

D1N AUXILIARY SUPPORT THE SECTOR SOUTHEAST NEW ENGLAND AMSTEP EXERCISE

David Cabral ADSO-EM Sector Southeast New England

On 14 and 15 June 2023, Sector Southeast New England held its annual Area Maritime Security Training and Exercise Program (AMSTEP) Full Scale Exercise in Newport, Rhode Island. This year the scenario was "Active Shooter on the Block Island Ferry". The USCG, with the participation of various agencies, responded to the simulated active shooter incident on the ferry, allowing all agencies to effectively plan to respond and recover from large scale incidents.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Rhode Island State Police, Rhode Island Department of Health, Bristol Police and Fire Departments, Jamestown Police and Fire Departments, Narragansett Fire and Police Departments, Newport Police and Fire Departments, Newport Harbor Master, North Kingston Fire and Police Departments, North Kingston Harbor Master, Portsmouth Police Department, Warwick Police Department, the Rhode Island Fast Ferry, and Salve Regina University all participated in this exercise.

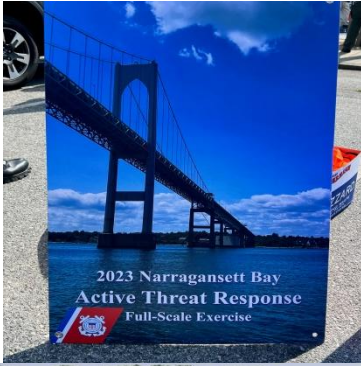
On 14 June, 24 Auxiliarists from various flotillas in Rhode Island and Massachusetts provided support to USCG. Several Auxiliarists even traveled two hours to participate. Three Facilities from Division 7, D1N provided a safety zone patrol around the ferry while the various organizations involved responded to the incident. Twelve Auxiliarists were role players as victims and passengers on the ferry and two Auxiliarists remained onshore in administrative support roles.

On 15 June, the USCG held a Command Post Exercise at Salve Regina University using the active shooter on the ferry scenario from 14 June. Five Auxiliarists participated in this ICP exercise and were assigned to the Resources Section, the Operations Section, the Plans Section, the Joint Information Center, and as an assistant Liaison Officer.

The 24 Auxiliarists provided direct support to the exercise, but many Auxiliary Officers also provided critical indirect support such as finding and coordinating volunteers to bring this exercise to fruition; D1N EM Staff, District OP Staff, Sector Coordinators, Division and Flotilla Officers all had a hand in getting the word out and securing volunteers. Without their help, the exercise would not have been a success. All the Auxiliarists greatly appreciated the Active Duty personnel who allowed the Auxiliary to support the exercise, and for treating them as full members of the USCG team.

Members interested in learning more about opportunities in emergency management should reach out to the ADSO-EM for your Sector. General information and qualification resources are also available at the National [Emergency Management and Disaster Response](#) website.

14 Jun Photos:



Auxiliary Facility "K.C." Christopher Lawrence, Flotilla 013-07-02



Auxiliarist Don Grace playing the role of a victim



USCG and Law Enforcement responding to the incident



Post Exercise "Hot Wash"



USCG Law Enforces Response Team in action



USCG Law Enforcement Response Team



Local Law Enforcement Response Team



15 June, Incident Command Post Exercise
L-R: Peter Garland, David Cabral, Brian Smith,
Greg Fowler and Kosta Lambros