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BOATING SAFETY REGULATIONS

Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation

Sec. 15-140j-1. Issuance of certificates of personal watercraft operation.

(a) A certificate of personal watercraft operation required by subsection (b) of [Section 15-140j of the Connecticut General Statutes](#) shall be a safe boating certificate as described in subsection (a) of [Section 15-140e of the Connecticut General Statutes](#), with a notation thereon that the person to whom it is issued may operate a personal watercraft. For purposes of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, "personal watercraft" shall be defined as that term is defined in [Section 15-140j of the Connecticut General Statutes](#), as amended.

(b) Any person required to obtain a certificate of personal watercraft operation shall apply for such certificate to the Commissioner on a form provided by the Commissioner. The application shall contain the items of information required by subsection (a) of [15-140f-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#) for issuance of a safe boating certificate. The applicant shall also provide with the application:

(1) the original or a photocopy of the document demonstrating successful completion of the course specified in [Section 15-140j-2\(c\)\(1\) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#), or an original statement, written on the letterhead of and signed by an authorized representative of the agency or organization which gave such course, attesting to the existence of records which show that the applicant successfully completed such course; or

(2) the original or a photocopy of the document demonstrating successful completion of the course specified in [Section 15-140j-2\(a\) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#) and the original lifetime safe boating certificate or duplicate of such certificate issued pursuant to [Section 15-140f-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#), or other verification obtained from the records of the Commissioner that such certificate was issued, or proof as specified in subsection (h) or (i) of [Section 15-140f-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#) of eligibility to be issued such certificate; or

(3) the original or a photocopy of the document demonstrating successful passing of the equivalency examination specified in [Section 15-140j-2\(c\)\(2\) of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies](#).

The Commissioner may waive the requirements contained in subdivisions (1) to (3) of this subsection, as applicable, if the records of the Commissioner demonstrate that a course as specified in this section was successfully completed or an equivalency examination, as specified in [Section 15-140j-2\(c\)\(2\) of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies](#), was passed.

(c) Issuance of certificates of personal watercraft operation shall be subject to the same provisions regarding issuance set forth for safe boating certificates in subsections (b) through (f) of [Section 15-140f-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#).

(d) Any person eligible upon completion of requirements to be issued a certificate of personal watercraft operation who has previously been issued a safe boating certificate shall surrender such safe boating certificate and any duplicate thereof to the Commissioner prior to issuance of the certificate of personal watercraft operation.

(e) Temporary certificates of personal watercraft operation shall be subject to the same provisions regarding issuance set forth for certificates of personal watercraft operation in subsections (a) through (d) of this section. Each application for a temporary certificate of

personal watercraft operation shall be accompanied by a certificate of number or certificate of decal issued to the applicant for his personal watercraft vessel registration. Each applicant must provide with his application for a temporary certificate of personal watercraft operation the original document demonstrating successful completion of an approved course specified in [Section 15-140j-2\(a\) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#), or a copy thereof, or an original statement, written on the letterhead of and signed by an authorized representative of the agency or organization which gave such course, attesting to the existence of records which show that the applicant successfully completed such course. The Commissioner may waive such requirement when documentation demonstrating that such classroom course was successfully completed may be obtained from records of the Commissioner. A temporary certificate shall expire in three months from the date of the vessel registration, as is provided for in [Section 15-140j\(d\) of the Connecticut General Statutes](#). No person shall be issued more than one temporary certificate of personal watercraft operation. The issuance of a temporary certificate does not entitle the holder thereof to issuance of a certificate of personal watercraft operation issued by the Commissioner pursuant to subsection (b) of [Section 15-140j of the Connecticut General Statutes](#).

[September 8, 1998 (Secretary of State File Number (SOSFN): 5026); March 9, 2004 (SOSFN: 5496); amendment published in Conn. Law Journal July 26, 2011, effective July 8, 2011]

Sec. 15-140j-2. Certificate of personal watercraft operation course the content.

(a) Any person required by subsection (b) of [Section 15-140j of the Connecticut General Statutes](#) to obtain a certificate of personal watercraft operation, in addition to providing proof as described in subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of [Section 15-140j-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#) that such person has been issued or is eligible to be issued a lifetime safe boating certificate, shall successfully complete a classroom course in safe personal watercraft handling which has been approved by the Commissioner. Such course shall provide instruction in the following subjects:

- (1) safe personal watercraft operation;
- (2) courtesy to other users of the waters; and
- (3) applicability of boating law to personal watercraft.

(b) Any person required to successfully complete the course described in subsection (a) of this section shall also pass an examination to be given at the conclusion of such course. The examination shall consist of not less than ten questions pertaining to those subject areas listed in subdivisions (1), (2) and (3) of subsection (a) of this section. The minimum score to pass such examination shall be eighty percent correct answers.

(c) The following may be substituted in lieu of the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of this section: (1) Any person required by subsection (b) of [Section 15-140j of the Connecticut General Statutes](#) to obtain a certificate of personal watercraft operation may complete a combined basic boating and safe personal watercraft handling course which has been approved by the Commissioner. Such combined course shall contain all topic areas designated in subdivisions (1), (2) and (3) of subsection (a) of this section and subsection (a) of [Section 15-140f-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#). Any person who successfully completes the combined basic boating and safe personal watercraft handling course shall also

pass a proctored closed book examination given at the conclusion of the course, Such examination shall consist of not less than fifty questions covering all required topic areas. The minimum score to pass such examination shall be eighty percent correct answers; or (2) upon application, any person may take an equivalency examination which tests their knowledge of safe personal watercraft handling. Such equivalency examination shall be administered by the Commissioner and may be taken only once. The examination shall be taken in person at a place and time designated by the Commissioner. The examination shall be a closed book examination with no fewer than fifty questions prepared by the Commissioner. The minimum score to pass such examination shall be eighty percent correct answers. Any person who passes such examination shall be qualified to receive a certificate of personal watercraft operation. Any person who fails to pass such examination shall be required to successfully complete a personal watercraft course as identified in subsections (a) and (b) of this section or in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section as a prerequisite to receiving a certificate of personal watercraft operation.

[March 9, 2004 (Secretary of State File Number (SOSFN): 5496); amendment published in Conn. Law Journal July 26, 2011, effective July 8, 2011]

Sec. 15-140j-3. Fees for certificate of personal watercraft operation courses and for issuing certificates of personal watercraft operation, Temporary Certificates of Personal Watercraft Operation and duplicate certificates.

(a) There shall be no fee for the certificate of personal watercraft operation course taught pursuant to [Section 15-140j-2\(a\) of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies](#) by Department of Environmental Protection personnel or its agents.

(b) The fee for a certificate of personal watercraft operation equivalency examination shall be seventy five dollars.

(c) The fee for issuance of a certificate of personal watercraft operation or temporary certificate of personal watercraft operation shall be fifty dollars.

(d) The Commissioner may set a fee of twenty dollars for issuance of a duplicate certificate of personal watercraft operation.

(e) Duplicate certificates issued because of name change due to marriage or divorce shall be free of charge.

(f) The fee payable under this section for an equivalency examination shall be paid prior to taking such examination. Fees for issuance of certificates and duplicate certificates payable under this section shall accompany the application for a certificate of personal watercraft operation or duplicate certificate.

[September 8, 1998 (Secretary of State File Number (SOSFN): 5026); March 9, 2004 (SOSFN: 5496); amendment published in Conn. Law Journal July 26, 2011, effective July 8, 2011]