



For Immediate Release  
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## **U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 91 Launches Enhanced Safety Partnership Program for Fort Myers Beach Maritime Businesses**

**FORT MYERS BEACH, FL – February 16, 2026** – The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 91 is proud to announce the expansion of its **Recreational Boating Safety Outreach Directorate**, a dedicated initiative designed to eliminate boating-related accidents, injuries, and environmental impact through strategic local partnerships.

At the heart of this effort is the **Program Visitation Program**, where Auxiliary members serve as ambassadors to marinas, yacht clubs, boat rentals, and dealerships. By fostering a "culture of safety," the Flotilla provides local businesses with the tools they need to protect their customers and enhance their professional reputation.

"These value-added services increase the overall worth of our participating organizations while saving lives," said **Gary Martell, Flotilla Commander of Flotilla 91**. "This is a collaborative effort to create a safer, more informed boating community right here in Fort Myers Beach."

### **Partnering organizations receive a suite of complimentary services, including:**

- **Personalized Consultations:** A dedicated Program Visitor meets monthly with your team to address unique needs, safety concerns, and recent product recalls.
- **Specialized Safety Literature:** Access to high-quality, problem-specific resources that highlight overlooked boating risks.
- **Safety Workshops & Seminars:** On-site coordination for courses such as *Suddenly in Command* and the *Weekend Navigator*.
- **Public Education Opportunities:** The ability to host the *Boat America* class on responsible boating directly at your facility.
- **Boating Safety Days:** Interactive events featuring information sharing and free Vessel Safety Checks for your members and customers.

By participating in these programs, local maritime businesses ensure a special emphasis is placed on family safety, safeguarding children, and protecting all passengers who enjoy the Florida coastline. Interested facilities should contact Nick Lopresti, Marine Dealer Visitor Program Officer at 239-690-6780 option 3, or online at <https://www.aux91fmb.org/Value-Added-Services>

**About the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 91, Fort Myers Beach:** The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard. Flotilla 91 of Fort Myers Beach is dedicated to promoting boating safety through public education, vessel safety checks, and providing support to the U.S. Coast Guard in various missions, including search and rescue and environmental protection.

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Marina Safety Day

From left to right: Greg Masonick, James Fogle, Nick Kaveski, Mike Miller, Bill White, Lin McCaffrey

Delivering valuable information for local boaters and offering FREE Vessel Safety Checks.