

EMS VESSEL BOARDING STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE



August 30, 2019

Background & Purpose

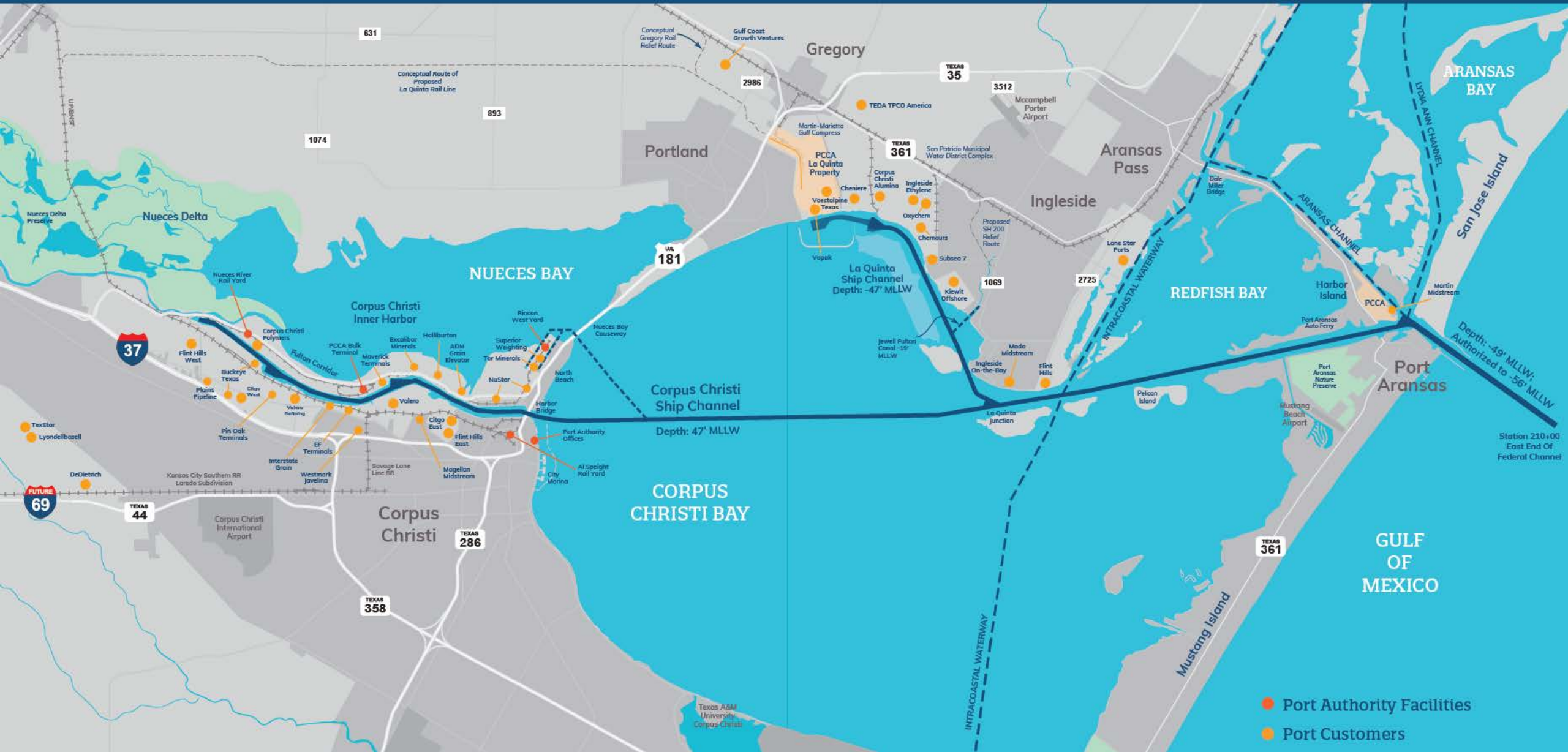
- Requested to assist in the coordinated and safe response to vessels operating in Port Corpus Christi
- Developed in cooperation with:
 - Nueces County Fire Chief's Association
 - Port of Corpus Christi Authority (PCCA)
 - US Coast Guard (USCG)
 - US Customs & Border Protection (CBP)
 - Local maritime industry professionals
- Compliance is voluntary
- Represents best practice and adheres to customary and expected emergency response guidelines for operating in the maritime domain



Corpus Christi Ship Channel Map



The Corpus Christi Ship Channel Covers 31.6 Nautical Miles



- Port Authority Facilities
- Port Customers



Most Common Accidents

The below are common emergencies EMS may be called to on board ships.

