



BRIEFING SHEET: BAY FERRY VI FULL-SCALE EXERCISE



Bay Ferry VI Full-Scale Maritime Exercise

September 18-21, 2023

Maritime Emergency Preparedness and Security Exercise

Exercise Information

Beginning Monday, September 18th and concluding on Thursday, September 21, 2023, the Golden Gate Ferry in cooperation with U.S. Coast Guard-Sector San Francisco, the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA), and assistance from other ferry and large passenger vessels operators, will host the sixth Bay Ferry Emergency Preparedness and Security Exercise.



Exercise Purpose

The purpose of the exercise is to provide objective assessments of Bay Area maritime emergency preparedness and security program strengths and those in need of further improvement as well as validating the benefits of past Port Security Grant Program investments.



Exercise Goals and Objectives

Against the backdrop of a maritime special event of national and international importance, participants will be presented with a series of Active Threat (AT) incidents affecting the region's commuter ferry system.



AT incidents include active shooter, the use of improvised explosive devices (IED's) and/or weapons of mass destruction (WMD's) by violent extremists to create fear and panic.

Over a four-day period, exercise participants will rotate through a series of timed scenarios that will require them to demonstrate their ability to support the implementation of selected USCG-Sector San Francisco emergency response and security plans.

Exercise Scenarios

Each exercise scenario is based on actual maritime incidents that have taken place either domestically or internationally. To enhance the realism of exercise scenarios, role players, selected Bay Area ferry terminals, commuter ferries and large passenger vessels will be utilized.

Some of the exercise scenarios will validate the recently adopted USCG-Sector San Francisco AT Concept of Operations Plan.

In the Shore-side AT Scenario, terminal personnel, ferry crew members and first responders will be required to demonstrate their ability to respond to an active shooter incident that takes place at a terminal on a docked ferry.



Another AT scenario will require maritime law enforcement participants to demonstrate their ability to perform an opposed boarding while a commuter ferry or large passenger vessel is underway.

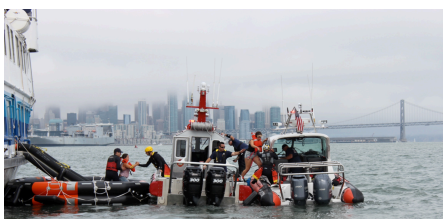


Preventive Radiological, Nuclear Detection (PRND) scenarios such as wide area search, chokepoint operations, vessel searches and radioisotope identification will validate the recently updated USCG-Sector San

Francisco PRND Concept of Operations Plan. Participants in these scenarios will perform primary and secondary screening and technical reachback, as described in USCG Maritime PRND Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs).



Participants in the ferry mass casualty scenario will demonstrate their ability to implement the USCG Vessel Mutual Assistance Plan by boarding a ferry damaged following the detonation of an improvised explosive device (IED), extinguish any fires found, search for survivors, perform triage, provide life-saving care, and then demonstrate their ability to transfer survivors to another ferry, and perform mass decontamination shoreside as circumstances require.



Exercise Schedule

- Monday, September 18
PRND Scenarios
- Tuesday, September 19
Active Shooter-on a Docked Ferry
- Wednesday, September 20
Active Shooter While a Ferry Underway Scenarios
- Thursday, September 21
IED detonation on Ferry with Mass Casualties, Engine Fire, requiring Vessel Evacuation

Safety First:

Prior to the beginning of the Exercise participants will be required to attend a participant orientation and safety briefing.

AT Training

As a lead up to the exercise multiple training opportunities have been made available at no cost to those with responsibility to respond to maritime emergencies.



Active Shooter-Ferry Terminal Course

This one-day course is designed for terminal personnel, ferry crew members, local fire/EMS, and law enforcement first responders. Topics include:

- Run-Hide-Fight.
- Stop-the-Bleed.
- Rescue of Persons in the Water.
- Rescue Task Force Concepts and Practices.
- Law Enforcement Active Shooter Tactical and Operational Principles.
- Mass Casualty Response.
- Terminal and Docked Ferry AT Scenarios.

Active Shooter-Ferry Underway Course

This one-day course is designed for ferry crew members, local fire/EMS, and law enforcement first responders. Topics include:

- Implementation of Ferry Active Shooter Procedures.
- Vessel Boarding.
- Law enforcement Tactical and Operational Principles in the Maritime Environment.
- On-water AT Scenarios.

Law Enforcement Special Operations Team Response to Maritime Active Shooter Incidents Course

This one-day course is designed for law enforcement special operations team personnel likely to respond to a maritime active shooter incident and includes training on:

- Response Planning.
- Tactical Boardings.
- Hostage Response.
- Barricaded Subject.
- Sniper.
- On-Water Scenarios.

AT Tabletop Exercise

On August 23rd, members of the USCG, ferry operators, and first responders participated in an AT tabletop exercise. The purpose of the TTX was to allow first



responders and decision makers to practice how they would respond to an active shooter incident involving a ferry or large passenger vessel.

AT Planning Toolkit Workshop

Following the exercise, on December 6th a Maritime Active Threat Planning Toolkit Workshop will be held to introduce first responders, senior government officials, ferry, and large vessel operators with a model AT Concept of Operations Plan, AT checklists, and other tools necessary to establish a robust AT prevention and response capability.

For More Information

To learn more about the Bay Ferry VI Exercise, please contact Paolo Cosulich-Shwartz, Director of Public Affairs for the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District at 415-629-9999 (text is best) or via email: PCosulich@goldengate.org