

Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office  
Expanded Course Outline  
(20201)  
**Basic Boat Operations / Inland - Marine Law Enforcement**

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**Course:** Basic Boat Operations

**Secondary Title:** Inland- Marine Law Enforcement Operations Orientation Training

**Hours:** 40

**Objective:** Course provides attendees with the requisite training consistent with federal standards and tactical training for Basic Boating Operations related to Law Enforcement Inland Marine Operations for Recreational Boating and Safety Enforcement Training / Awareness including: Marine Officer Safety, Self Rescue, Swim Assessment, Boating Nomenclature , Laws Governing Waterways , Required Equipment for Recreational and Law Enforcement Operations, Vessel - Trailer Transpiration, Vessel Launch and Recovery , Basic Deck Hand and Coxswain Responsibilities, Marine spiking, Basic Boating Operational Skills, Boating Law Enforcement Stop Techniques, Counterterrorism Practices and Procedures, Coast Guard Vessel Inspections for required safety equipment, Boating Under the Influence Enforcement , Vessel Assist- Towing and Emergency / Rescue Operations, Attendees will practice / demonstrate knowledge and skills to include:

- A. Judgment
- B. Decision Making
- C. Policy, Legal and Moral Issues
- D. Marine Environment Dynamics
- E. Basic Boat Handling Principles
- F. On Water, Boat Operational skills
- G. Marine Law Enforcement Procedures and Rescue Operations

**Standards:** Minimum standards of performance shall be tested by the instructor observing the trainee during their performance of each technique and exercise.

If the trainee does not meet minimum standards as established by the presenter, remediation will be provided until the standard is met.

**Instructors:** All Instructors will be Marine Law Enforcement Officers who have been assigned to a Department Marine Unit and who have attend The California Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) "Basic Boating Safety and Enforcement Course" (or) have obtained the (DBW) " Boating Safety Officer Core Training Certificate" ( or ) Obtained the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA), Marine Patrol Officers - Tactical / Instructor Course.

**I. INTRODUCTION / ORIENTATION**

1. Introduction, Registration, and Orientation
2. Course Objectives / Overview / Exercises, Evaluation / Testing
3. Safety / Emergency Plan
4. Vehicle / Vessel / Trailer inspection

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**II. Boating Nomenclature / Nautical Terminology**

- **Instructor Lecture / Presentation / Demonstration / Handouts**
  - **Student Assessment / Practical Evaluation Vessel Nomenclature - Terminology**
1. Nautical vs. Commonly used Terms
    - a) Port – Starboard / Left - Right
    - b) Bow – Stern / Front - Back
    - c) Gunwale / Side
    - d) Forward – Aft / Front – Back
    - e) Certificate of Numbers / Registration
    - f) Numbers – HIN / CF Numbers – Hull Identification
  2. Vessel Types
    - a) Power / Inboard / Out Board / Prop / Jet
    - b) Sail / Sloop, Ketch, Schooner
    - c) Commercial Vessels / Passenger, Container, Tankers, Bulk Carriers
  3. Hull Types
    - a) Displacement
    - b) Plane
    - c) Mono, Catamaran, Tri-Hull

**III. Laws Governing Waterways**

- **Instructor Lecture / Presentation / Demonstration / Handouts**
  - **Student Assessment / Practical Evaluation Laws, Vessel Inspections, Operational Awareness**
1. Vessel Documentation and Recognition
    - a) Federal / State and Local Laws regarding vessels recognition and identification of vessels operating in the U.S.
    - b) Documentation and registration
    - c) ID Lights and Shapes for all Vessels
    - d) ID sound and Light signals
  2. Boating Law
    - a) General Authority / Most Frequent Used codes
      - (1) Harbors and Navigation
        - (a) Stop and Board
      - (2) Vehicle Code
        - (a) Inspect Vessel HIN
      - (3) Title 13 and 14
        - (a) Termination Authority
          - (i) Unsafe Conditions

