

California Area Maritime Security Committee
Meeting (unclassified) Minutes
Richmond Marine Safety & Security Center
756 West Gertrude Street, Richmond CA
July 19, 2022

1. **Opening Remarks** - Mr. Paul Martin, USCG: Called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM and welcomed the committee members in attendance.
2. **Quorum Call** – Mr. Paul Martin: Confirmed the absence of a meeting quorum. All official business will be postponed.
3. **Approval of the Minutes** – Capt. Lynn Korwatch, Marine Exchange: The vote to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2022, AMSC meeting will be held when a quorum is present.
4. **Comments by the Chair** – Capt. Taylor Lam, USCG COTP: Partnerships and collaboration are important in confronting security threats such as active shooters and cyber-attacks. Maritime Domain Awareness is a priority as are future security exercises. The Fourth of July SEAR event took place successfully without any major incidents. Attendance was lower than usual. San Francisco Fleet Week is in October and planning is underway. Military recruitment is a focus. New Year’s Eve fireworks is also a planned SEAR event. The USCG has finished their review of PSGP packages. Final review is being conducted by FEMA and awards are expected in August. USCG Cyber Protection Teams provide cybersecurity assessments and assistance to partner organizations. A new team based in Alameda will be added next year.
 - a. Capt. Lam swore in new AMSC member: Amir Sharifi, OSPR.
5. **Member Agency/Industry Reports** - AMSC Membership

Bob Butchart, Cal OES: A USCG District 11 meeting was held on Mass Rescue Operations with a focus on patient movement security. A Cal OES disaster logistics workshop took place recently. The statewide Coastal Trident security exercise will be held in August and planning is ongoing.

City of Oakland: Evacuation route planning is being conducted for tsunami preparedness. Emergency notification is of primary concern. The annual Hazard Mitigation Plan update is ongoing. The Golden Eagle exercise is being planned which includes tsunami response. Capt. Lam advised that the Coast Guard can assist with exercise planning.

Paul Martin, USCG: The USCG PSGP Field Review took place June 24th – July 8th. Nine projects with 21 Investment Justifications were considered by the panel. The total PSGP funding requested for the region is \$12 million. The FEMA National Review Panel is now reviewing the projects. Award letters are expected to be issued in August. Grantees will then have 30 days to accept the funding.

Lynn Korwatch, Marine Exchange: The San Francisco Harbor Safety Committee is involved with navigation safety issues related to the proposed Oakland Howard Terminal stadium project. There are concerns that the stadium project could increase recreational boating activity in the Oakland Turning Basin. In partnership between the Marine Exchange, PMA, and PMSA, the PacMMS container vessel queuing system is in effect for ships calling the

Port of Oakland. Vessels are tracked offshore and given clearance to arrive at a specific time. The system is designed to reduce vessel drifting and anchoring times in addition to facilitating labor allocation.

Amir Sharifi, OSPR: Fuel transfer issues are being addressed and harbor patrols are ongoing. Fueling companies are required to notify OSPR of vessel fuel transfers.

Rick Salsedo, Port of Stockton: A full scale exercise was recently held with the National Guard simulating an ammonia release. Inter-agency relationships are a priority.

Keith Matthews, San Francisco Police: There were minimal issues during Fourth of July events. Widespread fog was reported. A PSGP funded ROV was recently used to assist the Sacramento Sheriff's Office with a recovery operation. SWAT team training is planned.

Randy Wagner, NCRIC: The NCRIC is available to assist the AMSC. Drug trafficking along the California Coast is an ongoing issue and relevant information is requested.

Nancy Navarro, PBF Energy: Nothing to report.

Kevin Krick, Matson: NMSAC has been reformed and a meeting was held last week. Maritime cybersecurity information sharing, and TWIC issues were discussed.

Dominic Yin, San Francisco UASI: SF UASI presented at the National Homeland Security Center Conference. A law enforcement and first responder seminar will be held in November with details to be provided. Funding has been acquired for additional PRND equipment.

David Connolly, Sailor's Union of the Pacific: Nothing to report.

