

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION DIRECTIVE**

DIRECTIVE #: D 337

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SUBJECT: BOAT OPERATIONS AND TRAINING PROGRAM

DATE: MAR 15, 2014

RELATED DIRECTIVES, STANDARDS, ETC:

LAST REVISION: MAR 15, 2014

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

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The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, Division of Law Enforcement, is committed to providing well-qualified and highly trained individuals through an accreditation process by receiving and maintaining a national standard of maritime training and credentialing in accordance with The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA), Boat Operations and Training Program (BOAT), and the United States Coast Guard.

PURPOSE: The SCDNR Division of Law Enforcement is the primary agency in the state of South Carolina who has the sole responsibility for maritime law enforcement, boating education, and boat accident investigation and reporting. This Directive is intended to provide a systematic approach to boat crew and boat operator training in order to develop SCDNR Officers with search and rescue and special response capabilities that withstand the scrutiny of the federal training standards and response capabilities. The Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Program establishes a US Coast Guard recognized national standard for the training, qualification, and credentialing of law enforcement officers in the marine environment. Implementation provides the guidance and protocols in a standardized process to ensure our Agency can interact with other maritime agencies and ensure our division to be the most professional maritime law enforcement agency in the state.

DIRECTIVE: All members of the Uniformed Division of Law Enforcement up through the rank of First Sergeant shall be trained in and adhere to the standards established under the NASBLA BOAT program.

DEFINITIONS:

- A. NASBLA-National Association of State Boating Law Administrators
- B. BOAT Program-Boat Operation and Training Program
- C. Colonel-Deputy Director of Law Enforcement
- D. Division-Division of Law Enforcement
- E. Member-A commissioned officer with the DNR Law Enforcement Division
- F. Program Manager-BOAT Program manager
- G. Director of Training-Training Lieutenant responsible for training programs within Division

PROCEDURES:

- A. The Program Manager will implement and supervise the SCDNR Boat Program and serve as the NASBLA Boating Law Administrator.
- B. The Director of Training will coordinate the training of the SCDNR BOAT program across the state and will be responsible for the documentation and maintenance of the training systems records as well as currency requirements. He will report directly to the Program Manager in all matters pertaining to the BOAT Program.
- C. The Divisions BOAT Program will have established currency requirements that must be met annually as part of each officers EPMS. The Region Captain and Region Lieutenants will ensure that each officer through the rank of 1st Sgt completes the annual requirements as established and report same to the Director of Training who will document in the officers training record with a letter of certification.
- D. Boat Crew-the minimum standard for all Game Wardens in the state and will be completed as a portion of the training during DNR Boating School.
 - 1). DNR Boat Crew Qualifications-the following standards for personnel shall be implemented to show proficiency as a Boat Crew qualified officer.
 - a). Current DNR Firearms qualifications.
 - b). Must meet the NASBLA Boat Crew qualification standards or equivalent.
- E. Boat Operator-the minimum standard for all Game Wardens in the state and will be completed as a portion of the training during DNR Boating School.
 - 1). DNR Boat Operator Qualifications-the following standards for personnel shall be implemented to show proficiency as a Boat Operator qualified officer.
 - a). Officers must meet qualifications for Boat Crew or equivalent.
 - b). Officers must meet the NASBLA Boat Operator qualification standards or equivalent.
- F. Transition (Basic Boat Crew/Operator)-allows Officers currently assigned to field operations and previously trained under alternate standards to be recognized as certified Basic Boat Crewman and Basic Boat Operators after reviewing the following:
 - a). Relative DNR training records.
 - b). Time of service.
 - c). Specialized training.
 - d). Job experience.

IMPLEMENTATION: Division personnel should meet currency requirements through performance during normal operations or dedicated training operations in order to maintain competency in their respective positions and maintain requirements of EPMS.

- A. The Director of Training will report all completions of currency requirements to the

NASBLA BOAT Program for entry into the federal database.

- B. Requalification is required for those officers that have a break in service of more than one year or fail to meet the currency qualifications in a given year as outlined in EPMS.
- C. Outside agency instruction will be conducted at the direction of the Colonel in consultation with the Program Manager and the Director of Training.
 - 1). Outside agency instruction will be conducted in accordance with the established BOAT Program standards and a registration fee will be assessed for each student completing the course in order that they may be entered into the federal database.
 - 2). The Director of Training will submit all fees and copies of all training records to NASBLA in accordance with the procedures spelled out by the NASBLA BOAT Program.

Approved:



A.C. Frampton, Colonel