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- (ii) Unseaworthy Conditions
      - (b) Negligent Operation – Prima Facie Evidence
        - (i) Bow Riding, Pass Tow Line , Navigate Between Tow Vessels
    - (4) Penal Code
      - (a) Crimes related to Persons and Property
    - (5) Fish and Game
      - (a) Vessel Inspection - dreissenid mussels
    - (6) Local Ordinance
      - (a) Regional Operational Restrictions
  - b) Required Equipment for Law Enforcement / Recreational Operations/ Coast Guard Equipment Inspections.
    - (1) Enforcement Vessel Blue Light Display / H&N 652.5, T14 6591 / 6600.1
    - (2) Safety and Emergency Equipment Commonly carried on Law Enforcement vessels
  - c) Required Equipment for Recreational - Undocumented Vessels
    - (1) Safety and emergency equipment Commonly carried on Recreational Vessels
  - d) Required Equipment for Commercial - Documented Vessels
    - (1) Safety and Emergency Equipment commonly carried on for hire vessels
3. Reasonable Suspicion for Vessel Stops
  - (1) On View
  - (2) Reported
  - (3) Accidents
4. Coast Guard Vessel inspections for required safety equipment,
  - a) Required Equipment / Vessel Size / Nautical Inland , Near Shore, Off Shore
    - (1) Certificate of Numbers
    - (2) Fire Extinguisher - Systems
    - (3) Personal Flotation Devices- PFD
    - (4) Throw able Flotation
    - (5) Ventilation System
    - (6) Flame Control Device
    - (7) Lights
  - b) Termination
    - (1) Unsafe conditions
      - (i) T 14 6550.5 (d)
    - (2) Unseaworthy Conditions
      - (i) T 14 6550.5 (E)
5. Counterterrorism Practices and Procedures
  - a) Operational Awareness / Practices / At the Ready Equipment
  - b) Multiagency Operations and Communications / Notifications
  - c) Standardized Response and Interdiction Procedures

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**IV. Vessel Trailer Operations and Transportation**

- **Instructor Lecture / Presentation / Demonstration / Handouts / Closed Course Vehicle Operations**
  - **Student Assessment / Closed Course Operations, Practical Evaluation Operational Inspections, Behind the Wheel Operations Vehicle with Vessel on Trailer.**
1. Vessel Inspection
    - a) Review Safety Policy
    - b) Pre-Operational Check list
      - (1) Inspection check list
      - (2) Maintenance
      - (3) Necessary tools
        - (a) Damage Control / emergency repairs
        - (b) Electrical Problems
        - (c) Mechanical problems
      - (4) Lights and equipment
        - (a) Navigation, Overheads and Spots
        - (b) Safety Equipment
        - (c) Medical and Rescue gear
    - c) Fueling
      - (1) Electrical System Off
      - (2) Engine compartment open
      - (3) Inspect bilge for odor / fuel
    - d) Post Operational Checklist
  2. Trailer Operation
    - a) Towing Dynamics
    - b) Safety / Failure
    - c) Tow Vehicle Ratings
    - d) Hitch types and Ball sizes
  3. Trailer / Vessel inspection
    - a) Pre-operations Check
    - b) Inspection Sheet
    - c) Maintenance
  4. Maneuvering the Trailer
    - a) Hitching and Unhitching
    - b) Forward and Backing Lane Change Cone Pattern
    - c) Forward and Backing Serpentine Cone Pattern
    - d) Launch Ramp U-turn

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**V. Vessel Launch and Recovery**

- **Instructor Lecture / Presentation / Demonstration / Handouts / Open Course Operations Launch Ramp.**
- **Student Assessment / Practical Evaluation Operational Inspections, Open Course Behind the Wheel Operations Vehicle with Vessel on Trailer / Launch and Recovery of Vessel.**

1. Launch The Vessel

- a) Pre-Launch check list
- b) Bilge Plug
- c) Straps and Tie- Downs
- d) Disconnects
- e) Pre-start Checklist
- f) Check Water Depth
- g) Back down until vessel floats
- h) Visual Inspection of drive unit
- i) Start vessel
- j) Back vessel off trailer and secure to dock
- k) Rinse trailer, Park and secure tow vehicle

