



# U. S. Coast Guard Seventeenth District Brief

State of Alaska  
House Transportation Committee  
02 April 2019

*We Stand the Watch on the Last Frontier*





# AMHS and U. S. Coast Guard Personal Support



**U. S. Coast Guard Members utilize the AMHS for the purpose of changing Permanent Duty Stations. This includes travel within Alaska and travel to and from the Continental United States.**

**The Joint Federal Travel Regulations authorize a U. S. Coast Guard member and their dependents travel via 01 Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) onboard the AMHS and to ship 01 POV.**

**U. S. Coast Guard members who are single have the option to ship 01 POV or utilize the AMHS for travel.**

**In Alaska there are approximately 2,500 Active Duty, Reserve, Civilian, and Auxiliary members.**

## **Estimated personel utilizing AMHS for PCS in 2019**

**943 Active Duty U. S. Coast Guard members and their families will travel at some point on the AMHS**

## **Estimated cost for utilization of AMHS for PCS in 2019**

**\$490K\***

**\*Includes Dependents traveling on AMHS**





## M/V COLUMBIA – FIRE – BELLINGHAM, WA



- 29Jun2018 discovered black smoke coming from bow thruster compartment while unloading passengers.
- Subsequently deployed fixed CO2 system.
- Vessel was evacuated safely with no injuries.
- Crew verified fire was out using SCBA's.
- Anticipate 24 hour schedule delay.
- Sector Puget Sound has the inspection and investigation lead.
- All units with inbound/outbound PCS members notified.





## SEARCH AND RESCUE – VESSEL OF OPPORTUNITY



- Cruise ships are the primary threat for mass rescue operations in Alaska.
- Approximately 34 cruise ships call to Alaska ports over 500 times annually; carrying more than 1.36 million passengers in total.
- Coast Guard lacks organic high capacity vessels to respond to mass rescue incidents.
- Coast Guard relies on vessels of opportunity to assist with rescues of large number of survivors.
- AMHS vessels are ideal vessels of opportunity with mass rescue operations in an environment where other high capacity units are scarce.





## 2019 PELAGIC STRIKE/ ALASKA SHIELD (AKS) EXERCISE – CORDOVA, AK



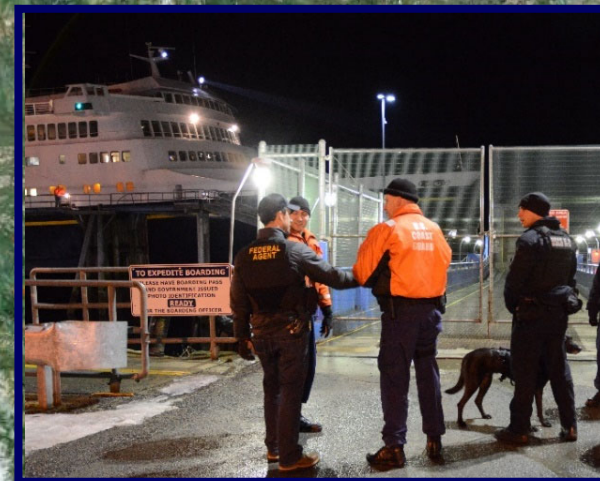
- CG Marine Security Response Team West (MSRT-W) to train on M/V Aurora
- Deployable specialized force to conduct hook and climb and simulated counter-terrorism operations. Participants include:
  - City of Cordova
  - Cordova School District
  - Alaska State Troopers
  - US Forest Service
  - FBI
  - Cordova Volunteer Fire Department
  - Cordova Amateur Radio Club
  - AK Department of Public Health
  - NOAA- NWS
  - ALCOM







# D17 OPERATION SALMON RUN 2018



Whittier



Kodiak

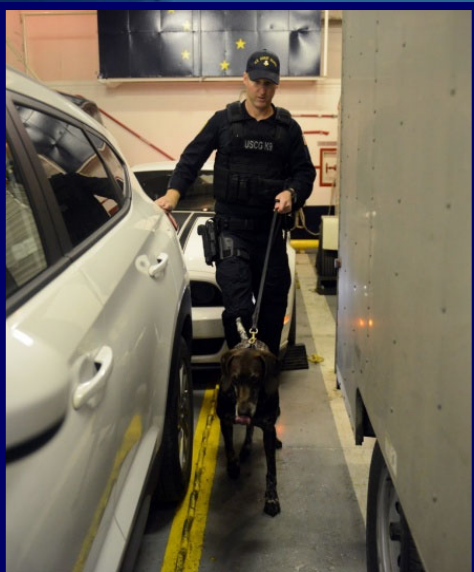
Juneau



Ketchikan



Bellingham







# Marine Inspections



- AMHS vessels carry passengers and freight for hire and are subject to USCG certification.
- USGC Marine Inspectors verify:
  - Crew competency/licensing
  - Machinery and material condition
  - Life saving/fire fighting drills and readiness
  - Pollution prevention
  - Structural condition
- All ferries are required to undergo a scheduled out of water (dry dock) examinations
- USCG conducts plan review and work oversight for all new construction and existing vessel modification
- USCG conducts marine investigations following accidents, equipment failures, or injury/death of passengers or crew





# Terminal Safety and Security



- Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA): standardized domestic security regulations to protect passengers, ships and terminals
- Ferry terminals and passenger vessels are regulated under the MTSA
- USGC inspections ensure:
  - Oversight and approval of facility security plans
  - Training and knowledge of security personnel
  - Security incident response
  - Access control/restricted areas
- Ferry terminals and ferries receive security examinations at least twice each year
- USCG and AMHS collaborate on security drills and exercises







# Questions?



## Seventeenth Coast Guard District

*Standing the watch on the last frontier  
yesterday, today and tomorrow*