# Methods for Contacting the U.S. Coast Guard

To report a search and rescue emergency:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Instructions</th>
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</table>
| VHF-FM Radio    | **Call US Coast Guard on ** Channel 16 VHF-FM (156.8 MHz)  
1. Make sure radio is on  
2. Select channel 16  
3. Press/hold the transmit button  
4. Clearly say: “MAYDAY! MAYDAY! MAYDAY!” and vessel name  
5. Also give:  
   — Position and/or location  
   — Number of people on board  
   — Nature of emergency  
   — Vessel description  
6. Release transmit button  
7. Wait for ten seconds; if no response repeat call.  
**Intentional hoax calls are an offense and subject to prosecution** |
| VHF-DSC Radio   | Digital Selective Calling (DSC) radio can send an automatic distress signal and, if connected to GPS, will send the vessel's location. Channel 70 is reserved for distress calls. |
| AIS             | Automatic Identification System (AIS) is a tracking system required on ships, but available to fishing vessels.                                                                                               |
| Other methods   | The Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) provides a number of additional means for contacting or alerting SAR authorities. These include INMARSAT, SARSAT (EPIRBs, ELTs, and PLBs), MF-DSC, HF-DSC, etc.  
In addition, for vessels or persons in distress, there are nationally and internationally accepted/prescribed visual and sound distress signals (flares, horns, mirrors, flashing lights, flags, etc.). |
| Telephone       | - **Call the nearest US Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Center listed below.**  
- Look in the front of your telephone directory for an emergency number listing for the US Coast Guard.  
- As a last resort, call 9-1-1. (The distress call will be shared with the Coast Guard, but vital information for an effective search may be missing.) |
| Not by email    | Currently the US Coast Guard email system is not set up to accept or respond to emergency SAR messages. If you are in distress or need to report an emergency, **do NOT send it via email**; contact the Coast Guard via telephone or radio. |
US Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Centers (RCCs)

Note: The previous chart only provides geographical breakdown of the USCG Sectors in District I. The phone numbers for the five sectors are listed below.

24-Hour Regional Contacts for Emergencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RCC</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Area of SAR Coordination Responsibility</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>Commander US Coast Guard Portsmouth, Virginia</td>
<td>Overall responsibility for areas covered by RCC Boston, RCC Norfolk, RCC Miami, RSC San Juan, RCC New Orleans and RCC Cleveland plus a portion of the North Atlantic Ocean out to 40 degrees west longitude.</td>
<td>(757) 398-6700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area SAR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCC Boston</td>
<td>Commander 1st Coast Guard District Boston, Massachusetts</td>
<td>New England down to and including a portion of Northern New Jersey plus US waters of Lake Champlain.</td>
<td>(617) 223-8555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCC Norfolk</td>
<td>Commander 5th Coast Guard District Portsmouth, Virginia</td>
<td>Mid-Atlantic states including the majority of New Jersey down to the North Carolina–South Carolina Border.</td>
<td>(757) 398-6231</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

USCG District 1: Boston, MA

Response Division
- Division Chief (617) 223-8457
- Division Secretary (617) 223-8458

Incident Management Branch
- Chief, Incident Management Branch (617) 223-8461
- Assistant Chief, Incident Management Branch (617) 223-8278
- Incident Management & Preparedness Advisor (617) 223-8413
- Search and Rescue (617) 223-8257
- Small Boat Manager (617) 223-8466
**Command Center**
- Command Center Senior Controller (617) 223-8462
- Assistant Controller (617) 223-8132
- Command Center Watch (24/7) (617) 223-8555

**Coast Guard District 1: Sector Northern New England**
During business working hours contact (207) 767-0320. After business working hours, contact the Operations Center (207) 767-0303.

- Ombudsman: Contact (207) 767-0320 for name and contact information.
- 24-Hour Emergency Response: (800) 410-9549
- COAST WATCH: (866) 455-8238
- National Response Center: (800) 424-8802

**Coast Guard District 1: Sector Southeastern New England**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Small Boat Stations</th>
<th>Main:</th>
<th>Fax:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Station Woods Hole, Woods Hole, MA</td>
<td>(508) 457-3254</td>
<td>(508) 457-3388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station Brant Point, Nantucket, MA</td>
<td>(508) 228-0398</td>
<td>(508) 228-6019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station Cape Cod Canal, Sandwich, MA</td>
<td>(508) 888-0020</td>
<td>(508) 888-8725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station Chatham, Chatham, MA</td>
<td>(508) 945-3829</td>
<td>(508) 945-4182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station Castle Hill, Newport, RI</td>
<td>(401) 846-3675</td>
<td>(401) 846-3684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station Menemsha, Martha’s Vineyard, MA</td>
<td>(508) 645-2662</td>
<td>(508) 645-3258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station Provincetown, Provincetown, MA</td>
<td>(508) 487-0077</td>
<td>(508) 487-3048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station Point Judith, Narragansett, RI</td>
<td>(401) 792-0306</td>
<td>(401) 782-4957</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Coast Guard District 1: Sector New York**
- Primary Phone (718) 354-4037
- Emergency Phone (718) 354-4353