2. Recovering Vessel

- a) Back Trailer to proper depth
- b) Slowly maneuver vessel onto trailer using bunks as guides
- c) Secure bow to winch
- d) Slowly pull trailer and vessel out of water
- e) Remove bilge plug
- f) Secure tie downs and disconnects
- g) Check light operations
- h) Post vessel operations check list

**VI. Deck Hand and Coxswain Patrol Responsibilities**

- **Instructor Lecture / Presentation / Demonstration / Handouts / On Vessel Operations**
- **Student Assessment / Practical Evaluation Operational Responsibilities**

1. Role Clarification

- a) Operator - Coxswain
- b) Contact Officer
- c) Cover Officer / Lookout

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2. Risk Assessment for overall Patrol assignment Safety of Patrol and Others
  - a) Accept no unnecessary risk
  - b) Make risk decisions at the appropriate level
  - c) Accept necessary risk when benefit outweigh cost
  
3. Marlin Spiking
  - a) Common Knots and terminology
  - b) Tying Off lines and connections

**VII. Basic Boating Law Enforcement Stop Techniques**

- **Instructor Lecture / Presentation / Demonstration / Handouts / On Vessel Operations**
- **Student Assessment / Practical Evaluation on Vessel Operations**

1. Enforcement Stops
  - a) Establish Initial Contact
  - b) Tactical Considerations
    - (1) Officer safety
    - (2) Vessel Approach
      - (a) Maneuvering to enforce stop
      - (b) Hostile Persons / Force options
      - (c) Failure to yield - Pursuit
    - (3) Crew Responsibilities
      - (a) Control of Stopped Vessel
      - (b) Subject - Suspect Control
      - (c) Citation Procedures – Arrest Techniques
    - (4) Water / Weather Conditions
    - (5) Vessel / Equipment Limitations

**VIII. Basic Boating Operational skills / Seamanship / Towing**

- **Instructor Lecture / Presentation / Demonstration / Handouts**
- **Student Assessment / Practical Evaluation Operational Skills, Use of Equipment, Behind the Helm / Wheel operations,**

1. Weather and Environmental Stress
  - a) Weather Warnings
    - (1) Criteria for warnings
    - (2) Sources of weather information
    - (3) Weather Systems Characteristics
  
2. Uniform / Equipment for different weather and patrol operations

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- a) Environmental protections / risk and hazards of exposure in a marine environment / risk assessment for patrol planning, choice of PFD and exposure gear.
  
- 3. Environmental Stress
  - a) Risk of extended exposure in a marine environment
    - (1) Cumulative effects on safety and performance
    - (2) Fatigue
    - (3) Motion Sickness – Balance and stability
    - (4) Noise Exposure
    - (5) Sun exposure and Glare
    - (6) Personal Stressors , Hydration, exposure, stress
  - b) Heat / Cold Related illnesses / emergencies
    - (1) Hyperthermia / Heat Cramps, Exhaustion, Stroke
    - (2) Hypothermia / Cold – Body Core temperatures levels at Range of Temperatures
  
- 4. Electronics / Navigation / Operational Lights / Communications
  - a) Navigation
    - (1) Systems Differences / GPS / Sonar / Radar
    - (2) Basic Operations and use
    - (3) Setting and storing routes / Data points
    - (4) Fuel / Range Capabilities
  - b) Aids to Navigation
    - (a) Purpose of an aid to navigate, Beacons, Buoys, Appliances used on aids, Lateral System of buoyage.
    - (b) Charts
      - (i) Latitude – Longitude, Depth, Symbols, Structures, Objects, Land Marks
  - c) Day / Night Operations
    - (1) Safety Underway,
    - (2) Use of Navigation equipment and Lights,
    - (3) Operational Lights,
    - (4) Unitrol Control head,
    - (5) Overhead lights / take downs/ spots,
    - (6) Siren and Horn,
    - (7) Running / Mooring lights
  - d) Communications,
    - (1) Patrol Radio,
    - (2) VHF ,
    - (3) Channel selection / Hailing,
    - (4) Coast Guard ,
    - (5) Vessel To Vessel
  
- 5. Vessel Maneuvering
  - a) Low Speed Handling
    - (1) Respond to Helm, Power, Prop/Jet/ Steering ( use together)

