

**USCGC EAGLE (WIX 327)**  
**2013**  
**Welcome & Orientation**



# A Note from the Commanding Officer

## “EAGLE” Sends

Welcome aboard U.S. Coast Guard Cutter EAGLE! We are glad to have you aboard and hope your time in EAGLE will prove to be a unique and memorable experience.

The information in this booklet is designed to introduce you to EAGLE and to explain how you fit into the cutter's organization. As a guest aboard who may be unfamiliar with shipboard life, this booklet should be your guide to a safe and enjoyable experience. The most important information that it contains is the set of safety rules that apply to all hands. These rules may save your life or the life of a shipmate in the event of an emergency. Do not hesitate to ask questions. Every crewmember is willing to help you with anything you may need.

I really enjoy the opportunity to have guests aboard EAGLE, but you can be far more than simply a passenger. Each guest that gets involved contributes to our program. We conduct a great deal of training, stand a wide range of watches, and work hard each day. I am extremely proud of our Service's missions, and of the dedicated men and women who perform them. Your sailing aboard, as well as your interest in the training program and shipboard evolutions, sends the same message – what we do is both interesting and important.

### PAPERWORK FIRST

There are two documents at the end of this booklet that must be completed prior to embarking EAGLE: the Release and Waiver of Liability and Indemnity Agreement, and the USCGC EAGLE Medical Questionnaire. Upon initialing and signing the Liability and Indemnity Agreement and receiving a signed medical opinion that you are fit to embark in EAGLE, you are eligible to sail. The medical form must be scanned and e-mailed to my executive officer at least two weeks prior to sailing. If you wish to go aloft, you must also have a medical opinion that you are fit to climb. The Executive Officer will meet with all guests immediately after Quarters prior to sailing. In addition to welcoming all guests and providing additional safety information, the Executive Officer will request and review these documents. **Please do not forget these forms and take the time to fill them out. If they are not complete, you will not be permitted to sail.**

I hope you enjoy your time aboard and see with your own eyes the development of the high quality men and women who will be leading our Coast Guard in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Wes Pulver  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commanding Officer

# U.S. Coast Guard Cutter EAGLE (WIX 327)

## Command Philosophy

*Our Coast Guard is about our Missions, People, and Heritage. Going to Sea in Barque EAGLE is unique as it provides us the opportunity to execute our operational mission, develop our future leadership in both our junior crew and the embarked trainees, and display the history of our Service and our maritime Nation.*

*EAGLE's missions are to train the future leadership of our the Coast Guard and to represent the United States across the Nation and abroad. These are demanding tasks, and will require our committed and unified efforts to be successful. In executing our missions, we will ensure that we operate safely, and not tolerate actions that put our crew or trainees at unnecessary risk. Within the Officer training program, we will strive to provide a positive hands-on experience, teaching and mentoring the trainees about the demands and culture of going to sea. We will value every training opportunity, treating the embarked trainees with respect, and will expect the same from them in return. In representing the United States, we shall take the opportunity to host guests, and be ambassadors of our Coast Guard and Nation. We will exude pride in EAGLE, our Coast Guard, and our Nation.*

*The key to accomplishing our missions is our People. In EAGLE, we will exemplify the expression "Shipmate". As your shipmate, I am dedicated to providing you opportunities to excel and develop. In return, I expect your best effort. We will develop proficiency in our assigned positions, look for opportunities to help others, and treat each other with respect..*

*EAGLE represents the maritime heritage of our Service. As the Coast Guard flag ship, we represent the fleet. As America's Tall Ship, we represent our Nation's maritime heritage. Take the opportunity to learn the manners of our profession, and take pride in our history.*

*Going to sea is a challenging, rewarding, and enjoyable opportunity with a rich tradition. I am proud to be a career Cutterman; the camaraderie and respect between shipmates is not duplicated anywhere else in the Coast Guard. I am honored to sail in EAGLE and look forward to serving the next three years with you and your families. You should be similarly excited about EAGLE. This is YOUR ship, get involved every day. Be the very best sailor you can be. The sea demands it, the Cutterman tradition requires it, and I expect it.*

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

1. SAFETY: Safety is stressed on EAGLE. Every crewmember, trainee, and guest is required to play an active role. If you feel at any time that you are unsure or in a position in which you are uncomfortable, notify the senior person immediately. If you see something that appears unsafe, you are required to yell “avast” which will notify all to freeze until the condition is deemed safe. If you are unsure, yell “avast” anyway. We would much rather lose 10 seconds on 50 different occasions than have one person get injured.
  
