

	<b>LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE POLICY</b>	<b>Number: G.O. 10.02</b>
		<b>Issue Date:</b> March 21, 2005
		<b>Revision Date:</b> July 15, 2008
<b>CHAPTER:</b> Specialized Operations		<b>Related Policy:</b> Marine Safety Law Enforcement Policy & Procedures Manual (MSLEPPM)
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Marine Patrol		<b>Related Laws:</b> ORS Chapters 830 & 704 OAR Chapter 250

**POLICY:** The Sheriff's Office will provide marine law enforcement services in accordance with the contract with the Oregon State Marine Board.

**RULE:** None

**PROCEDURE:**

- I. Duties of Deputies Assigned to Marine Law Enforcement Services, in Addition to Regular Duties of A Police Services Deputy:
  - A. Employment rights of deputies assigned under a contract for law enforcement services will not be abridged by the participating party.
  - B. Deputies assigned to marine patrol shall have the responsibility, in addition to their marine duties, to:
    1. Enforce the applicable provisions of ORS, Chapters 830 and 704.
    2. Enforce the applicable provisions of OAR, Chapter 250.
    3. Investigate complaints of boating law violations.
    4. Actively pursue Boating Under the Influence violations.
    5. Investigate boating accidents as specified in the Marine Safety Law Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual.
    6. Provide law enforcement examinations of boats.
    7. Alert the public to unsafe boating conditions.
    8. Provide assistance to boaters as warranted and provide water Search and Rescue services in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue program and consistent with the Marine Safety Law Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual.

9. Provide marine patrol coverage on all waters within county jurisdiction with a particular emphasis on those waters described in the annual contract.
10. Actively participate in youth/school and adult education safety programs.
11. Perform routine maintenance on boats and equipment assigned to the program and ensure all boats and equipment are maintained in good working condition by adhering to established preventative maintenance schedules.

II. Duties of Sergeant Assigned to Marine Law Enforcement Services, in Addition to Regular Duties:

- A. The marine sergeant will supervise deputies assigned to marine patrol and maintain current scheduling of deputy shifts, to include time off, training, etc.
- B. The marine sergeant will act as the liaison for Oregon State Marine Board/county administrative issues, coordinating the Sheriff's Office response to address needs identified by the Marine Board staff.
- C. The marine sergeant will prepare the annual contract for marine law enforcement services in coordination with the Oregon State Marine Board and the Sheriff's Office fiscal section. The marine sergeant will present prepared contracts for approval by the Sheriff's Office and Marine Board.
- D. The marine sergeant will ensure the program is operating within the terms of the contract and assigned personnel are adhering to the provisions of the Marine Safety Law Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual in carrying out their assigned duties.

III. Operation of Watercraft

- A. The State Marine Board provides watercraft (motor boats and non-motorized boats) for use by the county to perform marine patrol operations. The watercraft provided by the State Marine Board are owned by the State Marine Board and registered to the county while assigned to the county marine patrol program. For Sheriff's Office policy considerations, these watercraft are considered Sheriff's Office watercraft while assigned to the Sheriff's Office.
- B. State Marine Board policies and contract provisions require that persons operating State Marine Board watercraft attend State Marine Board watercraft operations training and possess a Boater Education Card.

- C. All Sheriff's Office watercraft and any watercraft operated in support of sheriff's office operations shall be operated in a safe and prudent manner and in accordance with state and local laws, Sheriff's Office policy and procedures, and judicial interpretation. Only authorized persons who possess a Boater Education Card will operate Sheriff's Office watercraft. No persons shall operate Sheriff's Office watercraft for an unauthorized purpose nor allow unauthorized use. Persons operating Sheriff's Office watercraft must wear an approved personal floatation device (PFD / life jacket) at all times and ensure all passengers wear an approved PFD at all times.

#### IV. Personal Watercraft (PWC) Operation

- A. Persons operating Sheriff's Office PWCs must have successfully participated in the State Marine Board's Mandatory Boater Education Program and have obtained a Boater Education Card issued by the State Marine Board. Additionally, on-water training addressing orientation and operational skills provided through the Sheriff's Office by certified marine patrol staff is required.
- B. Except for emergency circumstances, PWCs will only be operated during daylight hours and in conditions of good visibility unless the PWC is equipped with navigation lights that are compliant with OSMB regulations.
- C. PWCs used during routine patrol operations will only be used on flat waters. While use on rivers is not prohibited, use in white-water areas should only occur in emergency circumstances or rescue operations where other watercraft are not capable of operating. PWCs will not be operated in the Pacific Ocean or in surf / breaker conditions at or near a river bar(s) while a Small Craft Advisory or other coastal weather warning issued by the National Weather Service is in effect for the area of operation. Additionally, any time PWCs are operated in the ocean, they must operate in groups of at least two, and the operator(s) will have the appropriate supplemental equipment.
- D. PWCs are not to be used to actively pursue fleeing watercraft when a patrol boat is available to be the primary pursuing vessel. Any decision to use a PWC as a pursuit craft must be evaluated more critically given the limitations of the PWC as a law enforcement platform, and the overall circumstances. PWCs by design are a low visibility vessel and do not have the capability of customary emergency warning equipment. PWCs will not be used to pursue any vessel in ocean waters, unless supported by the USCG or another conventional boat or aircraft.