



# University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System

## ~UNOLS~

## Research Vessel Safety Standards Chapter 6 and Appendix E June 1, 2017





## Chapter 6- Personal Behavior and Individual Safety

### Appendix E- Harassment Prevention

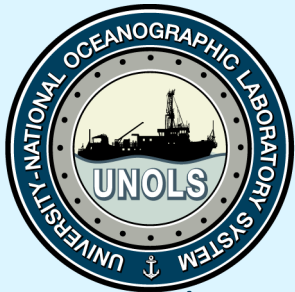
- March 2017- UNOLS receives request from NSF that UNOLS address some aspects of Chapter 6 & Appendix E
- Concern that reporting of incidents through ship board channels is not appropriate.
- Currently written as:  
“To address your specific concern, it is important that you speak with someone in a position to help. The following personnel are a resource available to you.”
  - Chief Scientist or Immediate Supervisor
  - Captain
  - Chief Mate
  - Marine Superintendent



## Chapter 6- Personal Behavior and Individual Safety

### Appendix E- Harassment Prevention

- Suggestion:  
Claimant should be able to contact a third party ashore
- A “help line” has been suggested, similar to a system used by NOAA.  
<https://www.rainn.org/>
- RVOC Safety Committee- Met on Tuesday 18 April 2017
- Safety Committee Chair- Admiral Jeff Garrett has drafted a revised Chapter 6 and Appendix E.
- NSF has added comments and suggestions
- Safety Committee will review, RVOC will approve, and RVSS will be revised



# Proposed Language Changes

*Each UNOLS vessel must:*

*Institution policy. Ensure that all aspects of the institution's harassment prevention policy are incorporated in the vessel's regulations and operating procedures.*

*Posting. Post the institution's harassment prevention policy aboard the vessel in a location easily accessible to all members of the crew and science party.*

*Training. Conduct harassment prevention training for all members of the crew and science party immediately before or immediately after getting underway for a science cruise. This training must include viewing of the first two modules of the UNOLS-developed videos by each person at least once per year. Harassment prevention training may be combined with the vessel's general safety briefing.*

*Reporting procedures. Clear procedures for a person experiencing or witnessing an instance of harassment must be available to all persons onboard; these can be provided in the posted policy and pre-cruise training. Appendix E contains amplifying information.*



## Proposed Changes continued...

Off-vessel point of contact. In addition to establishing procedures for reporting incidents to authorities aboard the vessel, a point of contact ashore must be provided. Access must be available by telephone, text or email. An institution's established harassment "hotline" or designated point of contact would satisfy this requirement. Note: the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN) maintains a national sexual assault hotline that may be an asset for UNOLS institutions.

Release forms. Signature on the release form must indicate that the signer has been informed of the vessel's harassment policy.

Appendix E provides a discussion of what constitutes harassment and recommended procedures for anyone experiencing or witnessing a harassment incident.



## Appendix E – Proposed Changes

*However, if you are uncomfortable talking to those in authority aboard the vessel, or if they are involved in the incident, you have the right to contact a neutral party off the vessel. The harassment point of contact or “hotline” designated by the UNOLS institution and provided by the posted institution policy would clearly be an option. In any event, whether you are a victim or a witness, **it is critical that you report the incident.***