2. APPROPRIATE CLOTHING AND MISCELLANEOUS:
  - a. You should bring comfortable, casual clothing to wear while aboard, including a pair of deck shoes, tennis shoes or comparable soft-soled shoes. Keep in mind that it is often cooler on the ocean than ashore and you should bring an appropriate foul weather jacket as well as a set of rain gear.
  
  - b. We request you refrain from cutoff or worn clothing. Collared and uncollared shirts are both appropriate, but T-shirts with inappropriate slogans are not. When dining in either the wardroom or cabin, collared shirts shall be worn.
  
  - c. If you like to read, you may wish to bring a few books, although we do have a small “nautical theme” library on board. **Plan to bring a towel**, a bath robe, pajamas, toiletries, shower shoes, sun screen, and any medications you will need. Linen for your rack will be provided. No alcoholic beverages please.
  
  - d. All guests shall bring two forms of picture identification. If you are on board while EAGLE is proceeding to/from a foreign port, ensure that one of the IDs is a passport. If your name in the welcome aboard letter does not match the spelling on your ID, please bring it to the Executive Officer’s attention upon embarking.
  
3. ACCOMMODATIONS:
  - a. You will be assigned a berth either in a large berthing area with 8-14 others, or possibly in 2-person stateroom depending upon availability. Space is a precious commodity aboard ship; please pack accordingly. There are separate head/shower facilities for each gender. Depending on the berth you are assigned, you may be required to walk some distance to the rain locker (shower).
  
  - b. A locker is provided for stowage of your personal gear, and I'm sure you are aware that at sea, things often don't stay put unless they are properly secured. You should therefore keep items (such as cameras) stowed when not in use. We also ask that you make your rack each day and keep your quarters shipshape, in accordance with seagoing custom. Bring enough clothing to last at least a week. To conserve our limited fresh water, you will only be able to do laundry if we are at sea for more than a week. Our ship's MAA will develop a laundry schedule for you to follow.
  
4. TRAFFIC PATTERNS: To reduce confusion during emergencies and make for a more efficient unit, while onboard we ask that you “obey traffic patterns”. This means that while on deck, you

transit in a counterclockwise motion; if you want to proceed from the fantail to the forecastle, you proceed on the starboard side. If you are on the waist and wish to go aft to the bridge, use the port side ladder.

5. SMOKING AND TOBACCO REGULATIONS: Smoking is only permitted in the vicinity of the port aircastle, and is prohibited in all other spaces. Smoking is not permitted at all under the following conditions:

- a. In any part of the ship when receiving fuel oil, diesel oil, or gasoline.
  - b. During any all-hands evolution, including morning muster or Quarters.
  - c. At or in the vicinity of Divine Service.
  - d. Whenever the word “the smoking lamp is extinguished” is passed
- Once done, cigarettes should be disposed of in the “butt-can” provided on the aircastle. Do not “flick your butt” overboard, especially in port.

6. HEALTH AND SANITATION:

a. We will always have a hospital corpsman in EAGLE, and normally a medical officer as well. If you have any medical conditions of which we should be aware, please see one of them as soon as possible after you come aboard. They can also provide you with anti-motion sickness medication.

b. Trash is always an issue in a cutter, and we need your help. First, in accordance with International Law, we separate plastics from biodegradables. In every common space, there will be a trashcan for both plastics and non-plastics. Please separate trash at the source; you will be helping out our crew, and helping to keep our oceans cleaner. Also, please do not throw any trash overboard unless directed.

7. MUSTER LOCATION:

- a. Fair weather parade: Guests muster forward of Medical.
- b. Foul weather parade: TDY Officers and Guests muster in the Wardroom

8. MEALS & PAYMENTS: Once aboard, you will be dining with your host. For family of crew and cadets, you will dine primarily on the messdeck, and may be invited to dine once or twice in the wardroom or cabin depending on schedules. Guests of officers will eat in the wardroom and possibly with the Captain in the cabin, depending on space availability. You will be charged \$12.00 for meals and various consumables for each night you stay on board. You will need to make your payment upon arrival, during the in-briefing. Payments should be made by personal check payable to "**EAGLE Special Projects.**" Credit cards will not be accepted.

9. THE DAILY ROUTINE:

a. As you would expect on a military vessel whose primary mission is training, the days are full and start early. Most events of the daily routine, from "reveille" in the morning to "taps" at night, are announced over the ship's public address system; once you get used to the military and nautical flavor and terms used, you should have no trouble figuring out what's happening. A "Plan of the Day" is published and posted each evening listing events scheduled for the following day. You will find it helpful to spend a minute or two reading it each day.

b. As a general rule, you are free to go anywhere except for other shipmate's berthing areas, the Captain's Cabin, and the Engineering Spaces unless invited.

c. We encourage you to ask questions and become involved in the ship's routine, either during all hands evolutions, shipboard watches, assisting in meal preparation, or attending daily cadet/officer candidate training sessions. However, there will be moments when crew and trainees are very actively engaged in their duties. Please use your best judgment. During drills, sailing evolutions or boat operations, you should observe from a location away from the traffic; usually the bridge near the small boats is best. There are no restrictions on taking photographs. If you wish to participate in ship's evolutions, ask the senior person present. We enjoy your participation, but may decline in circumstances which impact safety or training.

d. There are several restrictions on climbing aloft and the First Lieutenant manages the procedures to be followed. Any guest who desires to go aloft shall be escorted to the tops during an "up and over" exercise. Beyond that, for safety reasons, guests normally do not go or work aloft.

