



Tiger Team Help Wanted

The Atlantic Area (Ap) is looking for Auxiliarists to serve on its “Tiger Team.”

You will be asked to monitor Auxiliary field activities throughout LANTAREA. You will provide the Chief, Uninspected Vessel Activities Section a report on issues of importance for monthly brief to Area Commander.

Each month you will monitor and track the total number of CG examinations and decals issued for each Uninspected vessel program and report as needed.

In addition, we are looking for the Auxiliary to provide data entry into the Auxiliary AUXDATA, and CG MISLE reporting systems to capture the above information for a comparison report of both systems.

If you are interested in being a part of the Tiger Team, please contact Mr. Lewis Fisher by e-mail at Lewis.Fisher@uscg.mil or by telephone at 757-398-7787.

The **Tiger Team Initiative** is sponsored by LANTAREA’s Prevention Division.

LANTAREA is pursuing the development of a “Tiger Team” composed of Auxiliary personnel to raise Auxiliary operational level of participation in the Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety (CFVS), Uninspected Towing Vessel (UTV) and Uninspected Passenger Vessel (UPV) programs.

With most active duty resources dedicated to other missions, it is difficult to support these programs without Auxiliary participation.

This “Tiger Team” will be a force multiplier for critical understaffed, yet important safety initiatives, while raising the Auxiliary program’s visibility within the Coast Guard.

The “Tiger Team” will consist of Auxiliary personnel that will be home-based out of the Atlantic Area Prevention Office and report directly to the Chief, Uninspected Vessel Activities Section (Api-2), Mr. Fisher.

The Tiger Team will also be the direct link to the Division Chief, Auxiliary Commercial Vessel Examination Division for Auxiliary personnel activities.

Coast Guard Regional Exam Center Seeks Auxiliary Augmentation

By Kim Cole, BC-REC

An interim rule went into effect on January 13, 2006 requiring nearly all Merchant Mariners to present themselves to the Coast Guard for ID verification and fingerprinting. This has resulted in an increase of approximately 40 percent in walk-in traffic at the Coast Guard's 17 Regional Examination Centers (RECs) and burdened the staffs with processing this additional business.

The RECs are not adequately staffed to process these applications and delays have occurred, all giving rise to voluminous complaints from mariners, maritime Industries and Congress.

When the Gold Side asked, our membership was quick to respond. When it was announced that the RECs were looking for assistance from the Auxiliary, many members stepped up to the plate and--along with the members that have been diligent over the years--are giving help whenever needed; and we still could use more.

There are many different ways that you could help at your local Regional Exam Center. It is well worth the time to speak with your REC Coordinator and visit the Regional Exam Center in your areas. One way to directly augment is to gain your PQS (personal qualification standard) as either AUX-LDEV (License and Document Evaluator) or AUX-LDEX (License and Document Examiner). In most of the REC's, proctoring of the exams is one of the

most immediate needs and the Remote Fingerprinting Program for Mariners is also a valuable tool.

With all of the added responsibilities that have been given to the Regional Exam Centers, along with all of the tasks they already undertake, Auxiliarists can truly make a difference.

Don't think that because you cannot give a large amount of time that your help would not be appreciated or needed. It is best to decide what you could do then speak with your REC Coordinator to see what may be needed and go from there.

Gold Side members they have expressed a great support for Auxiliary assistance, knowing that this help will be a tremendous addition to their offices. The satisfaction that you will get from volunteering your time will be well worth making that first step.

For further information follow this link:
http://www.auxmdept.org/latest_ms.htm#DirectSupportOpportunitiesatRECs

U.S. Coast Guard Regional Examination Centers

Anchorage (907) 271-6736
Baltimore (410) 962-5132/5147
Boston (617) 223-3040/41/42
Charleston (843) 720-3250 or (800) 826-1511
Guam (671) 339-2001
Honolulu (808) 522-8264
Houston (713) 948-3350/51
Juneau (907) 463-2458
San Pedro (310) 732-2080
Memphis (901) 544-3297 or (866) 777-2784
Miami (305) 536-6548/49/6874 or (800) 982-9374
New York (212) 668-7492/7864/4970/6395
Portland, Ore. (503) 240-9346
Oakland, Calif. (510) 637-1124
San Juan (787) 729-2376
Seattle (206) 220-7327
St. Louis (314) 539-3091
Toledo, Ohio (419) 418-6010

"Saving the Sea from People and People from the Sea"

Meritorious Service Awards given to Members of the “M” Department



MS. DENISE C. CASTROGIOVANNI

Ms. CASTROGIOVANNI is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Chief, Commercial Fishing Vessel Examination Division from October 2005 to September 2006.



By fervently advocating Auxiliary capabilities to significantly augment Coast Guard efforts while concurrently promoting Auxiliary engagement with commercial fishermen, she led the Auxiliary to a 22 percent increase in support of commercial fishing vessel safety examinations and the Dockwalker program.

Ms. CASTROGIOVANNI's dedication and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States

Coast Guard and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

MR. GREGORY B. KESTER

Mr. KESTER is cited for meritorious service in the performance of duty as Deputy Chief, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Department and Chief, Marine Safety Division from October 2004 to September 2006



With a superb grasp of the myriad issues that characterize post-9/11 maritime transportation security, Mr. KESTER employed a tireless work ethic to develop many vital marine safety and environmental programs

His ingenuity and resourcefulness were instrumental to the expansion of program capabilities and readiness as reflected by his development of six new Auxiliary Personal Qualification Standards which garnered a six percent increase in Auxiliary Marine Safety and Environmental Protection program hours and a 21 percent increase in qualified Auxiliary Trident members.

