



## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG-2023-0585]

### National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee; September 2023

#### Meetings

**AGENCY:** U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice of Federal advisory committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (Committee) will conduct a series of meetings over two days in Bronx, NY to discuss issues relating to personnel in the United States Merchant Marine including the training, qualifications, certification, documentation, and fitness of mariners.

**DATES:** *Meetings:* The National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time Zone (EDT) and Thursday, September 7, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. EDT. The Committee meeting on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, will include periods during which the Committee will break into subcommittees. These meetings may adjourn early if the Committee has completed its business.

*Comments and supporting documentation:* To ensure your comments are received by Committee members before the meeting, submit your written comments no later than August 30, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Maritime Academic Center at the State University of New York Maritime College, additional information about the facility can be found at: <https://www.sunymaritime.edu/aboutpublic-programsconference-services/conference-and-meeting-rentals>.

The National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee is committed to ensuring all participants have equal access regardless of disability status. If you require reasonable accommodation due to a disability to fully participate, please email Mrs. Megan Johns Henry at [megan.c.johns@uscg.mil](mailto:megan.c.johns@uscg.mil) or call at (202) 372-1255 as soon as possible.

*Instructions:* You are free to submit comments at any time, including orally at the meetings as time permits, but if you want Committee members to review your comment before the meeting, please submit your comments no later than August 30, 2023. We are particularly interested in comments on the topics in the “Agenda” section below. We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. If your material cannot be submitted using <https://www.regulations.gov>, email the individual in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document for alternate instructions. You must include the docket number USCG-2023-0585. Comments received will be posted without alteration at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. You may wish to review the Privacy and Security Notice found via a link on homepage of <https://www.regulations.gov>. For more about privacy and submissions in response to this document, see DHS’s eRulemaking System of Records notice (85 FR 14226, March 11, 2020). If you encounter technical difficulties with comment submission, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

*Docket Search:* Documents mentioned in this notice as being available in the docket, and all public comments, will be in our online docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> and can be viewed by following that website’s instructions. Additionally, if you go to the online docket and sign-up for email alerts, you will be notified when comments are posted.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mrs. Megan Johns Henry, Alternate Designated Federal Officer of the National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee, telephone (202) 372-1255, or email [megan.c.johns@uscg.mil](mailto:megan.c.johns@uscg.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice of these meetings is in compliance with the *Federal Advisory Committee Act* (Pub. L. 117-286, 5 U.S.C. ch. 10). The National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee is authorized by section 601 of the *Frank LoBiondo Act of 2018* (Pub. L. 115-282, 132 Stat. 4192) and is codified in 46 U.S.C. 15103. The Committee operates under the provisions of the *Federal Advisory Committee Act* and 46 U.S.C. 15109. The National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Homeland Security through the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard on matters relating to personnel in the United States Merchant Marine including the training, qualifications, certification, documentation, and fitness of mariners.

**Agenda:** The National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee will meet on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, and Thursday, September 7, 2023 to review, discuss, deliberate and formulate recommendations, as appropriate on the following topics:

**Day 1**

The agenda for the September 6, 2023 meeting is as follows:

(1) The full Committee will meet briefly to discuss the subcommittees' business and task statements, which are listed under paragraph (10) under Day 2 below.

(2) During the morning session of the meeting, subcommittees will separately address and work on the following task statements, which are available for viewing at [https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/federal-advisory-committees/national-merchant-marine-personnel-advisory-committee-\(nmerpac\)/task-statements](https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/federal-advisory-committees/national-merchant-marine-personnel-advisory-committee-(nmerpac)/task-statements):

(a) Task Statement 21-2, Communications Between External Stakeholders and the Mariner Credentialing Program;

(b) Task Statement 23-X2, Critical Skills for Navigation Using Nautical Charts and Training and Assessments of Skills Using Electronic Navigational Charts; and

(c) Task Statement 23-X3, Critical Skills for Radar Navigation and Collision Avoidance and Training and Assessment of Skills Using Radar and Automatic Radar Plotting Aids (ARPA).