Reference:

<https://www.marineinsight.com/marine-safety/10-common-life-threatening-accidents-board-ships/>

- Man overboard
- Enclosed Space
- Electrical Shock
- Machinery Explosion
- Mooring Operations
- Falling From Height
- Piracy Attacks
- Lifeboat Testing
- Hot Work
- Gangway Fall

- For all non-emergency situations, the ships' Agent will arrange private transport to a medical facility
- Only if serious illness or injury will 9-1-1 be initiated

Notification & Access

Upon dispatch, EMS should confirm the PCCA Security Command Center (SCC) has been notified

The SCC will dispatch Port Police to ensure access to the vessel

Additionally, the SCC will inform:

- PCCA Harbor Master's Office (HMO)
- US Coast Guard Command Center (USCG)
- US Customs & Border Protection (CBP)

If responding to a private dock not owned by PCCA, additional security access measures may be required. The SCC should still be contacted and can assist



PORT CORPUS CHRISTI
HARBORMASTER'S OFFICE



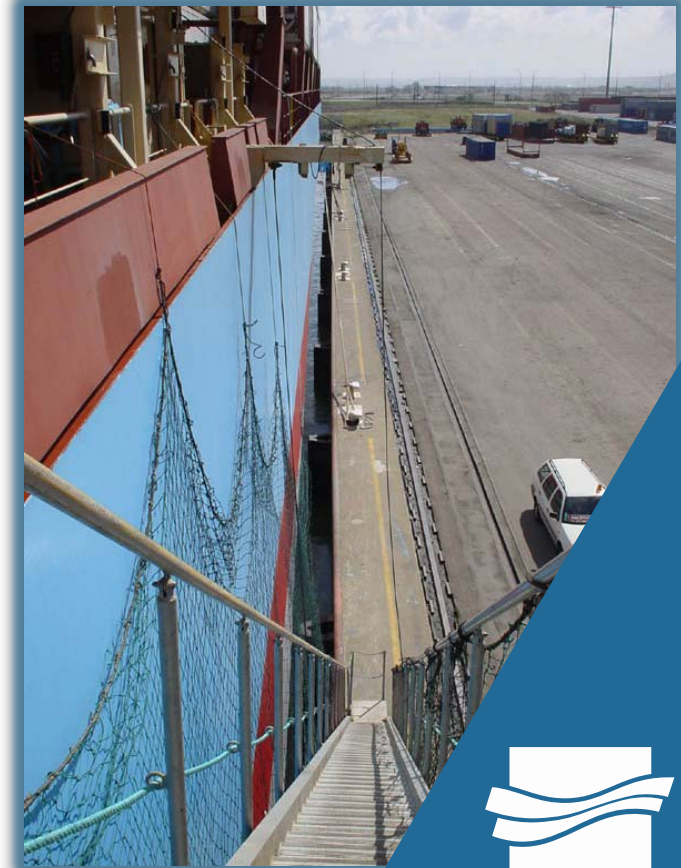
**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**



General Information

If EMS is requested, there should be no delay in responding and the ship should be considered generally safe for responding EMS

- All crew members are medically cleared for potential infections disease prior to vessel arrival
- All vessels have received appropriate security clearances. If additional security measures are required, this will be apparent upon arrival to the dock
- All EMS should use universal precautions and consider other inherent risks to determine appropriate additional PPE
 - Working from heights and over water
 - Narrow access paths and overhead hazards
 - Hazardous materials



Boarding

- For general boarding purposes, EMS is authorized to board the vessel if requested and authorized by the vessel Captain. Emergency response to a ship shall never be delayed and does not require preapprovals by the USCG or CBP
- EMS should always be escorted by a crew member who can often assist with patient packaging
- For US flagged ships, the vessel's Captain often serves as the ship's Agent however for foreign flagged vessels, the Agent will be a local representative familiar with the available services



Patient Information

- For follow up information about the patient including billing information, contact the ships' Agent. EMS and/or hospital staff may obtain this information from the HMO if unable to obtain while on-scene
- There should be no delay in transport or transfer of care at hospitals due to concerns regarding citizenship. The Agent has the responsibility to coordinate directly with CBP and hospital staff accordingly
- After transport, no further action is required of EMS. However, the USCG may contact the EMS provider if an incident investigation is warranted





Port Corpus Christi

Important Numbers

PCCA Security Command Center (SCC) 361-882-1182
PCCA Harbor Master's Office (HMO) 361-882-1773
USCG Command Center (USCG) 361-939-0450
US Customs & Border Protection (CBP) 361-879-4400

Questions or Assistance:

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