



***Law Enforcement Training and Certification Committee
2021 - 2022 Committee Charges and Membership***

Lt. Jason Luce (ME) – Chair

FINAL REPORT – August 12, 2022

NASBLA Enforcement & Training Committee Charter

The Enforcement & Training Committee will work to advance boating safety by researching and disseminating information on new techniques and technologies for marine law enforcement officers; developing training and certification programs; and addressing boating under the influence issues.

These tasks will be addressed through the work of two subcommittees: Training & Certification and Enforcement Techniques & Technology.

Committee 2018 - 2022 Vision Statement:

To assist this committee in charting the necessary building blocks and progressive charges over the next five years, this committee has developed several strategic elements. These elements will become the guideposts in all charges developed over the five-year period. Each committee cycle will define the objectives/charges that will promote the strategic elements and help define the actionable goals for each committee work year.

- 1. Promote the adoption of the BOAT Program in all states and territories.*
- 2. Maintain national training standards and third-party certification and acceptance consistent with and accepted by DHS. Promote those national standards in “all hazards” related legislation.*
- 3. Identify, study, and report to membership on emerging technology and applications for the maritime community of law enforcement and first responders.*
- 4. Assure that marine law enforcement has the tools, information, and messaging to reduce accidents, injuries, and fatalities within the recreational boating community.*
- 5. Assure that marine law enforcement is trained and ready to ensure the safety and security of America’s waterways and maritime community.*

LE_TC-2022-1 “Operation Dry Water”

“Evaluate and refresh all law enforcement guidance documents and templates being distributed by NASBLA’s Operation Dry Water”.

Sub Committee Chair: Adam Block

Michael Schipritt (RI) -Charge Leader

Working Group: Jason Beard, Joe Carro, Jeff Clausen, Luis Sosa

1. Review campaign resources and website updates.
2. Spotlight on another state agency or participating unit.
3. Check metrics on the awards – are they properly adjusted
4. Timeline check with Hannah on when materials would be ready for review

- ✓ **NEEDS STATEMENT:** Since the start of the Operation Dry Water campaign, recreational boater deaths with alcohol use listed as the primary contributing factor have decreased 27 percent (From 2008 - 2015). It is important for the law enforcement committee to continue to monitor and advise on the ODW campaign to ensure that the needs and wants of those implementing the campaign on the local, state, and federal level are being satisfied and the size and impact of the campaign continues to grow nationally.

(NASBLA: 2.1,2.2,3.2) (USCG: Initiative 1)

- ✓ **Outcome:** Operation Dry Water (ODW) is a **year-round boating under the influence awareness and enforcement campaign**. The 2022 national Operation Dry Water heightened awareness and enforcement three-day weekend took place July 2 – 4, 2022.
- ✓ ODW was funded for the 14th year through the National Nonprofit Organization Recreational Boating Safety Grant Program, administered by the United States Coast Guard. For the 2021-2022 award ODW received \$250,000.
- ✓ The 2022 Enforcement and Training Committee worked with the ODW Project Manager, Taylor Matsko in reviewing all published guidance documents posted on the 2022 ODW website, with particular focus on Law Enforcement resource documents.
- ✓ At the time of this report over 523 agencies registered to participate during the enforcement weekend, <https://www.nasbla.org/operationdrywater/enforcement/participating-agencies> The map and state by state registrations truly reflect an impressive national effort, not just enforcing BUI violations, but enforcement officers on the water during such a heightened boating activity weekend, send a strong educational message to the recreational boating public.

- ✓ During the 2022 ODW year, NASBLA partnered with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), during a press conference to kick off the 2022 ODW; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfLYlSjTYxo> hosted by Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, on Percy Priest Lake, in Nashville, TN
- ✓ With just 381 agencies reporting activity results at the time of this report, we're already seeing a record number of BUI arrests. The final reporting data will be reported to the United States Coast Guard by mid-August and full data results will be available on the ODW website; <https://www.nasbla.org/operationdrywater/home>

Recommendation for ODW to remain a recurring charge

LE_TC-2022-2 “National Training Survey”

“Design and conduct a national training survey to determine recommendations for the NASBLA BOAT Advisory Board, for new course development in service of the NASBLA membership and the maritime law enforcement community”.

