



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOATING LAW ADMINISTRATORS

September 11, 2007

Mr. Arthur Requina
Office of Information Management
U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters
Room 10-1236
2100 2nd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20593-0001

VIA DOT Docket Management System (<http://dms.dot.gov>)

RE: National Recreational Boating Survey; Collection of Information under Review by Office of Management and Budget -- Docket No. USCG-2007-28578

Dear Mr. Requina:

On behalf of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA), I wish to submit our comments regarding the U.S. Coast Guard's intent to submit an Information Collection Request to the Office of Management and Budget for the National Recreational Boating Survey.

NASBLA, which represents the Boating Law Administrators from each of the 56 U.S. states and territories, actively participated in the goal setting and data prioritization for this redesigned survey through the project's Collaboratory of Partners. Based on the counsel provided by our representatives to the Collaboratory – Capt. Richard Moore, NASBLA Executive Board member and Florida's Boating Law Administrator, and Dr. Deborah Gona, NASBLA's Research Director – NASBLA supports the survey redesign process and proposed content and urges the expeditious reinstatement, with proposed change, of the National Recreational Boating Survey.

Our members work daily to ensure the safety and security of recreational boating environments; our Association works to support their ability to reduce recreational boating deaths, injuries and associated property damage. Collectively, we have a need for consistent, reliable data that can be used not only to better understand recreational boaters and evaluate changes in boating activities, but also to create valid safety performance measures – notably, valid data that can be used to assess exposure and risk. The reinstatement of this national survey, which should allow regional- and state-level analyses, will be a major, positive step in helping us to fill those knowledge gaps.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the notice of this information collection effort.

Sincerely,

John M. Johnson
Executive Director

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