

Information Letter No. 01-06

DATE: June 15, 2006

TO: California Boating Law Enforcement Agencies –
Training Coordinators

FROM: DBW Law Enforcement Training Unit

SUBJECT: Program Updates

1. Mary Thomas has been assigned to oversee the Law Enforcement Training Unit. In addition to the Training Program, she will be overseeing the Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund (AWAF). She has been with the Department for 6 years and has spent 5 years working in the training unit. You may contact her directly at (916) 263-8185 or by email at: mthomas@dbw.ca.gov
2. Suzi Betzler will be handling the Master Certificate Program, including the challenge process. Suzi has been assigned to the Enforcement Unit for 3 years. In addition, Suzi handles training registration, the certification process for all Department courses, distributing law enforcement materials (California Boating Law books and enforcement code quick reference books) and is the Enforcement Unit's support staff. You may contact her directly at (916) 263-8183 or by email at: sbetzler@dbw.ca.gov
3. Effective January 2007, the Department will begin charging a **\$50.00 late cancellation fee if received seven (7) calendar days or less before the first day of the class and a \$100.00 fee for no-shows** for the following courses: *Basic Boating Safety & Enforcement, Boating Under the Influence, Accident Investigation & Reconstruction and Personal Watercraft*. **Agencies with students who fail to show will be unable to attend any Department sponsored trainings for a period of three (3) years.**
4. Due to low attendance, Basic Boating Safety and Enforcement has been reduced to three course offerings: Sacramento, Clear Lake and Long Beach.

5. Effective January, 2007, non-POST reimbursable agencies requesting reimbursement through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) program will be required to submit a copy of the Enrollment & Material Fee Receipt for each student in addition to all other required documentation. Per Diem expenses are reimbursed according to POST Plan 4 guidelines. Please refer to our website at: www.dbw.ca.gov for further detailed information on this process.
6. The Department is currently working with law enforcement agencies to develop an Advanced Accident Investigation Course. We are striving to offer a pilot course in the spring of 2007, and make it available on the 2008-09 training calendar.
7. Beginning April, 2007 the Basic Accident Investigation and Reconstruction course previously held at Lake Tulloch in Calaveras County will now be offered at Konocti Harbor in Lake County.
8. The United States Coast Guard offers a Marine Patrol Officer Course (MPOC) each year at the US Coast Guard Maritime Law Enforcement Academy, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) facility in Charleston, South Carolina. The course mission is to prepare boating safety professionals to instruct fellow law enforcement officers and the public in boating safety and to standardize training in the maritime law enforcement arena in response to the boating public while ensuring educational efficiency in the delivery process. Each year, the Department is offered a few spots for California Peace Officers having **less than seven (7) years** experience in the boating safety field to attend. The Coast Guard will provide no-cost lodging and meals at the academy. **Selected** agencies are responsible for funding the student's transportation to the Academy; however, the Department will reimburse a maximum of \$1,000.00 for travel expenses. For more information, please contact Mary Thomas.