

WINTER HAVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER 41.8

MARINE OPERATIONS

ACCREDITATION STANDARDS: CALEA – 41.1.3; CFA –14.13

EFFECTIVE DATE: JUNE 7, 2000

RESCINDS: G.O. 41.8 May 23, 2013 and all applicable Amended/Temporary Orders prior to January 5, 2018.

LAST REVISED DATE: January 5, 2018

CONTENTS

This General Order contains the following numbered sections:

- I. Use of Vessel
 - II. Water Patrol
 - III. Definitions
-

POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Winter Haven Police Department to utilize and maintain a vessel for specialized functions such as patrolling the waterways.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this General Order is to establish the guidelines for use of the Department's vessel and outline the qualifications for members who operate it.

SCOPE

This General Order shall apply to all Department members.

PROCEDURE

- I. **Use of Vessel**
 - A. The operation of the vessel shall be by a member who is authorized by the Uniform Services Bureau Commander or their designee. The member shall be familiar with the specialized operating characteristics of the vessel and shall have received training in its usage and operation. (CALEA 41.1.3a, b)
 - B. Requests for the vessel shall be coordinated through the Uniform Services Bureau Commander or their designee. The member operating the vessel shall have sole authority over the mission and shall consider weather, experience and vessel capability, in continuing the mission.

- C. The Uniform Services Bureau Commander or their designee is responsible for the periodic and scheduled maintenance of the vessel. (CALLEA 41.1.3c)
- D. The vessel shall be equipped in accordance with United States Coast Guard (USCG) regulations, pertaining to vessel class. Additionally, the vessel shall have, at a minimum the following equipment: (CALEA 41.1.3d)
 - 1. One class ABC fire extinguisher;
 - 2. One paddle;
 - 3. One throwable floatation device;
 - 4. First aid kit;
 - 5. Docking lines;
 - 6. Tow lines;
 - 7. Portable radio equipment on board to communicate with the Communications Division and other police units;
 - 8. A blue light, siren and PA; and (CALEA 41.1.4f)
 - 9. One personal flotation device (PFD) for each person on board. The PFD shall be worn while the vessel is underway or engaged in any water operations, except at anchor.

II. Water Patrol

- A. The use of the vessel is to patrol the inland waterways of the City to discern criminal activity and/or unusual occurrences, which includes, but not limited to the following: (CFA 14.13)
 - 1. Boaters operating their vessel under the influence (BUI);
 - 2. Search and rescue; and
 - 3. Enforcing the boating laws and regulations of the State of Florida.

III. Definitions

- A. *USCGA* – Acronym for the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.
- B. *Vessel* – For the purpose of this directive the term vessel shall mean any type of water borne craft, which is owned, rented or leased for use by the Department.

APPROVED 

Charles E. Bird
CHIEF OF POLICE