

Department of Transportation and Communication
PUNONGHIMPILAN TANOD BAYBAYIN NG PILIPINAS
(Headquarters Philippine Coast Guard)
139, 25th Street, Port Area
1018 Manila

02 April 08

HPCG/CG1

CIRCULAR)

NUMBER 0300)

**SELECTION AND DESIGNATION OF COMMANDING OFFICER OF PCG
MANNED VESSELS AND AWARDING OF PCG COMMAND AT SEA BADGE**

I. **PURPOSE:** To prescribe the policies, procedures and responsibilities in the selection and designation of Commanding Officers aboard PCG manned vessels and the awarding of the PCG Command at Sea Badge.

II **SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY:** This Circular applies to all PCG Officers who are prospective Commanding Officer or currently performing as Commanding Officer aboard PCG manned vessels and the awarding of the PCG Command at Sea Badge.

II. **DEFINITION:**

A. Category 1 – refers to PCG vessels with the length of 30 meters and below and with gross tonnage of 100T and below. This category includes all 30-meters DA-BFAR-MCS vessels, MT Habagat and all other vessels that will be acquired and commissioned into the Coast Guard service under this category.

B. Category 2 – refers to PCG commissioned vessels with the length above 30 meters up to 50 meters and with gross tonnage of more than 100T up to 800T. This category includes all 35-meters Search and Rescue Vessels (SARV), PG-64 and all other vessels that will be acquired and commissioned into the Coast Guard service under this category.

C. Category 3 – this category includes all 56-meters Search and Rescue Vessels (SARV), AE-891, AE-89, AE-79 and all other vessels that will be acquired and commissioned into the Philippine Coast Guard with a length of more than 50 meters and with of gross tonnage than 800T.

D. Ready For Sea / Not Ready For Sea (RFS/NRFS) – readiness status of the vessel in accordance with the current prescribed operational standards.

E. Standard Requirements for Officers Billet (SROB) – minimum requirement prescribed for PCG Officers to qualify and comply with the Junior Billet

aboardship in accordance with the provision of HPCG Circular # 03-06 dated 12 July 2006 (Career Pattern for Junior Officer Assigned Aboardship).

F. Coast Guard Sea-Going Officer's Logbook (CGSGOL) – an official logbook that contains the record of an Officer's sea duty assignments to include shipboard billets (DO1, DO2, EO1, EO2, EX-O, CO), Detached Service (DS), Duty Officer (DYO), ship rider and collateral assignments aboardship. This logbook serves as the official record of an Officer's history of sea duty service.

G. General Line Officers (GLO) – A Coast Guard Officer who can be eligible for command at sea.

H. Initial Command At Sea (ICAS) – An eligibility awarded by CPCG upon recommendation of the CASB to a PCG Officer who has successfully complied with the requirements of becoming a Commanding Officer of PCG manned vessels.

I. Command At Sea Badge (CASB) – A badge awarded by CPCG upon recommendation of the CASB to a PCG Officer who has successfully completed his tour of duty as Commanding Officer in all categories of PCG manned vessels.

J. Command At Sea Board – A board composed of Command At Sea Badge holders duly designated by CPCG to deliberate and recommend prospective and current Commanding Officers of PCG manned vessels regarding their fitness, qualification and all other matters related to their duties and responsibilities as Commanding Officer.

K. Ready For Sea / Not Ready For Sea (RFS/NRFS) – readiness status of the vessel in accordance with the current prescribed operational standards.

L. Commanding Officer's Tour of Duty – the required duration or period of time a Commanding Officer should serve aboardship.

M. Fitness – refers to the professionalism, competence, morale turpitude, reputation and physique of an Officer.

IV POLICY: In order to provide guidelines in the selection and designation of Commanding Officers of PCG manned vessels and the subsequent awarding of the Command at Sea Badge, the following policies are hereby prescribed:

A. The Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard has the final authority to approve the designation of a Commanding Officer of a PCG manned vessel upon the recommendation of the Command at Sea Board.

B. The Command at Sea Badge shall be awarded by CPCG to a PCG Officer who successfully complied with the minimum requirements of this circular upon the recommendation of the Command at Sea Board.

5. Must have passed the deliberation/ interview conducted by the PCG CASB.

L. The Commander, CGFleet shall recommend Commanding Officer to assume command of a higher category vessel and the award of the Command at Sea Badge through the PCG CASB subject to the approval of CPCG after satisfying the following requirements;

1. Category 1 – minimum of 6 months RFS and minimum 200 hrs TST

2. Category 2 – minimum of 6 months RFS and minimum 150 hrs TST

3. Category 3 – minimum of 6 months RFS and minimum 150 hrs TST

4. The total steaming time (TST) in category 1 and 2 is mandatory. However, in situations where the TST at said categories cannot be attained the lacking TST should be completed aboard category 3 vessels. Any excess of the mandatory TST earned in category 1 and 2 cannot be used to offset the minimum TST in category 3. The tour of duty of a Commanding Officer will be extended until such time he/ she complies with the minimum TST of 150 hrs aboard category 3 vessel.

