



9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG-2017-0496]

Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of Federal Advisory Committee
Teleconference Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee working group will meet via teleconference to work on Task Statement 98, review of the progress made by the military services towards meeting the goals on the use of Military Education, Training, and Assessment for STCW and National Mariner Endorsements as identified in the Howard Coble Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014 and subsequent legislation, and to complete the discussions from its March 22-23 and May 16, 2017 meetings. The teleconference will be open to the public.

DATES: The Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee working group is scheduled to meet via teleconference on Wednesday, August 2, 2017, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Thursday, August 3, 2017, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Please note that this teleconference may

adjourn early if the working group has completed its business.

ADDRESSES: To join the teleconference, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section to obtain the needed information no later than 5 p.m. on July 24, 2017. The number of teleconference lines is limited and will be available on a first-come, first served basis. To physically join those participating from U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, it will be held in Room 5J16-15, 2703 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE, Washington, DC 20593-7509 (<http://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Director-of-Operational-Logistics-DOL/Bases/Base-National-Capital-Region/Visitor/>).

Pre-registration Information: Foreign nationals participating physically at the U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters will be required to pre-register no later than 4 p.m. on July 01, 2017. U.S. citizens participating physically at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters will be required to pre-register no later than 4 p.m. on July 24, 2017, to be admitted to the meeting. To pre-register, contact Lieutenant Junior Grade James Fortin at 202-372-1128 or james.l.fortin@uscg.mil with MERPAC in the subject line and provide your name, company, and telephone number; if a foreign national, also provide your country of

citizenship, and passport number and expiration date. All attendees will be required to provide a government-issued picture identification card in order to gain admittance to the building.

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact the Alternate Designated Federal Officer as soon as possible using the contact information provided in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

Instructions: You are free to submit comments at any time, including orally at the teleconference, but if you want working group committee members to review your comment before the meetings, please submit your comments no later than July 24, 2017. We are particularly interested in comments on the issues in the "Agenda" section below. You must include "Department of Homeland Security" and the docket number USCG-2017-0496 in your comment submission. Written comments may also be submitted using Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. If you encounter technical difficulties with comments submission, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document. Comments received will be posted without alteration at

<http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. You may review the Privacy Act Notice regarding the Federal Docket Management System in the March 24, 2005, issue of the Federal Register (70 FR 15086).

Docket Search: For access to the docket to read documents or comments related to this notice, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, type USCG-2017-0496 in the "Search" box, press Enter, and then click on the item you wish to view.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Junior Grade James Fortin, Alternate Designated Federal Officer of the Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee, 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE, Stop 7509, Washington, DC, 20593-7509, telephone 202-372-1128, fax 202-372-8385 or james.l.fortin@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee was established under authority of section 310 of the Howard Coble Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014, Title 46, United States Code, section 8108, and chartered under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, (Title 5, United States Code, Appendix). The Committee acts solely in an advisory capacity to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security through the Commandant of the Coast Guard on

matters relating to personnel in the United States merchant marine, including training, qualifications, certification, documentation, and fitness standards and other matters as assigned by the Commandant; shall review and comment on proposed Coast Guard regulations and policies relating to personnel in the United States merchant marine, including training, qualifications, certification, documentation, and fitness standards; may be given special assignments by the Secretary and may conduct studies, inquiries, workshops, and fact finding in consultation with individuals and groups in the private sector and with State or local governments; shall advise, consult with, and make recommendations reflecting its independent judgment to the Secretary.

Agenda

DAY 1

The agenda for the August 2, 2017, working group teleconference is as follows:

(1) The working group will meet briefly to discuss Task Statement 98 (All task statements can be found at <https://homeport.uscg.mil/merpac/>);

(2) Reports of working sub-groups. At the end of the day, the working sub-groups will report to the full working group on what was accomplished in their meetings. The full

working group will not take action as a result of this working group meeting; action will be taken on day 2 of the meeting.

(3) Public comment period.

(4) Adjournment of meeting.

DAY 2

The agenda for the August 3, 2017, working group teleconference is as follows:

(1) The working group will meet briefly to discuss Task Statement 98 (All task statements can be found at <https://homeport.uscg.mil/merpac/>);

(2) Reports of working sub-groups. The working sub-groups will report to the full working group on what was accomplished in their meetings. The full working group will not take action on these reports at this time. Any action taken as a result of this working group meeting will be taken after the public comment period.

(3) Public comment period.

(4) Preparation of the meeting report to the full Committee.

(5) Adjournment of meeting.

A copy of all meeting documentation will be available at <https://homeport.uscg.mil/merpac/>. Alternatively, you may contact Lieutenant Junior Grade James Fortin as noted

in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above.

A public comment period will be held during each day concerning matters being discussed. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to 3 minutes. Please note that the public comment periods will end following the last call for comments. Please contact Lieutenant Junior Grade James Fortin, listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section, to register as a speaker.

Please note that the teleconference may adjourn early if the work is completed.

Dated: June 20, 2017

J. G. Lantz,
Director of Commercial Regulations and Standards.

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