Josh Underwood - Charge Leader

Working Group: Luis Sosa, Joe Carro, Tom Edwards, Brooke Mitchell, Jason Beard, Dave Considine, Scott Kelly

Tasks:

1. Really need some new survey questions for 2021 (New members – new ideas)
2. Focus on micro-learning content
3. Committee call topic – before Holiday season. – Early December TELCON
4. Dave Considine has a contact that wants to help with Sonar training.
5. Survey out to membership by January 15th
6. How does internal accident injury data relate to training development

- ✓ **NEEDS STATEMENT:** A national survey to assess the training needs of NASBLA’s membership and the maritime law enforcement and public safety community is a valued priority. To support elements of the Recreational Boating Safety Strategic Plan, NASBLA and the BOAT Program’s Strategic Plans, a highly trained, qualified, and credentialed maritime law enforcement/public safety professional is an important and essential ingredient to our collective success. Training, and the competencies of the professionals that patrol America’s waterways, are directly related to the safety, security, and recreational enjoyment of those waterways. Results will be forwarded to the BOAT Advisory Board, for action.

- ✓ **Outcome:** Four the past four years the national training survey distributed by this committee was delivered exclusively to BLA's, with the request that the survey be forwarded to the appropriate person within their agency, responsible to training. The results showed little change other than a specific ask for NASBLA to develop an "Inland Boat Operator course". The request was answered and after two years in development the Inland Boat Operator and Marine Fundamentals course was tested and approved for export in 2022. The other recurring survey result repeatedly pointed towards development of micro-learning opportunities to be made available on NASBLA's Learning Management System (LMS). To date nine (9) videos are posted on the e-learning page. <https://training.nasbla.org/microlearning>
- ✓ Feedback from officers in the field is that they predominately use YouTube to access training videos, and several have requested that we also post any non-LE sensitive videos on the NASBLA YouTube channel.
<https://www.youtube.com/user/NASBLASafeBoating>
- ✓ The 2022 Training Survey questions have been reduced to focus on specific areas of concern, identified in the past:

*1. What courses are important to least rate 1-6 1 being the highest
TOC, PAS, EVOC, FBS, BUI, BAI*

2. From the BOAT courses NASBLA offers what is not listed you would like NASBLA to offer?

3. From the BOAT courses NASBLA offers what is listed you don't want to see offered?

4. Do you know where NASBLA keeps micro learning and how to access it?

5. Would you like to see micro learning on NASBLA's YouTube Channel?

6. What course can be developed to enhance the maritime officer in the field?

- ✓ A distribution list was compiled based on every student that has received a NASBLA course certificate of completion. The survey model was distributed to both students and BLA's to collect "deck plate" responses to the survey.
- ✓ At the time of this report the survey results reflect that we have received more than 380 responses. The survey results can be reviewed:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-ApUecafESatuywP_2FueIL6g_3D_3D/

- ✓ Once the survey model is closed, anticipated to close on September 1, 2022, the information captured will be addressed and utilized in any recommendations forwarded

to the NASBLA BOAT Program Director and to the BOAT Advisory Board for action.

- ✓ **Committee recommendation.** For the 2023 survey the Enforcement and Training committee would like to host a short session during the BLA Workshop utilizing the mobile polling system, to collect training needs and recommendations. NASBLA Committee staff will work on building the survey collection into the Spring Workshop.

(NASBLA: 1.2, 3.1, 3.2, 5.3) (USCG: Initiative 1)

The National Training Survey should remain a recurring charge

LE_TC-2022-3 Micro-learning development

Identify, produce, and publish micro learning modules in alignment with subject matter areas of interest as forward from the results of the National Training Survey.

Charge Leader: Wanda Roberts

Working Group: Carleton Richardson, Larry Meddock’s Friend, Joe Carro, Adam Block

1. Content? –Should we use the 2020 survey data?
2. Trailer and boat maintenance
3. How do we get members to film – even iphone footage (Unedited)
4. List to membership with an incentive by January 15th

- ✓ **NEEDS STATEMENT:** As more law enforcement agencies employ and expand their mission and response requirements, it has been recognized as a critical need for the law enforcement committee to identify and compile the “best practices” elements for development into a national training curriculum for marine officers. It is imperative that officers have quick and easy access to short crisp modules of learning to pinpoint their training needs. The goal of this committee will be to keep pace with areas of subject matter micro learning topics, producing a full catalog of topics as refresher or new areas of learning for the maritime officer.

