



## **NEWS RELEASE** (01/07/2010)

*For immediate release*

### **NASBLA adds law enforcement director**

Lexington, Ky. (Jan. 7, 2010) – During the last several years, the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators' (NASBLA) role in supporting the states and the larger maritime community has continued to deepen and expand, especially in the area of maritime security preparedness and response.

The nonprofit's exciting growth has been punctuated with the simultaneous launch of its Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) program and the ANSI (American National Standards Institute), third-party accreditation last fall. With these developments, NASBLA effectively fused two key goals and objectives that have set the organization on course for a tremendous expansion of its officer training programs.

To ensure that the new programs are integrated smoothly and effectively into the organization's slate of offerings for its members, NASBLA has created a new staff position – Director of Law Enforcement.

“The purpose of this new position is to integrate and coordinate law enforcement programs within NASBLA and to improve our law enforcement value proposition to our members,” said NASBLA Executive Director John Johnson. “Among the highest priorities for this position will be the build-out of the national BOAT program in collaboration with the U.S. Coast Guard and our other maritime security partners.”

Maj. John C. Fetterman has been selected to fill the new position. After more than 32 years of service, of the highest caliber to the Maine Marine Patrol, Fetterman retired from his position as Maine's coastal boating law administrator on December 31. He joined NASBLA on Jan. 4, 2010, at which time he immediately assumed the responsibilities of managing the BOAT program, including supervising a new contractor position that will serve as the NASBLA BOAT Program Director.

“John's wealth of subject matter expertise, management experience, depth of relationships with key national policymakers, and passion for maritime safety and security position him to make huge contribution to our mission and our strategic objectives,” said Johnson. “Additionally, John's knowledge of NASBLA people and programs and his commitment to the success of our law enforcement programs will result in a very short learning curve and his ability to immediately integrate with our ongoing operations.”

A native of Pittsburgh, Penn., Major Fetterman attended St. James School, in Hagerstown, Md., and the University of Pittsburgh. His early years in Maine were spent sailing and working on several charter boats in the Boothbay Harbor area. His love of sailing and boating made his choice an easy one when he moved to Maine.

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Major Fetterman joined the Bureau of Marine Patrol in 1977 as a field officer. Much of his career with the Marine Patrol was spent as Chief Pilot, flying some 12,000 hours in multiple aircraft. In non-flight duties, Major Fetterman also supervised the Bureau's Special Services where he focused on safety programs within both the recreational and commercial boating communities. In 2001 he was promoted to Deputy Chief. In that position, he served as the coastal boating law administrator for the state of Maine.

Major Fetterman was an active member in the Maine Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Response Team and the Sector Northern New England Coast Guard Executive Area Maritime Steering Committee. He served as the project leader for Maine in drafting the "first in the nation" memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Coast Guard on enforcement of Safety and Security Zones.

Shortly after being named Maine's coastal BLA, Major Fetterman was elected to serve on the executive board of the Northern Association of Boating Administrators. He served as a member-at-large in 2003-04, secretary/treasurer for 2004-05 and vice president for 2005-06. He joined NASBLA's Executive Board in 2005 as a member-at-large. He worked his way through the Board's ranks, serving as NASBLA President in 2007-08.

Fetterman served as vice chair of NASBLA's new Homeland Security Committee when it was established in 2004, then served as committee chair in 2005. In June 2006, he was appointed to the U.S. Coast Guard National Boating Safety Advisory Council for a three-year term.

Major Fetterman and his wife, Cathy, live in Manchester, Maine, and have four grown children and three grandchildren.

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators is a national nonprofit organization that works to develop public policy for recreational boating safety. NASBLA represents the recreational boating authorities of all 50 states and the U.S. territories. NASBLA offers a variety of resources, including training, model acts, education standards and publications. Through a national network of thousands of professional educators, law enforcement officers and volunteers, the organization affects the lives of over 83.6 million American boaters. To learn more about how NASBLA continues to make the waterways safe, secure and enjoyable, visit [www.nasbla.org](http://www.nasbla.org).

Major Fetterman may be reached at [john.fetterman@nasbla.org](mailto:john.fetterman@nasbla.org).

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A high-resolution photo of Major Fetterman is available at:  
<http://www.nasbla.org/images/people/Fetterman-high.jpg>.