

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Towing Safety Advisory Committee

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Homeland Security

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

National Towing Safety Advisory Committee

3b. GSA Committee No.

704

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

10/15/2021

6. Expected Renewal Date

10/15/2023

7. Expected Term Date

09/30/2029

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

§ 601 of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018, Pub. L. No. 115-282, 132 Stat. 4192 and is codified in 46 U.S.C. § 15108

13.

Effective Date

10/06/1980 Continuing No

14.

Committee Type

14c.

Presidential?

15. Description of Committee

National Policy Issue Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a.

Open 0

17b. Closed 0

17c. Partially Closed 0

Other Activities 0

17d. Total 0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current Next	
	FY	FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The National Towing Safety Advisory Committee (NTSAC) provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security through the Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard on towing industry issues relating to shallow draft inland harbors and coastal waterway with particular emphasis on operations, navigation and towing safety.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

NTSAC is mandated by statute and consists of eighteen (18) members appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Members are as follows: seven members representing the barge and towing industry, reflecting a geographical balance; one member representing the offshore mineral and oil supply vessel industry; one member representing holders of active licensed Masters and Pilots of towing vessels with experience on Western Rivers and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway; one member representing the holders of active licensed Masters of towing vessels in offshore service; one member representing Masters who are active ship-docking or operating harbor towing vessels; one member representing licensed and unlicensed towing vessel engineers having formal training and experience; two members representing each of the following groups: a) port districts, authorities or terminal operators, b) shippers (of whom at least one shall be engaged in the shipment of oil hazardous materials by barge); and two members of the general public.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

NTSAC is scheduled to meet twice annually or more often as needs dictate. Sub-committees may meet at least once between meetings, and as often as monthly to complete their assigned tasks. Through these meetings, the Committee maintains close ties with industry experts. NTSAC represents this body of expertise essential to successful development of US Coast Guard initiatives in areas concerning towing operations, safety, security, and environmental protection. NTSAC held two in-person meetings in FY23.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The diverse experience and expertise available from the Committee make NTSAC's advice invaluable. There are no other sources within DHS that have the professional expertise to contribute to the towing-specific vital issues discussed in the NTSAC forum.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A; all meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

Under 46 U.S.C. § 15109(m), the Committee is authorized to continue until September 30, 2029.

Designated Federal Officer

Matthew Layman DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Arenstam, John	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Administrator	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Covil, Douglas	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Captain	Representative Member
Dial, Marc	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Captain	Representative Member
Fay, Angela	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Captain	Representative Member
Gauthier, Andrew	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Captain	Representative Member
Hazel, John	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Captain	Representative Member
Huttman, Steve	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Captain	Representative Member
Johannson, Eric	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Administrator	Representative Member
Keister, Robert	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Auditor	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Khey, Brian	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Administrator	Representative Member

Lagarde, Matthew	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Captain	Representative Member
Price, Lindsay	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Captain	Representative Member
Richmond, Raymond	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Pilot	Representative Member
Sawyer, Mark	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Captain	Representative Member
Steinberg, Jonathan	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Captain	Representative Member
Terral, Joy	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Administrator	Representative Member
VanDusen, Jonathan	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Administrator	Representative Member
Wilcox, Laura	08/17/2021	12/31/2024	Engineer	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 18

Narrative Description

The National Towing Safety Advisory Committee (NTSAC) continues its work in Support of the Secretary of DHS goals and the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard business strategies. Specifically, NTSAC supports the goal of promoting Homeland Security by strengthening the safety, security and integrity of the maritime mass-transportation network vital to the national economy. Under the Marine Transportation System strategy, the Committee is constantly evaluating and addressing both acute and emergent Towing Vessel requirements to ensure the towing industry maintains robust capacity to meet the national economic and security needs of the nation.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements



Other



Outcome Comments

Not Applicable

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None



Unable to Determine



Under \$100,000



\$100,000 - \$500,000



\$500,001 - \$1,000,000



\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000



\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000



Over \$10,000,000



Cost Savings Other



Cost Savings Comments

The US Coast Guard implementation of NTSAC's expert recommendations will lead to more efficient use of the nation's waterways by the towing industry.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

13

Number of Recommendations Comments

This year we received 7 recommendations.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

USCG is processing recommendations and taking them for consideration.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or

will be Partially implemented by the agency?

50%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The Coast Guard is updating policy documents and conducting trainings that partially implement committee recommendations.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The Committee receives feedback in the form of briefings during public meetings with the represented industry, regulations formulated, policy published, alteration of agency business practices, and legislative changes proposed.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Online Committee Web Site



Online GSA FACA Web Site



Publications



Other



Access Comments

N/A