6. Subcommittee Reports:

- a. PRND Subcommittee – Mr. David Trombino: Planning is underway for the Bay Ferry field exercise to be held in March 2023. Golden Gate Ferry has secured funding for the exercise which includes PRND. Active shooter response and counter drone operations will also be involved. Planning meetings will be scheduled. The recent Neptune Coalition meeting focused on active shooters which are an increasing concern. Tactics and planning are important.
- b. CYBER Subcommittee – Mr. Paul Martin: The subcommittee met on June 28th. The latest Cybersecurity Newsletter has been published and is available on the HOMEPORT website. Information is provided about USCG Cyber Protection Team assessments. Articles on cybersecurity hygiene and CISA are also included.
- c. Neptune Coalition Brief – LCDR Hernandez, Sector SF: A Neptune Coalition meeting was held last week. Issues were discussed regarding the Sovereign Citizens movement. Operation Dry Water was in effect during Fourth of July providing DUI enforcement. Fleet Week planning is underway. Planning for the Bay Ferry exercise and active shooter response is ongoing.

7. General Reports:

- a. USCG Cyber Protection Teams Assessment Report – Chris Hicks, Marine Exchange: A USCG Cyber Protection Teams (CPT) cybersecurity assessment was recently performed on Marine Exchange systems. The Marine Exchange collects and disseminates maritime data and information security is critical. Marine Exchange systems were tested against both external and internal cyber-threats. No major external vulnerabilities

were found. The CPT conducted a site visit and found some internal vulnerabilities including password issues and outdated firmware. A list of vulnerabilities was compiled, and the problems were fixed. Capt. Korwatch advised that the CPT assessment was very helpful and cybersecurity issues have been mitigated. Assessments are recommended to other maritime organizations. Capt. Lam thanked the Marine Exchange and others that have undergone CPT assessment. Preventing disruption to the Marine Transportation System is a priority. Rick Salsedo advised that the Port of Stockton performed a CPT assessment which found several cybersecurity issues that are being addressed. Paul Martin advised that the California Cybersecurity Integration Center is a good resource for additional information and cyber-threat bulletins.

- b. National Counter Terrorism Center Report – Chris Ellis, NCTC: Gave a presentation to the committee on the National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC). The threat of terrorism is an ongoing concern. The NCTC is an agency born out of the 9/11 Commission which provides terrorism warnings and information sharing as well as strategic operational planning in support of the FBI and DHS. The NCTC specializes in terrorism related information analysis and product dissemination. In addition, a 24-hour operations center monitors threats and issues counter terrorism alerts/warnings. The NCTC is part of the Joint Counter Terrorism Assessment Team which provides first responder terrorism mitigation products. Weekly counter terrorism publications are produced for both law enforcement and the general public. Additional quarterly publications and products are available including a publication on violent extremist mobilization indicators. The threat of terrorism has become less acute, but more ideology driven and diffuse over time. Ideology driven attacks are a major concern. Centrally lead ISIS and Al-Qaeda remain active overseas and continue to pose a threat. Homegrown Violent Extremists (HVEs) are a primary focus. HVEs can mobilize without direction and can find inspiration from external ideologies and propaganda. Domestic Violent Extremists can be motivated by racial/ethnic issues or by anti-government/authority ideologies among other factors. Mobilization indicators include unusual behavior which may or may not be illegal. Vigilance and reporting of suspicious behavior are urged. For more terrorism related information contact: christae@nctc.gov.
- Capt. Lam asked about terrorism threats to the maritime domain. Chris Ellis advised of no specific threats, but the maritime industry is an attractive target. Brandon Farris, USCG, advised that reporting of suspicious activity is critical as is information sharing. The USCG has established the Maritime Intelligence Information Sharing Working Group with regional Fusion Centers and agency partners.

8. Public Comment: None

9. Old Business: None

10. New Business:

- Rick Salsedo asked about postponement of the new TWIC reader regulations. Capt. Lam advised that the TWIC rule has been delayed for three years.

11. Closing Remarks from the COTP: Capt. Lam advised that Sector San Francisco is planning to host a lunch and tour of the Command Center/VTS. Details will be provided. Several USCG leadership changes have taken place.

12. Next Meeting: The next AMSC meeting will be held at 10:00 AM, October 18, 2022. The meeting will be held at the Port of Oakland, Exposition Room, 530 Water Street, Oakland, CA.

13. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.