**Coast Guard District 1: Sector Long Island Sound**
- Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound (203) 468-4403
### General Numbers

| Command | (203) 468-4472 |
| Command Senior Chief | (203) 468-4589 |
| 24 Hour Number | (203) 468-4404 |
| Response - Incident Management | (203) 468-4433 |
| Prevention - Fishing Vessel Safety | (203) 468-4437 |

### New Haven Units

| USCGC Bollard | (203) 468-4465 |
| CG Station New Haven | (203) 468-4498 |
| Aids to Navigation Team Long Island Sound | (203) 468-4510 |
| Coast Guard Exchange | (203) 468-2712 |

### Other Sector Units

| Aids to Navigation Team Moriches | (631) 728-6981 |
| Marine Safety Detachment - Coram, NY | (631) 732-0190 |
| Sector Field Office Moriches | (631) 395-4400 |
| CG Station New London, CT | (860) 442-4471 |
| CG Station Eatons Neck, NY | (631) 261-6959 |
| CG Station Montauk, NY | (631) 668-2773 |
| CG Station Fire Island, NY | (631) 661-9101 |
| CG Station Shinnecock, NY | (631) 728-0078 |
| CG Station Jones Beach NY | (516) 785-2995 |
| USCGC Chinook | (860) 447-1155 |
| USCGC Morro Bay | (860) 701-6160 |
| USCGC Ridley | (631) 668-3104 |

### Ashore Units

**Air Station Cape Cod**
- General Information: (508) 968-6800
- Duty Sections:
  - JOOD (508) 274-7713
  - FED (508) 274-7917

**ANT Bristol**
- (401) 253-9585

**ANT Long Island**
- Monday through Friday 8AM – 4PM call (203) 468-4419
- All other times call (203) 468-4401

**ANT New York**
- (201) 443-6298
**ANT Woods Hole**
(508) 457-3323

**International Ice Patrol**
Contact the International Ice Patrol using their online form: Contact Us

**Marine Safety Detachment Cape Cod**
Marine Safety Detachment Cape Cod
3162 Herbert Road
Buzzards Bay, MA 02542
(508) 968-6556

**Marine Safety Detachment New Bedford**
(508) 999-0072

**Sector Boston**
USCG Base Boston
427 Commercial Street
Boston, MA 02109-1027
OPFAC: 31-31120
(617) 223-3312

**Sector New York**
U. S. Coast Guard Sector New York
212 Coast Guard Drive
Staten Island, NY 10305
Primary Phone: (718) 354-4037
Emergency Phone: (718) 354-4353

**Sector Long Island Sound**
Commanding Officer
U.S. Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound
120 Woodward Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut 06512
(800) 774-8724

**Sector Northern New England**
During working hours contact:
(207) 767-0320
After working hours contact:
Operations Center at
(207) 767-0303
Ombudsman: Contact (207) 767-0320 for name and contact information.
24 Hour Emergency Response (800) 410-9549
COAST WATCH (866) 455-8238
National Response Center: (800) 424-8802

**SectorSoutheastern New England**
(866) 819-9128

**Sector Field Office Moriches**
Commander
U.S. Coast Guard Sector Field Office Moriches
100 Moriches Island Road
East Moriches, New York 11940

**Sector Field Office Southwest Harbor**
SUPERVISOR
Sector Field Office Southwest Harbor
Box 5000
Southwest Harbor, ME 04679-5000
(207) 244-4200
SFO Officer of the day: (207) 244-4211
SFO Winter Storm line: (207) 244-4688

**Station Boothbay Harbor**
Main Phone Number: (207) 633-2661
Mailing Address:
Officer in Charge
USCG Station Boothbay Harbor
PO Box 327
Boothbay Harbor, ME 04538

**Station Brant Point**
(508) 228-0398

**Station Cape Cod Canal**
(508) 888-0020

**Station Castle Hill**
(401) 846-3675
Station Chatham
Mailing Address: Officer in Charge
37 Main St
Chatham, MA 02633
Telephone: (508) 945-3830
Emergency Line: (508) 945-0164

Station (SM) East Moriches
Commanding Officer
U.S. Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound
120 Woodward Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut 06512
(800) 774-8724

Station Eatons Neck
(631) 261-6959

Station Fire Island
(631) 661-9101

Station Gloucester
(978) 283-0705

Station Jones Beach
(516) 785-2995

Station (SM) Menemsha
(508) 645-2662

Station Montauk
(631) 668-2773

Station New Haven
(203) 468-4498

Station New London
(860) 442-4471

Station New York
Commanding Officer
CG STATION NEW YORK
10 Search Lane
Staten Island, NY 10305
Unit Telephone Numbers:
Main: (718) 354-4101
Secondary: (718) 354-4099
Fax: (718) 354-4066

Station Point Allerton
Commanding Officer
USCG Station Point Allerton
93 Main Street
Hull, MA 02045-1198
(781) 925-0166

Station Point Judith
USCG Station Point Judith
1470 Ocean Road
Narragansett RI 02882
(401) 789-0444

Station Provincetown
Officer in Charge
U.S. Coast Guard
Station Provincetown
125 Commercial St.
Provincetown, MA 02657-2011
(508) 487-0077

Station Shinnecock
(631) 728-0078

Station Woods Hole
(508) 457-3254