



**Volunteers  
Saving Lives  
at Sea**

## **Operations Memorandum**

**Date:** February 2010

**To:** Unit Leaders

**cc:** Management Team

**From:** David Rees-Thomas, Manager of SAR/Operations

**Subject:** SAR Response – Insufficient Crew

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Further to the previous Bulletin regarding standing down a Dedicated Response Vessel when the minimum crew specified by CCGA-P Crewing Regulations is not available, I would like to emphasize that having at least the minimum specified crew on board is a matter of safety. Remember that our priorities at all times are :

- safety of the crew
- safety of the vessel
- safety of the mission

in that order. A vessel which requires a minimum crew of three, for example, is not going to be as safe with two on board, and certainly much less effective than it should be in terms of the mission.

Management regards this point as sufficiently important that, should a DRV be operated with fewer crew than the specified minimum, the coxswain will be liable to suspension.

Please remember if you can't muster the crew, stand your vessel down.

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