

Northern California Area Maritime Security Committee
2026 3rd Quarter Meeting (unclassified) Minutes
Port of Oakland, Exhibit Room
530 Water Street, Oakland CA
July 14, 2026

1. **Welcome** – Mr. Nic Samonte, USCG: Called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM and welcomed the committee members in attendance.
2. **Quorum Call** – Mr. Nic Samonte: Confirmed the presence of a meeting quorum.
3. **Approval of the Minutes** – Mr. Scott Humphrey, Marine Exchange: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2026, AMSC meeting. The minutes were approved without dissent.
4. **Opening Remarks by the Chair** – Capt. Jarod Toczko, USCG COTP: USCG Change of Command took place on July 10th. New personnel have joined Sector SF including Deputy Commander Capt. Joseph Hart, previously at USCG Headquarters. Multi-agency security was provided for FIFA World Cup and America 250 SEAR events. There were hundreds of vessels on the water for America 250 fireworks, and safety zones were enforced. Fleet Week will be held in October with coordinated security. PSGP information has been issued. Eighteen regional grants were awarded last year.
 - a. **New Members** – Capt. Toczko swore in a new member to the AMSC: Dan Kaney, Pacific Maritime Association (PMA).
5. **Subcommittee Reports:**
 - a. **Neptune Coalition Brief** – Sector SF: Operation Ready Eagle was conducted from June 12th through July 4th to provide coordinated multi-agency maritime security for high-visibility FIFA World Cup and America 250 events held in the region. FIFA World Cup events spanned three weeks with six soccer matches held in Santa Clara. Counter UAS was deployed during the events with 31 drone detections, 4 mitigations, and 17 drones seized. Shoreside patrols of high-density watch party areas were conducted. Waterside security included escorts for ferry and cruise vessels. America 250 Fourth of July event security in San Francisco included counter UAS with 94 drone detections and 44 mitigations. Fireworks viewing areas were patrolled and there were multi-agency waterside security enforcing safety zones. All SEAR events were held successfully. Mike Hendley, BART, asked if American or foreign made drones were detained. USCG advised that most of the drones were American made and details can be provided.
 - b. **Cybersecurity Subcommittee** – Mr. Fred Ellison, MTSS-Cyber (USCG): The USCG Cyber Command's 2025 Cyber Trends and Insights in the Marine Environment (CTIME) report is available online. Trends continue with increased phishing and ransomware threats from Russia, China, and Iran. The NorCal AMSC Cybersecurity Subcommittee charter has been updated and is being reviewed. The subcommittee charter is to share threat intelligence, lessons learned, and resources to strengthen port complex cyber resilience and enhance the security of the MTS within the San Francisco COTP Zone. The AOR contains many small to medium-sized companies requiring cybersecurity training and plan development assistance.
 - c. **PRND Subcommittee** – Mr. Matt Devine, UASI, advised that PRND was conducted during NFL Super Bowl and FIFA World Cup events. A report on the operations is being developed. A three-day maritime counter terrorism PRND class will be hosted by WETA on September 21-23. Additional PRND training is

upcoming and information will be provided. Rad/Nuc detectors are being acquired from the Naval Post Graduate School for regional use. Mr. David Trombino, LLNL Retired, volunteered to assist the subcommittee. San Francisco PRND equipment upgrades are planned.

- d. **Security Breach Report** – Sector SF Port Safety & Security (PSS): Reviewed the Security Breach/Suspicious Activity Report. There were six security breaches and two suspicious activity reports last quarter. A reduced number of incidents were reported. Drone issues and transients are primary concerns. An incident occurred in May and June involving a cruise ship passenger found with ammunition in their bag. Investigation determined that a prior security lapse had occurred leading to screening officer non-dispatch pending review and implementation of refresher training on prohibited item recognition (X-ray interpretation). Drones flying near facilities are not illegal but should be reported as suspicious activity.
- e. **Port Coordination Team** – Mr. Rom Matthews, USCG: The Port of Oakland Damage Assessment Plan has been developed which includes business continuity and port recovery. The Salvage and Marine Firefighting Work Group, in coordination with FIREScope, conducted a firefighting training session in June to help safeguard port facilities.

6. General/Member Agency Reports - AMSC Membership

Jon Olmsted, SF Bar Pilots: Nothing to report.

Brandon Chapman, Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District: The Fourth of July fireworks event was held successfully. Unified Command was established for event security, and no major incidents were reported.

Chad Gagnon, Port of Oakland: TraPac terminal operations are being upgraded and new cranes installed. A maritime security meeting with the US Navy, Peruvian Navy, and USCG is scheduled.

Cameron Bochman, WETA: Ferry ridership has increased significantly. Security escorts were provided for ferries during recent SEAR events.

Kevin Krick, Matson Navigation: Strait of Hormuz disruption is a concern.

Sean Moppin, CBP: Supported FIFA World Cup and NFL Super Bowl security. Flight zone enforcement was conducted. Fake merchandise and human trafficking were enforcement priorities.

Bill Aboudi, Oakland Maritime Support Services: New TraPac cranes will hopefully increase container volume as trucking has been slow. The Port of Oakland is planning to restrict truck parking in the outer harbor on September 1st and concerns have been raised.

