

will focus on: (a) issues central to strategic DoD planning; (b) policy implications of U.S. force structure and modernization on DoD's ability to execute U.S. defense strategy; (c) U.S. regional defense policies; and (d) other defense policy and national security issues of special interest to the DoD raised by the DoD Appointing Authority, or the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy as the DPB's Sponsor.

The DPB shall be composed of not more than 20 members who have distinguished backgrounds in defense and national security affairs. These members will come from varied backgrounds including prior government or military service, multinational corporations, academia, or other non-government organizations. Individual members will be appointed according to DoD policy and procedures, and serve a term of service of one-to-four years with annual renewals. One member will be appointed as Chair of the DPB. No member, unless approved according to DoD policy and procedures, may serve more than two consecutive terms of service on the DPB, or serve on more than two DoD Federal advisory committees at one time.

Individual members are appointed according to DoD policy and procedures, and serve a term of service of one-to-four years with annual renewals. One member will be appointed as Chair of the DPB. No member, unless approved according to DoD policy and procedures, may serve more than two consecutive terms of service on the DPB, or serve on more than two DoD Federal advisory committees at one time.

DPB members who are not full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active duty members of the Uniformed Services, are appointed as experts or consultants, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3109, to serve as special government employee members. DPB members who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active duty members of the Uniformed Services are appointed pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.130(a), to serve as regular government employee members.

All DPB members are appointed to provide advice based on their best judgment without representing any particular point of view and in a manner that is free from conflict of interest. Except for reimbursement of official DPB-related travel and per diem, members serve without compensation.

The public or interested organizations may submit written statements about the DPB's mission and functions.

Written statements may be submitted at any time or in response to the stated agenda of planned meeting of the DPB. All written statements shall be submitted to the DFO for the DPB using the link provided in this **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section, and this individual will ensure that the written statements are provided to the membership for their consideration.

Dated: August 24, 2023.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Certificate of Alternate Compliance for USS Kingsville (LCS 36)

AGENCY: Department of the Navy (DoN), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice of issuance of Certificate of Alternate Compliance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Navy hereby announces that a Certificate of Alternate Compliance has been issued for USS *Kingsville* (LCS 36). Due to the special construction and purpose of this vessel, the Admiralty Counsel of the Navy has determined it is a vessel of the Navy which, due to its special construction and purpose, cannot comply fully with the navigation lights provisions of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (72 COLREGS) without interfering with its special function as a naval ship. The intended effect of this notice is to warn mariners in waters where 72 COLREGS apply.

DATES: This Certificate of Alternate Compliance is effective August 30, 2023 and is applicable beginning August 23, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lieutenant Ryan Feingold, JAGC, U.S. Navy, Admiralty Attorney, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Admiralty and Claims Division (Code 15), 1322 Patterson Ave SE, Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066, 202-685-5075, or admiralty@navy.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Purpose.

Executive Order (E.O.) 11964 of January 19, 1977 and 33 U.S.C. 1605 provide that the requirements of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (72 COLREGS), as to the number, position, range, or arc of visibility of lights or shapes, as well

as to the disposition and characteristics of sound-signaling appliances, shall not apply to a vessel or class of vessels of the Navy where the Secretary of the Navy shall find and certify that, by reason of special construction or purpose, it is not possible for such vessel(s) to comply fully with the provisions without interfering with the special function of the vessel(s). Notice of issuance of a Certificate of Alternate Compliance must be made in the **Federal Register**.

In accordance with 33 U.S.C. 1605, the Admiralty Counsel of the Navy, under authority delegated by the Secretary of the Navy, hereby finds and certifies that USS *Kingsville* (LCS 36) is a vessel of special construction or purpose, and that, with respect to the position of the following navigational lights, it is not possible to comply fully with the requirements of the provisions enumerated in the 72 COLREGS without interfering with the special function of the vessel: Annex I, paragraph 2(a)(i) pertaining to the height of the forward masthead light; Annex I, paragraph 3(a) pertaining to the location of the forward quarter of the ship; Annex I, paragraph 2(f)(i) pertaining to obstructions of the aft masthead light; Annex I, paragraph 3(a) pertaining to the horizontal separation of the masthead lights; Annex I, Paragraph 2(f)(ii) and Annex I, Paragraph 3(c) pertaining to the vertical and horizontal position of the task lights in relation to the masthead lights; Annex I, Paragraph 9(b) pertaining to the degree of obstruction of the task lights.

The Admiralty Counsel of the Navy further finds and certifies that these navigational lights are in closest possible compliance with the applicable provision of the 72 COLREGS.

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1605(c), E.O. 11964.

Dated: August 25, 2023.

K.K. Ramsey,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, U. S. Navy.

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