MEMORANDUM

From: F. T. BOROSS, CAPT COMDT (CG-BSX)  

To: Distribution

Subj: LIFE JACKET LOANER PROGRAM

Ref: (a) Auxiliary Manual, COMDTINST M16790.1 (series)  
     (b) National Recreational Boating Safety Program Strategic Plan

1. PURPOSE. In accordance with reference (a) and in furtherance of reference (b), Strategic Directive #4, to increase life jacket wear rates nationwide, this promulgation letter establishes the Life Jacket Loaner Program as an authorized Auxiliary activity. Auxiliarists may be assigned to duty to support this program.

2. ACTION. Elected and appointed leaders and program managers at all levels of the Auxiliary organization who oversee, direct, or participate in the administration, training and activities of the Life Jacket Loaner Program are to adhere to the procedures and guidelines established in enclosure (1). Internet release authorized.

3. DISCUSSION. The goal of this program is to increase life jacket wear during water-based activities as well as to educate the boating public on the importance of proper use and fit. Research shows that most drowning fatalities would have been prevented if the victim had been wearing a life jacket. The Life Jacket Loaner Program promotes the availability and use of life jackets by the general public while establishing associated maintenance and record keeping standards. Included in the SOP is a waiver to reduce any liability for the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

#

Encl: (1) Life Jacket Loaner Program Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines

Dist: ANSC, NACO, VNACO, DNACO-RBS, ANACO-CC, ANACO-RB, DIR-V