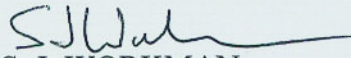




16798
16 Mar 2005

MEMORANDUM

From: 
S. J. WORKMAN
CGD SEVENTEEN (osr-2)

Reply to
Attn of:

To: D17 FSO-OP's

Subj: NEW MINIMUM CREW REQUIREMENTS

Ref: (a) (a) Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual, COMDTINST M16798.3 (series)

1. Reference (a) is currently being updated. The newest version should be signed and distributed this summer. There will be a policy change regarding required crew when this new version becomes a signed instruction. In anticipation of that change in policy, I am sending this memo to prepare OPFAC owners/coxswains for summer operations in 2005.

2. The new minimum crew requirements are designated by length of OPFAC. An OPFAC 20-26 feet will require a 2-person qualified crew, OPFAC's greater than 26 ft and less than 40 ft will require a minimum qualified crew of 3, and OPFAC's greater than 40 ft but less than 65 ft will require a qualified crew of 4. The coxswain should always use good risk assessment when determining whether or not to take additional crew when the mission or other factors merit it.

3. There are sound reasons for the new minimum crew requirements. D17 OPFAC's will be required to abide by these new requirements once they become policy. In some cases, however, DIRAUX will consider a waiver if I receive a request in writing from the owner of the OPFAC. The new version of reference (a) will allow DIRAUX to grant waivers on minimum crew size. The waiver request must contain photos of the deck of the boat, fore and aft and side views. The waiver must also contain reasons for the request and what the owner considers to be the best minimum crew size for that OPFAC. The request must be routed through DSO-OP and OTO. Each will add their endorsement and recommendation to the waiver request.

4. My decision will be final for that operating season. Waivers will run a year at a time, renewable when DIRAUX receives an offer for use for that OPFAC. In most cases, the waiver will be renewed each year. The granted waiver will accompany the OPFAC Accepted For Use letter from DIRAUX to the owner each year.

#

Copy: DSO - OP
OTO