Mr. KESTER's dedication and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

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THE AUXILIARY COMMENDATION MEDAL



MR. DAVID N. HAND (GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND)

Mr. HAND is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as Chief, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Department from July 2005 to August 2006.



Exhibiting exceptional managerial skill and commitment, Mr. HAND provided solid proposals and comprehensive justifications to secure ongoing Coast Guard funding for management of the America's Waterway Watch program and the support of several other Auxiliary marine safety and environmental protection programs.

Mr. HAND's dedication, judgment, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States

Coast Guard and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.



MS. KAREL K. KESTER

Ms. KESTER is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as Chief, Marine Safety Division and Chief, Marine Safety Special Projects Branch from October 2004 to September 2006.



Ms. KESTER was instrumental to the expansion of the Auxiliary marine safety program by facilitating the development of six new Auxiliary Trident program Personal Qualification Standards and a 90 percent increase in Auxiliary Trident program qualifications. Demonstrating remarkable initiative and determination, she led the Auxiliary Waterway Management Security Coordinator pilot project that resulted in establishment of recreational boating subcommittees in six Captain of the Port Zones to facilitate maritime security outreach to the recreational boating public.

New Auxiliarist of the Year

THIS AWARD PRESENTED TO

MR. Kevin J. Cady

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
AUXILIARY

Mr. CADY is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as a member of Flotilla 21 in the First District – Northern Auxiliary Region (D1-NR) from December 2003 to January 2006. Demonstrating exemplary commitment and teamwork, Mr. CADY consistently provided superior service to Coast Guard Sector Northern New England, Auxiliary National Staff, and his local Auxiliary shipmates.



In support of Sector Northern New England's Planning and Operational Readiness Staff, he facilitated the formation of over 35 governmental, industrial, and community organizations into the Maritime Security Committee in Vermont. Mr. CADY worked tirelessly to review and update the Hazardous Materials Section of the Maine and New Hampshire Area Contingency Plan. This involved close coordination of more than 40 local, county, and state agencies in order to validate capabilities and strategic positioning of effective resources to respond to hazardous spill

incidents in Sector Northern New England's area of responsibility.

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE AUXILIARY COMMENDATION MEDAL



Mr. CADY diligently served in the Emergency Operations Center during the South Portland Weapons of Mass destruction exercise and he eagerly undertook assignment as Demobilization Unit Leader in the Sector's Watch, Quarter and Station Bill which freed up assignment of Coast Guard personnel to other vital tasks.

As a member of the Auxiliary's Department of Marine Safety and Environmental Protection, Mr. CADY provided invaluable leadership and fresh perspectives on development of Auxiliary Trident program Personal Qualification Standards. A model of performance for all new Auxiliarists to emulate, he diligently completed six of these Personal Qualification Standards, six Incident Command System courses, and the Auxiliary Instructor qualification while achieving elected office as his Flotilla's Vice Commander.

Mr. CADY's dedication, judgment, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States

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Meritorious Team Commendation

THE AWARD OF COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS TEAM COMMENDATION



COMMERCIAL VESSEL EXAMINATION TEAM

New Auxiliarist of the Year Criteria:

- Be a member in good standing of the Auxiliary for no less than one year and no more than three years from initial enrollment.
- Demonstrated exemplary conduct.
- Embraced coast guard core values of "honor, respect, and devotion to duty."
- Projected exceptional uniform appearance and bearing.
- Delivered consistently outstanding performance in terms of leadership, Auxiliary program skills, personal and work ethics, and Auxiliary knowledge.
- Displayed superb initiative and motivation that helped significantly advance themselves and Auxiliary program(s).
- Performed duties in outstanding fashion and achieved results of high quality, customer service, and teamwork that resulted in improved efficiency and effectiveness of Auxiliary and/or Coast Guard unit(s).
- Other related contributions, achievements, and awards are considered.

Given for exceptionally meritorious service from January 2004 to September 2006 while serving on the Coast Guard Auxiliary Commercial Vessel Examination Team.

The Team created several innovative workshops and training and mentoring programs for Auxiliarists, other agencies, and commercial vessel crews to promote Auxiliary performance, train new vessel examiners among Auxiliary, active duty, and Reserve ranks, and promote commercial vessel safety.

As a result of the Team's steadfast commitment to training and program performance, the number of examinations of commercial fishing vessels, uninspected passenger vessels, and uninspected towing vessels notably increased.

Exercising similar expertise and zeal, the Team guided the Dockwalker program to an unprecedented level of more than 2,200 hours focused on increasing the awareness of commercial fishing vessel communities on vessel safety.

Demonstrating remarkable initiative and cross-programmatic coordination, the

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Team created a commercial vessel examination database for District Fishing Vessel Coordinators, and it employed Auxiliary interpreters to translate commercial fishing vessel regulations from English to Spanish, Portuguese, and Vietnamese.



The Team culminated its comprehensive efforts by crafting a detailed commercial vessel safety program policy letter for the Coast Guard's Office of Commercial Vessel Safety that defined Auxiliary training requirements, augmentation expectations, and performance standards.

The dedication, pride, and professionalism displayed by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Commercial Vessel Examination Team are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

M Department Openings

Reply to: **Greg Kester, DC-Md**
<Greg@DragonsKnot.com>

The M Department will have several openings in various areas for 2007-2008.

If you are interested in working in areas of Marine Safety and Environmental Protection, please submit an application with resume detailing your experience in the area for which you are applying to Greg Kester, DC-Md.

WEBLINK OF INTEREST

Links to the "M" Department:
<http://auxmdept.org/links.htm>

The current organization chart and job descriptions are available on the M Department website at:

<http://www.auxmdept.org/links.htm>

For information on Safety Lines or to contribute please contact:

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