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- (2) Motion Characteristics / Vessel respond to power.
  - (a) Forward Motion
  - (b) Coming to a Stop
  - (c) Backing / Reverse Motion
  - (d) Turns
  - (e) Docking
  - (f) Bow In approaches
  - (g) Holding in place
  - (h) Approaching Broadside "Coming Along" to vessel or object
  - (i) Beaching / On and Off shore approach and Egress
- b) High speed Handling
  - (1) Transition Slow maneuvering to On Plane Operations "Coming Up"
    - (a) Steering Set / Power / Forward motion (use together)
    - (b) Obtaining Plane Speed
      - (i) Power control
      - (ii) Use of Trim
    - (c) Steering
  - c) Powering Down
    - (1) Controlling Motion to low speed maneuvering
      - (a) Steering
      - (b) Water conditions / Wake effect
  - d) Anchoring
    - (1) Line Length / Chain / Type of Anchor
    - (2) Shore line anchor
- 6. Towing
  - a) Vessel Towing
    - (1) Long Tow
    - (2) Side tow
  - b) Assess Risk / Conditions (Water / Vessel)
  - c) Tow Line and Connections
  - d) Safe speed and tow line distance
  - e) Use of Lights

**IX. Boating Under the Influence Enforcement**

- **Instructor Lecture / Presentation / Demonstration / Handouts**
  - **Student Assessment / Practical Evaluation Operational Awareness, Procedures and Use of Equipment to Determine Boating Under the Influence.**
1. Probable Cause / Reasonable Suspicion Stops
  2. Officer Safety
  3. On View Observations Operator / Skier
  4. Investigative Sequence / Subject Control / Interview
  5. On water Field Sobriety Exercises / Arrest / Subject Safety

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6. PAS Device
7. Applicable Codes
8. Release / Seize of Vessel / Other subjects
9. Mutual Aid / Hand Over from On View Officer

**X. Emergency Operations**

- **Instructor Lecture / Presentation / Demonstration / Handouts**
- **Student Assessment / Practical Evaluation Operational Awareness, In Water Rescue Operations, Behind the Helm Operations.**

1. Patrol Assignments
  - a) Department Directives
  - b) Area Security Details
    - (1) Events, Emergencies, Security
2. Water Survival
  - a) Officer Safety
  - b) Swim assessment, Self-rescue, PFD
    - (1) Swim 100 yards, under water swim, tread water, float,
    - (2) PFD deployment
3. Search and Rescue
  - a) Search Patterns
  - b) Communications
  - c) Capsizing / Sinking
  - d) Victim Rescue / Deep Water Recoveries
    - (1) Conscious , Unconscious, Panic subject , Significant injury , C-spine, CPR
  - e) Dive Operations
  - f) Body Recoveries
  - g) Evidence
  - h) Man over board
4. Investigations
  - a) Accident
    - (1) Reportable / Jurisdictions / Inter department roles
    - (2) Notifications
    - (3) Forms
  - b) Response to Fire
    - (1) Fire Principles
      - (a) Triangle / Tetrahedron
    - (2) Class of fires and extinguishing agents
      - (a) A, B, C and D Fires
    - (3) Primary cause

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- (a) Engine, Galley, Spontaneous, Hot work, Electrical
- (4) Law Enforcement Response / Mutual aid / Notifications / Secure area / Save Life
  - (a) Approach to vessel / On Water / At Dock
  - (b) Primary to Save Life
  - (c) Assist Fire Personal
- c) Hazardous Materials Response
  - (1) Observations Safe Distance / Current / Wind
  - (2) Notifications
    - (a) Request Resources / Containment Response / Clean up
  - (3) Secure area
    - (a) Contain problem if possible
    - (b) Assist with Boom deployment
  - (4) Documentation
    - (a) Required Reports

**XI. Course Evaluations**

- **Instructor / Presentation / Handouts**
  - **Student / Feedback , Oral and Written Evaluation of Course.**
1. Feedback
    - a) Instructor
    - b) Student
  2. Written Evaluations
  3. Course Completion Certificates