



# Personal Watercraft for Law Enforcement Course Overview

## Course Overview

In accordance with the NASBLA Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Program, the following outline provides a course of instruction to give maritime law enforcement and emergency responders, **with proficient boating**

**skills**, a comprehensive framework in order to become more proficient with specialized skills necessary to operate **Personal Watercraft** in the maritime Law Enforcement environment. A key element of this course will be the preparation of participants to become qualified in the tasks necessary for response to maritime safety and security operations, and Coast Guard/FEMA recognition in the national qualification database maintained by and through NASBLA.



The three day (24 hour) course will focus on the elements in the following qualification areas

Section	Subject Area
A	PWC Basics, Nomenclature, Safety Considerations
B	PWC Handling at slow and high speed
C	Off Throttle Steering
D	Advanced PWC Operations and Hazard Mitigation
F	PWCLE Intercepts
G	Evasive Maneuvering
H	Operation around and recovery of persons in the water Trailering
I	PWCLE vs PWC Intercepts and Pursuits
J	PWC Interruption Tactics

## Method of Delivery

Students will operate within a controlled environment with an emphasis on “hands-on” operational training. The course is delivered using “team teaching” as the model, where all instructors are engaged in every module within the course, under the operational command of a Lead Instructor.

## Criteria Performance Standard

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will demonstrate mastery of the objectives outlined in each module through a compilation of measures including objective testing, scenario review, class discussion, practical activities and homework.



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### Terminal Performance Objectives

After 24 hours of instruction, the student will;

- **Operate a Personal Watercraft**  
*Given a directive to patrol and conduct LE operations utilizing a Personal Watercraft, independently and in conjunction with other units, under various sea conditions and at high speeds; **Operate the LE PWC in a safe and efficient manner.***
- **Vessel Control**  
*Given a directive to intercept a Non-Compliant PWC (NCPWC), independently and in conjunction with other units, under various sea conditions at high speeds; **Intercept and Approach Target PWCs.***
- **Vessel Control**  
*Given a directive to pursue a Non-Compliant PWC (NCPWC), independently and in conjunction with other units, under various sea conditions at high speeds; **CONTROL the LE PWC , MANEUVER into an Optimum Pursuit Position (OPP), and perform associated standard pursuit maneuvers to include wake crossing, echelons, and outside loops.***
- **UOF Against a NCPWC**  
*Given a directive to pursue a Non-Compliant PWC (NCPWC), independently and in conjunction with other units and under various sea conditions at high speeds; **STOP a non-compliant PWC***



### Target Audience

The class is designed to provide federal, state, county, local and tribal law enforcement officers and first responders in the maritime domain the knowledge and skills to perform PWC operations in a safe and efficient manner, under a national curriculum. Students who seek this specialized training must have advanced boating skills (required) - some PWC operational experience is preferred, but not a prerequisite.

### Course Structure

The course consists of instructor lecture, which will be aided (and assisted) by slide presentations, class interaction, practical exercises, a knowledge test and final exam. The instructor will emphasize student interaction and discussion throughout the course to ensure that the information taught is being understood and can be applied in a real-world environment.

### Class Size/Student to Instructor Ratio

The minimum class size is 12 students; the maximum class number is 20. Instructors for each class will meet a maximum of 4 students per instructor for each class (4 to 1 Student to Instructor Ratio.)



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### Course Requirements and Materials Provided

Students will be required to bring appropriate foul weather gear, helmets, sunscreen and appropriate clothing for the climate at the time of the training, with consideration for extended operational training days.



Agencies participating/attending the training will provide 3 PWCs for every 4 students it is sending to the training in order for all to have adequate operational time to learn and apply the skills within a “hands on” learning environment.

NASBLA will provide each student with a “Student Handbook” complete with every slide and reference material they can use for future application and reference. Additionally, students who would like copies of the modules will be allowed access to the “Instructor Portal” to facilitate the sharing of information.

NASBLA will, within 30 days of successful completion of the course, issue a certificate from NASBLA’s National Headquarters in Lexington, KY and the attendees will be entered into a national database of trained Airboat Operators.

### Facility Requirements

In order to deliver the course, a classroom area will have to be provided that will seat at tables up to 40 people. Additionally, the classroom will require a projector a screen, a whiteboard and/or easel boards with paper, writing instruments, power cords, sound speakers, bathroom facilities, and dock space for vessels in close proximity to the classroom.

### Course Cost

The fee for the three day/24 hour course is \$23,500 for 20 students, and covers all instructor costs (travel, per diem, fees, etc.) administrative costs (certificates, database entry, etc.) and materials (student handbooks, practical exercise materials, etc.) Fee for classes of less than 20 students will be quoted on a case by case basis.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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