



**Billing Code No.: 4910-81-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Maritime Administration**

**[Docket No. MARAD-2019-0018]**

**Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel M/Y SERIOUS  
FREEDOM (53' Motor Vessel); Invitation for Public Comments**

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirements of the coastwise trade laws to allow the carriage of no more than twelve passengers for hire on vessels, which are three years old or more. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket Number MARAD-2019-0018 by any one of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Search MARAD-2019-0018 and follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- Mail or Hand Delivery: Docket Management Facility is in the West Building, Ground Floor of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The Docket Management Facility location address is: U.S. Department of Transportation, MARAD-2019-0018, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, West Building, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

*Note:* If you mail or hand-deliver your comments, we recommend that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a telephone number in the body of your document so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your submission.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and specific docket number. All comments received will be posted without change to the docket at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on submitting comments, see the section entitled **Public Participation**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bianca Carr, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Room W23-453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-9309, Email [Bianca.carr@dot.gov](mailto:Bianca.carr@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel M/Y SERIOUS FREEDOM is:

- INTENDED COMMERCIAL USE OF VESSEL: “The vessel will be used for visitor sightseeing in the area of Dutch Harbor, Alaska. Trips will be during the daylight hours and are intended to take visitors to see the Dutch Harbor area, get an introduction to its history, the local culture, wildlife and sealife. The number of visitors to Dutch Harbor has been rapidly increasing as cruise ships add it to their itinerary, and it remains the largest

seafood port by volume in the United States. Research and general interest in the Arctic are increasing and Dutch Harbor is well positioned to provide support for this activity. Some 9,000 visitors are expected in the summer of 2019.”

- GEOGRAPHIC REGION INCLUDING BASE OF OPERATIONS: “Alaska (excluding waters in the southeastern Alaska)” (Base of Operations: Dutch Harbor, AK)
- VESSEL LENGTH AND TYPE: 53’ motor vessel

The complete application is available for review identified in the DOT docket as MARAD-2019-0018 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR Part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the vessel name, state the commenter’s interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in section 388.4 of MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

## **Public Participation**

### *How do I submit comments?*

Please submit your comments, including the attachments, following the instructions provided under the above heading entitled **ADDRESSES**. Be advised that it may take a few hours or even days for your comment to be reflected on the docket. In addition, your comments must be written in English. We encourage you to provide concise comments and you may attach additional documents as necessary. There is no limit on the length of the attachments.

*Where do I go to read public comments, and find supporting information?*

Go to the docket online at <http://www.regulations.gov>., keyword search MARAD-2019-0018 or visit the Docket Management Facility (see **ADDRESSES** for hours of operation). We recommend that you periodically check the Docket for new submissions and supporting material.

*Will my comments be made available to the public?*

Yes. Be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, will be made publicly available.

*May I submit comments confidentially?*

If you wish to submit comments under a claim of confidentiality, you should submit three copies of your complete submission, including the information you claim to be confidential business information, to the Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, Office of Legislation and Regulations, MAR-225, W24-220, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590. Include a cover letter setting forth with specificity the basis for any such claim and, if possible, a summary of your submission that can be made available to the public.

### **Privacy Act**

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice, DOT/ALL-14 FDMS, accessible through [www.dot.gov/privacy](http://www.dot.gov/privacy). To facilitate comment tracking and response, we encourage commenters to provide their name, or the name of their organization; however, submission of names is completely optional. Whether or not commenters identify themselves, all timely comments will be fully considered. If you wish to provide comments containing

proprietary or confidential information, please contact the agency for alternate submission instructions.

(Authority: 49 CFR 1.93(a), 46 U.S.C. § 55103, 46 U.S.C. § 12121)

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Dated: February 25, 2019.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

**T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,**  
*Secretary,*  
*Maritime Administration.*

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