

**Boating Enforcement
Marine Law Enforcement Training Program
Division of Boating and Waterways
May 8, 2025**

Program Summary:

The Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) Marine Law Enforcement Training Program provides training courses statewide to law enforcement officers, harbor patrol officers, lifeguards, and other first responders that work in a marine patrol environment. Statewide training ensures uniform enforcement of boating laws on all California's waterways. With more than 100 local government agencies providing boating law enforcement in California, the purpose of the training program is to provide comprehensive, current, and effective training courses to improve the safety of boaters and officers across California.

DBW training courses are designed to accommodate all levels of boating skills. Fundamental courses for new boat patrol officers include Basic Maritime Officer's Course, Inland Boat Operator, Boating Under the Influence, and Boating Accident Investigation. More advanced courses for experienced boat patrol officers include Advanced Maritime Officer's Course, Rescue Boat Operations (RBO), and Marine Firefighter Operations (MFO).

Funding Summary:

DBW allocated \$438,000 from the Recreational Boating Safety Grant administered by the United States Coast Guard. During Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024 for boating safety and boating law enforcement training statewide. DBW trained (381) students in (25) classes, covering (8) separate disciplines. The program was facilitated by (1) Associate Governmental Program Analyst who serves as the Training Coordinator.

FFY 2024 Accomplishments (cont'd):

1. The Division added six (6) new instructors to the training cadre.
2. In the process of establishing a second set of Inland Boat Operator training equipment. This will save on substantial shipping and logistics costs.
3. The Division translated our Standard Field Sobriety Testing note card to Spanish. This document is used in the field by officers when conducting a boating under the influence check.

Goals and Objectives for FFY 2025:

1. Targeting and focusing training where BUI's are being reported. Specifically, statistics have shown an increase in BUI's on inland waterways like Napa and Stanislaus County. We will build our partnerships with these agencies and work with them to target our training in areas where it will have the greatest impact.
2. DBW continues to have a great training partnership with LA County Fire Department. Due to the impact of fires in Southern California, and the increased demand for MFO and RBO training, we will inquire with new agencies to facilitate additional deliveries of these courses.