(NASBLA: 2.6, 3.1) (USCG: Initiative 1)

- ✓ **OUTCOME:** The table below reflects the additional micro-learning videos produced during the 2022 Enforcement and Training cycle.

2021 listing videos

2022 listing videos

completed highlighted in
yellow

completed highlighted in
green

Micro-learning Video Topics:
Servicing trailer bearings
Care & maintenance of a trailer
Care & maintenance of lights
Care & maintenance of safety chains
Care & maintenance of bunks
Care & maintenance of wheels & tires
Care & maintenance of changing tube in grease gun
Vessel start up procedures – Electronics
Wireless kill switches – use and testing
Inflatable life jacket maintenance
Re-charge a type 5 inflatable
Small engine maintenance - Impellers
Small engine maintenance - lower unit oil changes
Small engine maintenance - propeller changes
Small engine maintenance - locking bracket while towing
Winterization for outboards
Daily boat checks, prior to departure
Rigging a tow line - Y-shaped harness
Rigging a tow line - Float to keep line out of prop
Placing a suspect in a life jacket with handcuffs
Placing a suspect in a life jacket without handcuffs
Operating at night – 360 degree circle of light
Tying knots
Wireless kill switches – Technology

- ✓ Working with NASBLA all the training videos identified will be posted on the NASBLA Website under the “Training” tab and entering the “E-Learning” portal.
- ✓ In addition to utilization of the E-learning portal, which is a feature of NASBLA’s Learning Management System (LMS) all non-law enforcement sensitive videos will also be available on the NASBLA YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/NASBLASafeBoating>

The Micro-Learning Charge should remain a recurring charge

LE_TT-2022-1 “Cut-Off Switch Wear”

“Evaluate the current number of marine law enforcement agencies within member organizations who have adopted a mandatory engine cut-off switch wear policy. Once a full understanding of agencies/organizations with a wear policy is obtained, the committee and the Techniques & Technology Subcommittee shall develop guidance for law enforcement to increase wear rates.”

Sub-Committee Chair: Joe Campbell

Brooke Mitchell - Charge Leader

Working Group: Jill Sims, Carleton Richardson, Joe Carro, Darren Kuhn, Steve Caldero

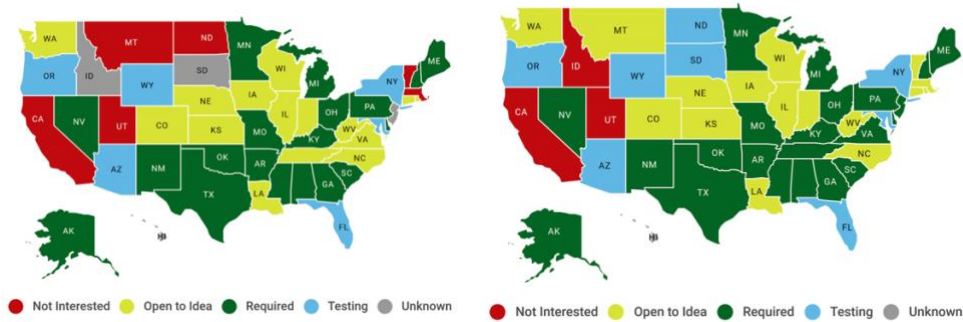
- ✓ **NEEDS STATEMENT:** Use of engine cut-off switches (ECOS) has been proven to aid in reducing and preventing both injuries and deaths within the boating community. Compliance in the use of ECOS devices remains low. It is the purpose of the law enforcement committee to gather information on compliance rates, policy mandates, and other relevant data just to assist law enforcement agencies with the development of policies and procedures for ECOS wear by officers while underway. The goal is to enhance officer safety as well as promote usage within the recreational boating community by example unless or until compliance is required by legislation.

