

**SUBCHAPTERS Q-R [RESERVED]
SUBCHAPTER S—BOATING SAFETY**

**PART 173—VESSEL NUMBERING
AND CASUALTY AND ACCIDENT
REPORTING**

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Subpart A—General

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**APPENDIX A TO PART 173—ISSUING AUTHORITIES
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AUTHORITY: 31 U.S.C. 9701; 46 U.S.C. 2110, 6101, 12301, 12302; OMB Circular A-25; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.

SOURCE: CGD 72-54R, 37 FR 21399, Oct. 7, 1972, unless otherwise noted.

§ 173.1 Purpose.

This part prescribes requirements for numbering vessels and for reporting casualties and accidents to implement sections 6101, 6102, 12301 and 12302 of Title 46, United States Code.

[CGD 89-048, 54 FR 27002, June 27, 1989, as amended by USCG-2003-15404, 68 FR 37741, June 25, 2003]

§ 173.3 Definitions.

As used in this part:

(a) [Reserved]

(b) *Issuing authority* means a State that has a numbering system approved by the Coast Guard or the Coast Guard where a number system has not been approved. Issuing authorities are listed in Appendix A of this part.

(c) *Operator* means the person who is in control or in charge of a vessel while it is in use.

(d) *Owner* means a person who claims lawful possession of a vessel by virtue of legal title or equitable interest therein which entitles him to such possession.

(e) *Person* means an individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association, joint-stock association, or governmental entity and includes a trustee, receiver, assignee, or similar representative of any of them.

(f) *Reporting authority* means a State that has a numbering system approved by the Coast Guard or the Coast Guard where a numbering system has not been approved. Reporting authorities are listed in Appendix A of this part.

(g) *State* means a State of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the District of Columbia.

(h) *State of principal use* means the State on whose waters a vessel is used or to be used most during a calendar year.