LOWER COLUMBIA REGION
HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee
Harbor Safety Plan | Chapter 16

Medical Emergencies Aboard Ships at Anchor

CHANGE LOG:

Changes Made	Sub-Committee	Date Approved
	Harbor Safety Plan Review Committee	

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1. Purpose

This section is intended to fill a perceived gap between USCG Search and Rescue (SAR) procedures and shoreside Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for vessels anchored in the Columbia River.

Often, the quickest way for shipboard personnel to receive professional medical care is for a commercial launch service or tugboat to transport the crewmember to an ambulance, dispatched to the nearest dock.

2. Overview

Shipboard emergency medical care is performed by the ship's crew. If professional medical care is required, USCG Sector Columbia River and the ships agent should be notified immediately.

a. The USCG Flight Surgeon is available to provide guidance to:
   i. Stabilize the patient until USCG arrives by boat or helicopter.
   ii. Recommend the patient be transported by quickest means to shoreside EMS.
b. The ship's agent should arrange commercial transportation for professional medical care.
c. If the patient is to be transported by commercial launch, a qualified crewmember should attend to the medical care during transit and if necessary, a second crewmember to act as translator with the shoreside EMS personnel.

d. It should be clear that in emergency situations, the safety of personnel is the priority.
e. The closest Customs and Border Protection (CBP) office is to be notified at the earliest opportunity if foreign crew members are transported ashore.
f. Foreign crewmembers should bring copies of their passports. Actual passports are to remain aboard the ship.

3. Considerations for contacting Emergency Services

The following tables provide information about the nearest berths to each anchorage that have been designated as "preferred" by the launch services due to accessibility for their vessels.

a. Select the berth from the list of preferred berths for the anchorage
b. For that berth, refer to the table with information on the emergency services available. Different jurisdictions may have different rules or requirements for emergencies on board a ship at anchor.

4. Preferred Docks for Launch Transfer to EMS Ambulance

This table provides the nearest berth for each designated anchorage where a launch could be boarded. For details on each berth, including nearest fire agency, refer to Emergency Services Information for Preferred Berths in section (5).

Designated Anchorage	Nearest Berth (preferred berths for launch access, medical emergency)
Astoria North Anchorage Between River Miles 14.0 and 17.8	Astoria, 17th St. pier (RM 14.5)
Astoria South Anchorage Between River Miles 15.0 and 18.2	Astoria, 17th St. pier (RM 14.5)

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Designated Anchorage	Nearest Berth (preferred berths for launch access, medical emergency)
Longview Anchorage Between River Miles 64.0 and 66.0	Willow Grove (RM 60) Rainier boat launch (RM 68)
Cottonwood Island Anchorage Between River Miles 66.7 and 71.2	Rainier boat launch (RM 68) Kalama Marina (RM 75)
Prescott Anchorage Between Columbia River Miles 72.1 and 72.5	Rainier boat launch (RM 68) Kalama Marina (RM 75)
Kalama Anchorage Between River Miles 73.2 and 76.2	Rainier boat launch (RM 68) Kalama Marina (RM 75)
Woodland Anchorage Between River Miles 83.6 and 84.3	Kalama Marina (RM 75)
Henrici Bar Anchorage Between River Miles 91.6 and 93.9	Kalama Marina (RM 75) PoP Berth 603 (RM 102.6)
Lower Vancouver Anchorage Between River Miles 96.2 and 101.0	Kalama Marina (RM 75) PoP Berth 603 (RM 102.6) PoV Berth 10 (RM 104)
Kelley Point Anchorage Between River Miles 101.6 and 102.0	PoP Berth 603 (RM 102.6) PoV Berth 10 (RM 104) Cathedral Park (Willamette RM 6)
Upper Vancouver Anchorage Between River Miles 102.57 and 105.20	PoP Berth 603 (RM 102.6) PoV Berth 10 (RM 104) Vancouver Landing (RM 106.3)

5. Emergency Services Information for Preferred Berths

    a. The following table provides information about how best to obtain emergency services to the Preferred Berths detailed in the table above.

    b. Note that most ambulance service providers WILL NOT leave their rig to provide care or transport to personnel who are on a ship at anchor.

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Dock Name	Address / County	EMS Contact	Notes
Astoria Area			
17th St. pier	1792 Marine Dr. Astoria, OR Clatsop County	Clatsop 911	Astoria Fire will board vessel and will take launch to ship at anchor.
Crim's Island Area			
Willow Grove	6105 Willow Grove Rd. Longview, WA Cowlitz County	Cowlitz 911	Longview Fire will respond to a vessel at berth but will not board a ship at anchor. Cowlitz 2 will usually respond to a vessel at berth, but not likely to take a launch to reach a ship at anchor.
Longview Area			
Rainier Boat Launch	48 W. 7th St. Rainier, OR Columbia County	Columbia 911	CRF&R will respond to a vessel at berth and would take launch to ship at anchor if deemed safe for responders.
Kalama Area			
Kalama Marina	110 W. Marine Dr. Kalama, WA Cowlitz County	Cowlitz 911	Cowlitz 5 will board a vessel at berth and will take launch to ship with pre-boarding safety briefing.
Anchorage Launch Terminal	805 N. Hendrickson Dr., Kalama, WA Cowlitz County	Cowlitz 911	Cowlitz 5 will board a vessel at berth and will take launch to ship with

Dock Name	Address / County	EMS Contact	Notes
			pre-boarding safety briefing.
Portland Area			
Berth 603	Port of Portland, Terminal 6 7201 N. Marine Dr. Portland, OR 97203 Multnomah County	BOEC	Portland Fire & Rescue will respond to a vessel at berth and will assist a vessel at anchor using one of their response boats.
Cathedral Park	8940 N. Bradford St. Portland, OR Multnomah County	BOEC	Portland Fire & Rescue will respond to a vessel at berth and will assist a vessel at anchor using one of their response boats.
Vancouver Area			
Vancouver Landing	Port of Vancouver, Terminal 1 100 Columbia St. Vancouver, WA Clark County	CRESA	Vancouver Fire will board a vessel at berth and will take launch to ship at anchor but would prefer to use their own fire boat.
Berth 10	Port of Vancouver, Terminal 4 3103 NW Lower River Rd. Vancouver, WA Clark County	CRESA	Vancouver Fire will board a vessel at berth and will take launch to ship at anchor but would prefer to use their own fire boat.

*Note: Different docks may be used if transfer is made by tug boat due to freeboard and accessibility requirements.

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6. Dispatch Information for Emergency Services Providers

The following table includes information for reaching each Emergency Services Provider through their public safety answering points (PSAPs).

a. The phone numbers listed will reach their 911 center. Actually dialing 911 may not route you to your desired PSAP, depending on your location when making the call.

DISPATCH AGENCY	CONTACT PHONE NUMBER	AGENCIES REPRESENTED
CRESA (Clark Regional Emergency Service Agency)	(360) 696-4461	Vancouver Fire Department
Cowlitz 911	(360) 577-3076	Longview Fire Cowlitz 2 Cowlitz 5
Columbia 911	(503) 397-1521	Columbia River Fire and Rescue
Clatsop 911	(503) 325-4411	Astoria Fire
BOEC (Bureau of Emergency Communications)	(503) 823-1901	Portland Fire & Rescue