(NASBLA: 3.1, 5.3) (USCG; Initiative 1)

- ✓ **OUTCOME:** As with several other areas severely impacted by the COVID19 pandemic, this survey fell victim to very few responses and many comments that members were sick of surveys and virtual meetings. In fact 87.5% of respondents said they were sick of surveys and wanted an alternative way to gather information.
- ✓ With the promise of a BLA Workshop in 2022 at the annual conference, this committee will to hold a informational work session on ECOS wear. The committee will continue to solicit language currently utilized in several states for the purpose of developing a model national policy template. Hopefully this effort will encourage more state support for ecos wear by enforcement officers.
- ✓ The ECOS map remained unchanged from the 2019-2021. The two maps below reflect significant progress made during the 2022 committee cycle:

2021 ECOS Map

2022 ECOS Map



- ✓ As the Enforcement and Training Charge group made progress during the 2022 committee cycle, there still appears to be obstacles within a number of states that remain either not interested, or are continuing a testing phase without further action.
- ✓ At the request of the committee chair, Jason Luce (ME) has secured a session at the 2022 Annual NASBLA conference during the “Members Items Workshop” on Tuesday September 27th @ 1:00PM. During this session the committee will explore existing barriers and provide resources for member agencies in adopting a mandatory ECOS policy for their officers.

This charge should be re-defined and recognized as a recurring charge

Committee project, not associated with a specific Charge:

During the March 4, 2022 in-person meeting held in Lexington, KY. Col. Chisholm Frampton suggested that the work and efforts of this committee, were not necessarily reaching agency decision makers. Col. Frampton offered to make a presentation to the Enforcement committee at the next AFWA meeting.

The following Power Point presentation was created Jason Luce (Chair) to support the AFWA Presentation on May 10, 2022. (See Attachment)

ATTACHMENT
2022
Enforcement and Training Committee

AFWA Presentation

- ✓ AFWA narrative written by Chair Jason Luce (ME)
- ✓ AFWA Power Point – Chair Jason Luce (ME)

NASBLA's Enforcement Training and Certification committee is one of 6 committees that works on making recreational boating safer for both the recreational boaters and marine law enforcement officers. This committee is made up of marine law enforcement officers from various states and territories, USCG representatives and members on the Marine trade industry.

NASBLA Enforcement Training and Certification Committee Charter is as follows:

The Enforcement Training and Certification Committee will work to advance boating safety by researching and disseminating information on new techniques and technologies for marine law enforcement officers; developing training and certification programs; and addressing boating under the influence issues.

There were several major accomplishments for the committee this past year. Highlights include:

- **2021 Operation Dry Water:** The committee provided COVID-19 precautionary guidance, which was distributed to participating enforcement agencies, and a "spotlight" article from North Carolina showcasing one agency's commitment to BUI enforcement, distributed through the Operation Dry Water newsletter. Operation Dry water continues grow in terms of participation and notoriety thanks to the partnership with the United States Coast Guard.
- **National Training Survey:** In addition to adding micro-learning segments, this charge pointed the way towards development of the "Inland Boat Operator & Marine Patrol Fundamentals Train the Trainer" course. Utilizing BOAT Program experts, the project has now been delivered after two rounds of BETA testing in Gilford, New Hampshire. This course is now being trained out to the states.

The Inland Boat Operator and Marine Patrol Fundamentals Train the Trainer course is designed to train marine law enforcement on single person/operator patrol. The committee played an instrumental role in creating the course. Committee members worked with NASBLA staff to come up with a great training program.

This committee is currently reaching out to States to see what trainings or ideas would benefit them moving forward. We are currently looking for new ideas to help steer this committee. If you have needs or ideas on training, please reach out to your BLA.

- **Micro-Learning Course Development:** The 2020-2021 committee working group led by Larry Furlong defined a list of topics based on a member survey. The topics were released to member states, who responded in submitting 12 new micro learning videos. All submissions are posted to the NASBLA eLearning page of the website. These micro learning videos a short and are great for use at your academies, boating schools or as a refresher for veteran officers.

- **Engine Cut-Off Switch Wear:** The committee has been reaching out to member states and territories on the use of engine cut-off switches. Engine cut-off switches have been proven to aid in reducing and preventing both injuries and deaths within the boating community however compliance in the use of engine cut-off devices remains low. The ultimate goal of the committee is getting all states and territories to have a policy or mandate to require all marine law enforcement to utilize an ECOS. The committee had a similar charge several years ago as it

pertained to a life jacket wear. As a result all 50 states and 6 US territories now require their marine law enforcement officers to wear a life jacket while on the water.

The committee also works with NASBLA to create model acts and policies. An example of a recent model is the Towed Water Sports Model Act.

