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October 1, 2003

Eleventh Coast Guard District, Auxiliary, Southern Region Policy Directive 03-06

Subj: CONTROL RELATIONSHIP OF COXSWAIN AND OWNER OF AUXILIARY  
VESSEL ON PATROL

Ref: (a) CCGD11 (ba-sr) No 17 (Rev 01/87)

1. **PURPOSE** This Directive establishes the relationship between a Coxswain and an Auxiliary Facility Owner who is either not qualified as a Coxswain, or, if qualified, agrees that another Coxswain will be in control during the Patrol.
2. **DIRECTIVES AFFECTED** This Policy Directive supersedes all other Eleventh Coast Guard District, Auxiliary, Southern Region Policy Directives that contain provisions concerning Qualifications Examiner.
3. **DISCUSSION** This policy is written to clarify the coxswain/owner and the coxswain while on patrol other than owner.
4. **ACTION** The following guidelines are established for the manner in which orders will be issued.
  - A. For an Owner to receive and accept Operational Orders, his vessel must meet the requirements of an Operational Facility, and he must have a signed copy of reference at the DIRAUX office.
  - B. The relationship between the Owner and the Coxswain while on Patrol is very similar to the relationship between Coxswain/Owner and the Coast Guard while on a Search and Rescue case. Only the Coast Guard is authorized to assign a SAR case; but only the Coxswain/Owner is authorized to accept tasking. If for any reason the Coxswain/Owner decides that he, his crew, or his vessel cannot carry out the orders, he must refuse them. The Coast Guard will then assign the case to other resources.
  - C. In similar fashion, the Coxswain directs action to be taken by the Owner. The Owner may accept or refuse the Coxswain's direction. If the Owner refuses the directed action, the Coxswain must terminate the Patrol, the facility must be returned to its homeport immediately, and the Coxswain must notify the Coast Guard that the patrol has been terminated.

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- D. It is neither necessary nor desirable for the Coxswain to "handle" the vessel. However, the Coxswain is required to terminate any evolution that jeopardizes the safety of the crew or vessel. If the Owner refuses, the Coxswain will terminate the patrol, following the procedures described in paragraph C.



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