on the check list to maintain your certification.

Keep up the good work and remember, as Coast Guard Auxiliarists, you represent the United States Coast Guard. Let's show them (both the public and the Active Duty) that we are ready and capable to do the missions we are tasked with.



Crew-Coxswain-PW
O Certificatio...

Thanks, Noreen

14 – TRAVEL VOUCHER SUMMARIES (TVS) RESTORED

CG Personnel Service Command (PSC) and the CG Finance Center (FINCEN) have restored the capability for people who have submitted Coast Guard travel claims to view their associated Travel Voucher Summaries (TVS) online. A TVS will show you what elements of your travel claim have been reimbursed, and how they add up to the Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) that is deposited directly into your prescribed bank account. This system only reflects TVSs for official travel claims (e.g. - travel associated with attending a C-school or conference on Coast Guard orders...not for Auxiliary patrol orders) for the past 90-day period. You can access this capability a couple of ways:

- 1 - If you are at the PSC web site (<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/>):
 - a - click the "Travel" button in the top horizontal menu bar - this will take you to the PSC Travel Branch page
 - b - then click the "Travel Claim Status & Voucher Summaries" button immediately below the top horizontal menu bar - this will take you to the "Travel Claim/Voucher Status" page
 - c - plug in your Social Security number where indicated (it's a secure entry)
 - d - click and your TVS history for the past 90 days will appear.

- 2 - If you want to go directly to the TVS web site, type the address (https://www.fincen.uscg.mil/tvs_aux/) - once there, plug in your Social Security number where indicated, then click for your TVS history for the past 90 days.

As reviewed and summarized by the Auxiliary's Information and Communications Services Department, with online access to your Travel Voucher Summary (TVS) system restored, **there are now three important resources to make Coast Guard travel reimbursement and review much easier:**

- 1 - Start the process by using the "smart" Travel Claim form (DD-1351-2) at <http://forms.cgaux.org/archive/dd1351-2f.pdf> which reviews your travel submission electronically, looking for common errors before you even send it! That helps to reduce the processing time, which means quicker payments.

- 2 - The online Travel Payment Inquiry <https://www.fincen.uscg.mil/secure/TravelPay/TPQuery.htm> will show you when the deposit is made to your bank account.

- 3 - Then you can review the actual details of your payment via the online TVS system, https://www.fincen.uscg.mil/tvs_aux/ to be sure you were properly reimbursed.

Combined, these make for an easier and more accurate way to process and review your Coast Guard travel (not patrol order) claims.

If you find a discrepancy on your reimbursement, please contact **Lori Cook** directly to help you resolve this issue.

15 - NEW 17TH DISTRICT COMMANDER

On May 12, RADM Brooks relieved RADM Olson as 17th District Commander, here is his bio:



Rear Admiral Arthur (Gene) E. Brooks, Seventeenth Coast District Commander

Rear Admiral Brooks was commissioned as an Ensign upon graduation from the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1974. His first duty assignment was aboard the Coast Guard Cutter *DEPENDABLE* (WMEC 626), Panama City, Florida where he served as Student Engineer and Deck Watch Officer.

In addition to his Bachelor of Science degree from the U. S. Coast Guard Academy, he holds a Juris Doctor degree from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. He was the Coast Guard Fellow in the Department of State's 39th Senior Seminar, National Foreign Affairs Training Center, Arlington, Virginia and is a graduate of the Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government Senior Executive National and International Security Program.

Rear Admiral Brooks has served in a variety of surface operations, legal, command and staff assignments. Other afloat tours included Commanding Officer, USCGC *POINT HARRIS* (WPB 82376) in both Bodega Bay, California, and Apra Harbor, Guam, Mariana Islands; Executive Officer, USCGC *CONFIDENCE* (WMEC 619), Cape Canaveral, Florida; and Commanding Officer, USCGC *SENECA* (WMEC 906), Boston Massachusetts. Ashore tours included the Fifth CG District Operations Center, Portsmouth, Virginia; Assistant Staff Legal Officer, Eleventh CG District, Long Beach, California; Head, Department of Professional Development, U. S. Coast Guard Academy, New London Connecticut; Staff Legal Officer, U.S. Coast Guard Academy; Commandant of Cadets, Coast Guard Academy; Commander, Coast Guard Greater Antilles Section, San Juan, Puerto Rico; Chief of Staff, Coast Guard Atlantic Area, Portsmouth, Virginia; and Deputy Director of Operations, United States Northern Command, Colorado.

Rear Admiral Brooks' awards include three Legions of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with Operational Distinguishing Device, three Coast Guard Commendation Medals, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, and Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon, three National Defense Service Medals, three Humanitarian Service Medals, three Coast Guard Sea Service Ribbons, Expert Riflemen Ribbon, and Pistol Expert Ribbon.

His wife's name is Mrs. Chris Brooks.