5. All COs should have assumed and comply the minimum length of stay of 6 months in all (3) vessel categories. However, in situations where the minimum length of stay of 6 months was not met due to exigencies, the lacking period left should be completed aboard the next higher category vessel. At the end of a CO's sea duty tour he/ she should have an accumulated 18 months RFS with a minimum of 6 months RFS on category 3 vessel.

6. The sea duty tour of a Commanding Officer must be rated efficient and honorable under the following conditions prior awarding of the Command at Sea Badge:

- a) Any ship under his command was not agrounded nor involved in any ship accident/ incident due to his own fault, negligence or incompetence as maybe found out by an investigation body or board.
- b) Has successfully accomplished all assigned missions.
- c) During his incumbency, his ship passed all Annual General Inspection (AGI), Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE) or other evaluations, audits and inspections conducted by competent authority.
- d) Morally upright with unquestionable integrity.

V A. There shall be a Coast Guard Fleet Command at Sea Board (CGFleet CASB) to initially screen and recommend candidates for ICAS, CASB and all other matters regarding their fitness, qualification as Commanding Officer to the Commander, CGFleet for review and confirmation prior endorsement to PCG Command at Sea Board through channels.

B. The Coast Guard Fleet Command at Sea Board (CGFleet CASB) shall be composed of the following members:

1. Commander, CGFleet – Chairman;
2. At least two (2) Command-At-Sea Badge Holder
 - Non-Permanent Voting Member;
3. At least two (2) incumbent CO of PCG Manned Category 3 Vessel
 - Non Permanent Voting member;
4. F-1, CGFleet – Secretariat;
 - Non-voting member if no ICAS;

C. The Coast Guard Fleet Command at Sea Board (CGFleet CASB) shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

1. To deliberate and recommend Officers who satisfies the minimum requirements for Initial Command at Sea;
2. To deliberate and recommend Commanding Officers for promotion to higher category vessel;
3. To deliberate and recommend Officers on their fitness to continue their sea duty tour;
4. To deliberate and recommend Officers requesting for validation of their sea duty tour as Commanding Officer for possible accreditation/ promotion to higher category vessel;
5. To perform other task as directed by Commander, CGFleet.

V. A. There shall be a PCG Command At Sea Board that will review and deliberate on the recommendations of the CGFleet Command at Sea Board for final approval of CPCG.

B. The PCG Command At Sea Board shall be composed of the following members who are Command at Sea Badge holders:

1. Vice Commandant for Operations – Chairman
2. Second most Senior Flag Officer- Vice Chairman
(Non-voting member, if not a Command at Sea Badge holder)
3. Commander, Maritime Security and Law Enforcement Command
4. Commander, Coast Guard Fleet – Member
5. Members – 4 CASB holder
(Appropriate orders shall be issued by AC of S Personnel, CG 1)
6. Secretariat – AC of S Personnel, CG 1
(Non-voting member, if not a Command at Sea Badge holder)

C. The PCG Command at Sea Board (CASB) shall review and deliberate on the recommendations of the CGFleet Command at Sea Board for final approval of CPCG and other matters pertaining to ICAS and CASB holders. And to perform other task as directed by CPCG.

VII. RESPONSIBILITY

A. PCG Command-at-Sea Board (CASB)

Responsible for the strict implementation of this circular.

B. Commander, CGFleet

Responsible for the strict implementation and review of this circular.

C. Commander, CGFREG

- a. Designated as UPR for the refresher and training courses for CO's and prospective CO's.
- b. Designated as UPR in the conduct of Training Readiness Survey (TRS) and Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE), of PCG Manned Vessels.
- c. Select Examiner/ Checkers for the command at sea examination.
- d. Prepare and update written examination for the Commanding Officer candidates.
- e. Perform other task as directed by Commander, CGFleet.

VIII. ELIGIBILITY:

- A. A PCG Officer shall be awarded with the Command at Sea Badge upon satisfactorily complying with the requirements of this circular.
- B. A PCG Officer who has been awarded with the Command at Sea Badge shall be included in the Eligibility List of Commanding Officers.
- C. Incumbent Commanding Officer of PCG Manned Vessel shall be authorized to wear the Command-at-Sea Badge on interim basis. The Badge shall be worn on the right breast if in the actual command of a PCG Manned Vessel. The badge shall be worn on the left if not in actual command of a PCG Manned Vessel.

D. LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY:

- A. A Commanding Officer may loss his/ her Command at Sea Eligibility through direct or indirect involvement of his/ her vessel in sea accidents, incidents that may cause undue embarrassment to the Command, loss of life and property or damage to government property after due process.
- B. The PCG CASB shall recommend to CPCG for the delisting of a Command at Sea Badge holder from the Eligibility List of Commanding Officers if found guilty of negligence after due process.
- C. A PCG Officer who has been delisted from the Eligibility List of Commanding Officers for cause may only be reinstated upon favorable recommendation by the PCG CASB and subsequent approval of CPCG.

X RECISSION:


HPCG/CG8 Circular # 04-04 dated 13 April 2004, HPCG Circular # 04-06 dated 09 November 2006 and all other circulars in conflict with this circular are hereby rescinded.

XI. EFFECTIVITY:

This circular shall take effect upon publication.

BY COMMAND OF ADMIRAL TAMAYO PCG

OFFICIAL:


MARIFEM U. SAAC
LT PCG
Coast Guard Adjutant

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