



**COLONIAL COMPLIANCE SYSTEMS, INC.**  
MARITIME REGULATORY CONSULTANTS

January 20, 2017  
NTC 04-2017

**CSI NOTICE TO CLIENTS 04-2017:**

**SUBJECT: U.S. COAST GUARD'S 2017 VESSEL RESPONSE PLAN (VRP)  
SALVAGE AND MARINE FIREFIGHTING (SMFF) VERIFICATION**

In preparation for the U.S. Coast Guard's (USCG) 2017 Vessel Response Plan (VRP) Salvage and Marine Firefighting (SMFF) Verifications, which will begin soon and continue through July 2017, please familiarize yourself Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) 12-16. A copy of the MSIB may be obtained at: [https://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/012\\_16\\_8-15-2016.pdf](https://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/012_16_8-15-2016.pdf).

The SMFF verification will not involve the deployment of actual resources, but will involve communication between the USCG and the respective Plan Holder (the vessel owner or operator), the Qualified Individual, and the listed SMFF resource provider for the selected Vessel Response Plan. The USCG will provide a scenario-packet for the vessel selected direct to the Plan Holder with a copy to the Qualified Individual to ensure prompt attention. The scenario will include up to 2 locations (<12NM, <50NM) within a USCG COTP Zone from which to complete the SMFF verification; a 21 day timeframe is provided for completion of the SMFF verification. Upon completion of the SMFF verification, the USCG will send a final letter, which will include credits for QI notification, Remote Assessment Consultation exercise, and Government Initiated Unannounced Exercise exemption for up to 36 months for the vessel.

The USCG will only accept final information from the vessel owner or operator in order for completion of the verification, therefore the Plan Holder will be working closely with the designated SMFF to provide the necessary verification in the timeframe provided.

Please contact CSI if you have any questions regarding the above.