(3) During the afternoon session of the meeting, subcommittees will separately address and work on the following task statements, which are available for viewing at [https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/federal-advisory-committees/national-merchant-marine-personnel-advisory-committee-\(nmerpac\)/task-statements](https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/federal-advisory-committees/national-merchant-marine-personnel-advisory-committee-(nmerpac)/task-statements):

(a) Task Statement 22-1, Propulsion Power Limitations;

(b) Task Statement 23-X2, Critical Skills for Navigation Using Nautical Charts and Training and Assessments of Skills Using Electronic Navigational Charts; and

(c) Task Statement 23-X3, Critical Skills for Radar Navigation and Collision Avoidance and Training and Assessment of Skills Using Radar and Automatic Radar Plotting Aids (ARPA).

(d) Report of subcommittees. At end of the day, the Chair or Co-Chairs of the subcommittees will report to the full Committee on what was accomplished. The full Committee will not take action on this date and the Chair or Co-Chairs of the subcommittees will present a full report to the Committee on Day 2 of the meeting.

(4) Adjournment of meeting.

## **Day 2**

The agenda for the September 7, 2023 meeting is as follows:

(1) Introduction.

(2) Designated Federal Officer and Coast Guard Leadership remarks.

(3) Swearing In of New Members.

(4) Roll call of Committee members and determination of a quorum.

- (5) Adoption of the agenda.
- (6) Election of Vice Chair.
- (7) Acceptance of Minutes from Committee Meeting Four (March 31, 2023).
- (8) Introduction of new tasks.
- (9) Public comment period.
- (10) Reports from the subcommittee Chair or Co-Chairs.

The Committee will review the information presented on the following Task Statements and deliberate on any recommendations presented by the subcommittees. Recommendations may be approved and completed tasks may be closed. Official action on these topics may be taken:

(a) Task Statement 21-1, Review of IMO Model Courses Being Validated by the IMO HTW Subcommittee;

(b) Task Statement 21-2, Communication Between External Stakeholders and the Mariner Credentialing Program, including amendment Task Statement 21-2A, Reviewing Assessments in NVICS for STCW;

(c) Task Statement 21-3, Military Education, Training, and Assessment for STCW and National Mariner Endorsement;

(d) Task Statement 21-4, STCW Convention and Code Review;

(e) Task Statement 21-5, Review of Merchant Mariner Rating and Officer Endorsement Job Task Analyses, including amendment Task Statement 21-5A, JTA to Mass Mapping;

(f) Task Statement 21-6, Sea Service for Merchant Mariner Credential Endorsements;

(g) Task Statement 21-8, Remote Operators of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships;

(h) Task Statement 21-9, Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault-

Prevention and Culture Change in the Merchant Marine, including amendment Task Statement 21-9A, Training for Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response;

(i) Task Statement 22-1, Propulsion Power Limitations; and

(j) Task Statement 22-2, Alternative Methods for Meeting STCW Training Requirements at the Operational Level;

(k) Task Statement 23-1, Review of Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 03-14, Guidelines for Approval of Training Courses and Programs;

(l) Task Statement 23-X2, Critical Skills for Navigation Using Nautical Charts and Training and Assessments of Skills Using Electronic Navigational Charts; and

(m) Task Statement 23-X3, Critical Skills for Radar Navigation and Collision Avoidance and Training and Assessment of Skills Using Radar and Automatic Radar Plotting Aids (ARPA).

(11) Office of Merchant Mariner Credentialing update presentation.

(12) National Maritime Center update presentation.

(13) Closing remarks.

(14) Adjournment of meeting.

A copy of all meeting documentation will be available at

*[https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/federal-advisory-committees/national-merchant-marine-personnel-advisory-committee-\(nmerpac\)](https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/federal-advisory-committees/national-merchant-marine-personnel-advisory-committee-(nmerpac))* by August 30, 2023. Alternatively, you may contact the individual noted in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above.

Public comments or questions will be taken throughout the meetings as the Committee discusses the issues, and prior to deliberations and voting. There will also be a public comment period during the meeting on September 7, 2023 at approximately 12:30 p.m. EDT. Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Please note

that the public comments period will end following the last call for comments.

Please contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section to register as a speaker.

**Dated:** August 8, 2023.

**Jeffrey G. Lantz,**  
*Director of Commercial Regulations and Standards.*

[FR Doc. 2023-17284 Filed: 8/10/2023 8:45 am; Publication Date: 8/11/2023]