

EIGHTH DISTRICT
New Orleans, LA
Robert Perkins, CFVS Coordinator

The Eight District and Sectors continue to carry out normal CFVS activities and operations.

We are billeted for 11 civilian examiners, and all positions are filled by qualified personnel.

The District is on track to perform approximately 1,000 exams this year.

Ongoing projects:

- Working with SLU on a social marketing project to promote PFD wear while on deck.
- About to start a second project with SLU to study the thermal load encountered while wearing PFD's in warmer climates.
- Providing support to NIOSH project to design guards for shrimp vessels.

Drafted a Marine Safety Alert for HQ release dealing with an issue we discovered on how fisherman were using Sodium Metabisulfite.

Examiner Issues:

Clarification on requirements of sat phones beyond 20 miles and how to prove operational to USCG.

The CG Authorization Act of 2010 had provisions for Navigation/Navigation Rules' training. Collisions and allisions are all too common. To that end, I'd like to see the CFVSAC work at moving forward with developing that training.

When doing exams the vessel has logged drills but crew performance makes the examiners question the legitimacy of the claim.

Look at the 5 year mandatory exam and to change it to 2 years. Majority of safety gear expires within 2-3 years.

T-boat/ six pack vessels do not get boarded like commercial fishing vessels. As a result they do not request exams. Owners only request when exams when NOAA observer coverage is a definite. They only hang required official #'s (for commercial fishing) when in commercial service so hard to find when walking docks.

NAV Pubs, no one uses them, just an unneeded/unused expense.

Fire Extinguishers, switching to classification standard vice type/size.