

**§ 173.35 Coast Guard validation sticker.**

No person may use a vessel except a vessel exempted in §173.13 that has a number issued by the Coast Guard unless it has the validation sticker issued with the certificate of number displayed within 6 inches of the number.

**Subpart C—Casualty and Accident Reporting****§ 173.51 Applicability.**

(a) This subpart applies to each vessel used on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and on the high seas beyond the territorial seas for vessels owned in the United States that:

- (1) Is used by its operator for recreational purposes; or
- (2) Is required to be numbered under this part.

(b) This subpart does not apply to a vessel subject to inspection under Title 46 U.S.C. Chapter 33.

[CDG 72-54R, 37 FR 21399, Oct. 7, 1972, as amended by CDG 84-099, 52 FR 47533, Dec. 14, 1987]

**§ 173.53 Immediate notification of death or disappearance.**

(a) When, as a result of an occurrence that involves a vessel or its equipment, a person dies or disappears from a vessel, the operator shall, without delay, by the quickest means available, notify the nearest reporting authority listed in Appendix A of this part of:

- (1) The date, time, and exact location of the occurrence;
- (2) The name of each person who died or disappeared;
- (3) The number and name of the vessel; and
- (4) The names and addresses of the owner and operator.

(b) When the operator of a vessel cannot give the notice required by paragraph (a) of this section, each person on board the vessel shall notify the casualty reporting authority or determine that the notice has been given.

**§ 173.55 Report of casualty or accident.**

(a) The operator of a vessel shall submit the casualty or accident report prescribed in §173.57 to the reporting

authority prescribed in §173.59 when, as a result of an occurrence that involves the vessel or its equipment:

- (1) A person dies;
- (2) A person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid;
- (3) Damage to vessels and other property totals \$2,000 or more or there is a complete loss of any vessel;
- (4) A person disappears from the vessel under circumstances that indicate death or injury.

(b) A report required by this section must be made:

(1) Within 48 hours of the occurrence if a person dies within 24 hours of the occurrence;

(2) Within 48 hours of the occurrence if a person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid, or disappears from a vessel; and

(3) Within 10 days of the occurrence or death if an earlier report is not required by this paragraph.

(c) When the operator of a vessel cannot submit the casualty or accident report required by paragraph (a) of this section, the owner shall submit the casualty or accident report.

[CGD 72-54R, 37 FR 21399, Oct. 7, 1972, as amended by CGD 76-155, 44 FR 5308, Jan. 25, 1979; CGD 82-015, 54 FR 5610, Feb. 6, 1989; USCG-1999-6094, 66 FR 21675, May 1, 2001; 66 FR 33845, June 26, 2001; USCG-1999-6094, 67 FR 14645, Mar. 27, 2002]

**§ 173.57 Contents of report.**

Each report required by §173.55 must be in writing, dated upon completion, and signed by the person who prepared it and must contain, if available, at least the following information about the casualty or accident:

(a) The numbers and names of each vessel involved.

(b) The name and address of each owner of each vessel involved.

(c) The name of the nearest city or town, the county, the State, and the body of water.

(d) The time and date the casualty or accident occurred.

(e) The location on the water.

(f) The visibility, weather, and water conditions.

(g) The estimated air and water temperatures.