•**Towed Water Sports Model Act:** Charged with updating the MODEL ACT FOR SAFE PRACTICES FOR BOAT-TOWED WATERSPORTS of 2007, it was decided to expand the charge in 2021 to include wake generated activities. The Model Act now includes the definitions of “Wake Surfing” and “Wake boat” and expands the operator responsibility for towed water sports and wake generated activities.

AFWA Power Point 5-10-22

NASBLA
2022 Enforcement and Training Committee

Jason Luce, Chair Maine
Warden Service

NASBLA Policy Committees

- Enforcement and Training
- Paddlesports
- Engineering, Reporting and Analysis
- Education and Outreach
- Vessel Identification, Registration and Titling
- Finance and Grants

Enforcement and Training Committee-- Mission

- Making recreational boating safer for both the recreational boaters and marine law enforcement officers.
- This committee is made up of Boating Law Administrators, and marine law enforcement officers from various states and territories, including USCG representatives and members on the Marine trade industry.

Enforcement and Training Committee- Charter

- ***The Enforcement Training and Certification Committee will work to advance boating safety by researching and disseminating information on new techniques and technologies for marine law enforcement officers; developing training and certification programs; and addressing boating under the influence issues.***

Enforcement and Training Committee- Accomplishments

- **Operation Dry Water:**
 - Committee provided COVID-19 precautionary guidance
 - Distributed to participating enforcement agencies
 - Published a "spotlight" article showcasing the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission's commitment to BUI enforcement
 - Distributed through the Operation Dry Water newsletter
 - Operation Dry Water continues to grow in terms of participation and notoriety thanks to the partnership with the United States Coast Guard.

2021 Operation Dry Water Weekend Results:

- Annual Report published to the Operation Dry Water website
 - www.operationdrywater.org

Total Agencies	575
Officers	7,518
Vessel Contacts	114,987
Boater Contacts	328,627
Citations	9,495
Total BUIs	638
Safety Warnings	32,947

Enforcement and Training Committee- Accomplishments

- National Training Survey:

- This charge pointed the way towards development of the "Inland Boat Operator & Marine Patrol Fundamentals Train the Trainer" course
- The committee is currently reaching out to States to see what training or ideas

would benefit them moving forward. We are currently looking for new ideas to help steer this committee.

If you have needs or ideas on training, please reach out to your BLA.

Enforcement and Training Committee- Accomplishments

- Inland Boat Operator and Marine Patrol Fundamentals:

- Designed to train marine law enforcement on single person/operator patrol.
- The committee played an instrumental role in creating the course.
- Committee members worked with NASBLA staff to come up with a great training program.

Enforcement and Training Committee- Accomplishments

- Micro-Learning Videos:

- Are created as micro-learning topics pulled from the national training survey, and are a part of NASBLA's Learning Management System (LMS).
- Videos can be viewed on the [NASBLA YouTube channel](#) or directly in NASBLA's Learning Center on the NASBLA website.
- Individual videos run 90 seconds or less.

Enforcement and Training Committee- Accomplishments

- Engine Cut-Off Switch Wear ECOS:

- The committee has been reaching out to member states and territories on the use of engine cut-off switches.
- Engine Cut-Off switches have been proven to aid in reducing and preventing both injuries and deaths within the boating community however compliance in the use of engine cut-off devices remains low.

Enforcement and Training Committee- Accomplishments

- ECOS – Continued:

- The ultimate goal of the committee is getting all states and territories to have a policy or mandate to require all marine law enforcement to utilize an ECOS.
- The committee had a similar charge several years ago as it pertained to life jacket wear.
 - As a result all 50 states and 6 US territories now require their marine law enforcement officers to wear a life jacket while on the water

Enforcement and Training Committee- Accomplishments

- Model Act Development:

- The committee also works with NASBLA to create model acts and policies. An example of a recent model is the "2021 Towed Water Sports Model Act".

Enforcement and Training Committee- Accomplishments

- 2021 Towed Water Sports Model Act:
- Charged with updating the MODEL ACT FOR SAFE PRACTICES FOR BOAT-TOWED WATERSPORTS of 2007, it was decided to expand the charge in 2021 to include wake generated activities.
- The Model Act now includes the definitions of “Wake Surfing” and “Wake Boat” and expands the operator responsibility for towed water sports and wake generated activities.

For More Information

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