Daniel Hopkins, Chevron: An anti-Chevron protest took place on May 17th, and law enforcement responded. The USW workforce contract was signed on June 6th for 2026 – 2030. Capt. Toczko advised that USCG coordinated Chevron protest security.

Edgar Castor, DHS: Introduced Don Tempe, DHS, federal coordinator for Fourth of July America 250 event security.

John Fadeeff, Chevron Shipping: Shipping unpredictability is expected due to Strait of Hormuz issues. Rear Admiral Jason Tama, USCG, recently met with Chevron regarding cybersecurity.

Matt Devine, Bay Area UASI: Nothing to report.

Michael Urlaub, Solano County Sheriff Office: Assisted the City of Vallejo with a man overboard report on May 28th. There has been increased vessel traffic in the region and waterside infrastructure patrols are a priority.

Aaron Panfilio, Alameda County Fire Department: A joint training with STC, BART, LLNL, and regional agencies was held. A new oil spill response trailer is being acquired.

Oscar Thadeo, NCRIC: The September 21-23 maritime PRND class is highly recommended. A threat was reported during America 250 and a person was detained. Suspicious activity reports help identify trends. A physical security class will be held in October. A digital security class is also planned.

Dan Kaney, PMA: There is need for progressive penalties for individuals committing security breaches.

Chris Gallop, Hornblower: Nothing to report.

Joshua Doberneck, Port of Stockton PD: Nothing to report.

Brian Elder, Contra Costa County Sheriff Office: Nothing to report.

Ryan Smith, Oakland PD: A multi-agency enforcement operation was conducted in the Oakland Estuary focused on illegal anchor-outs. Eighteen derelict vessels were removed.

Peter Golnick, APL: An APL ship is in the Persian Gulf, and the situation is being monitored. Maintaining access control is a priority. A security summit will be held in Las Vegas on August 26-27.

Samar Bannister, Cal Poly Maritime Academy: The final summer sea term aboard the training ship Golden Bear was held. The Golden Bear will be anchored with the Reserve Fleet and replaced with the new training ship Golden State.

Samuel Flores, Sacramento County Sheriff Office: Nothing to report.

Travis Lieberman, Cal OES State Threat Assessment Center: Support was given in coordination with FEMA for America 250 event security and counter UAS threat monitoring. The NCRIC TLO course on suspicious activity reporting is highly recommended. Submit suspicious activity reports to Cal OES. The training ship Golden State will be implemented into statewide emergency plans. The Golden State can be used for disaster recovery and response if necessary. A California Maritime Security Council meeting will be held on September 16th at Cal Poly Maritime.

Scott Humphrey, Marine Exchange: Introduced Michael Hendley, BART Director of Security, coordinating maritime security issues. A new MDA communications trailer was acquired and outfitted by the Marine Exchange. GNSS jamming and spoofing threats are a concern for maritime navigation safety. Finland experiences extensive GNSS jamming from Russia and have developed mitigation strategies including satellite communications stations that can sample all GNSS types. There is also widespread GNSS jamming in the Strait of Hormuz. The ability to continue operations without satellite navigation is critical. The Marine Exchange, as AMSC Secretariat, has implemented a new associate management system and website featuring AMSC public documents, meeting information, and a calendar of events: www.sfmex.org/sfmex-amsc-committee. Contact: amsc@sfmx.org. Regional security training notices can be posted. Nic Samonte advised that a USCG HSIN portal has been developed for AMSC appointed member only access and information will be provided.

Arturo Icaza, DOT: There is focus on disaster response and port recovery planning.

7. Old Business:

- a. **AMSTEP TTX:** Mr. Nic Samonte advised that the annual AMSTEP exercise will be held on Wednesday, August 26, 2026. Planning for the tabletop exercise is underway. Invited participants include AMSC members and BART. Additional information will be provided.
- b. **Navy Dive Ops Executive Summary:** Mr. Nic Samonte advised that a report was released on January 2026 Navy Dive Ops training. Minesweeping training was conducted with USACE participation. Strong currents near the Golden Gate Bridge were a significant challenge.

8. New Business:

- a. **FY2026 Port Security Grant Program (PSGP):** Mr. Nic Samonte advised that the PSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity was issued by FEMA on June 24th. Grant applications are due July 24th. The USCG Field Review will take place on August 4th and IJs will be ranked before FEMA review on August 11th. Field Review participation is welcome. USCG advised on new cybersecurity regulations requiring facility response plans. Facilities are urged to use PSGP funds to make cybersecurity upgrades. Port-wide projects have priority. Scott Humphrey advised that FY2025 PSGP fund distribution was delayed, but extensions are available.

9. Public Comments:

- Steve Larson, Global Grant Services, advised that invasive golden muscles are spreading in delta waters. The muscles clog water intake pipes potentially impacting regional fire departments. Scott Humphrey advised that California State Lands Commission is involved with the issue.

10. Next Meeting: The next AMSC meeting is at 10:00 AM, October 20, 2026. The meeting will be held at the Port of Oakland Exhibit Room.

11. Closing Remarks by the Chair: Capt. Toczko highlighted the importance of maritime security and ongoing cooperation with port partners.

12. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:28 AM.