#### 10. SEWAGE SYSTEM:

a. The sanitary system in EAGLE is a vacuum flush system. ONLY HUMAN WASTE AND TOILET PAPER can be introduced into the system.

b. Do not put rags, chewing gum, paper towels, etc in the toilets.

c. Female hygiene products (sanitary napkins) should not be placed in the sewage system. Proper receptacles are located in each female head.

#### 11. HEADS & SHOWERS:

a. At sea there is a continuous need to conserve water. Please do not waste water by taking long, multiple, or hotel showers. A max of two sea showers is allowed per day. A sea shower consists of wetting your self down (up to 1 minute), turning off the water, soaping up, and then rinsing off (up to 2 minutes).

b. Please take care not to run water unnecessarily when brushing your teeth or washing your hands. If we are careful about water conservation, we can avoid water hour restrictions.

#### 12. EMERGENCIES:

a. At sea, there is always the possibility that there may be an emergency such as fire or flooding. The permanent crew of EAGLE is very well trained. The crew attends Firefighting and Flooding schools during the winter months, and participates in a demanding two-week training availability where the crew concentrates on responding to emergency situations.

b. Once underway, all members in EAGLE will be assigned to the Watch, Quarter, and Station Bill – which simply put tells you where to go and what to do in an emergency and during all hands evolutions. For guests, you will go to the wardroom. If the emergency is in the wardroom, engineering space, or in the immediate vicinity, you will muster in the Crew's Lounge. During your first day on board, this will be reviewed.

c. If during any period of the day, you have a medical emergency or suspect that something is wrong, notify someone immediately and have the word passed to the bridge so action may be taken.

### 13. EMBARKING EAGLE AND YOUR FIRST DAY:

a. Guests will normally embark one day prior to getting underway. They should check in with the Officer of the Deck, and they will be escorted to their berthing area or stateroom. All personal belongings should be properly stored at this time. Do NOT open the “port holes.” These through hull “windows” are critical to maintaining water tight integrity of the hull and thus are important to the safety of all hands. If one is not tightened, please get help from a crew member.

b. On the day that we will get underway, please take the time to eat breakfast on the messdeck. Meals normally will run from ~0700-0800, but please check the Plan of the Day. After breakfast, Quarters will be held. You should muster on the port aft side of the waist, just forward of sickbay. The Executive Officer will review the day’s schedule and welcome you aboard during all-hands Quarters.

c. Immediately after Quarters, you will join the XO, Medical Officer, Master-at-Arms, and Leading Damage Control Petty Officer in the Wardroom. You will hand in your required paperwork, as well as discuss safety and housekeeping topics, and have the opportunity to ask questions prior to getting underway.

d. In your first afternoon underway, EAGLE may conduct Administrative Drills to review emergency assignments. If not, the Master-At-Arms will walk you to your emergency stations in the morning. This will include “sail stations”, and will be the only time we ask that you do not participate as you have not attended “School of the Ship” (next paragraph).

e. After administrative drills, you will attend “School of the Ship” which will go over abandon ship procedures, sail station safety, and safety aloft requirements. You will don an immersion suit, learn to tie specific knots, and will conduct an up-and-over drill (climb the rigging). Climbing is not required, however you have to climb on this first day if you wish to go aloft later in the week. You do not have to complete up-and-over drills to climb out on the bowsprit, but you must attend the pre-climb training and sign paperwork.

f. After the required indoctrination period, you may congratulate yourself on meeting the requirements to sail. It will only be mid-afternoon, so enjoy your evening meal, evening sail stations, and hopefully a beautiful sunset.

### 14. CONTACT INFORMATION:

a. Prior to embarking, you may contact the EAGLE quarterdeck at cellular (860) 625-0831. If we are underway, your best option is to use the XO’s email at Michael.A.Turdo@uscg.mil. By receipt of this message, you have been reserved a berth and will sail; there is no need for communications unless you have a specific question or have to alter plans.

b. Once you are underway, you will be incommunicado. We do not have the capacity for you to make ship to shore phone calls or send/receive emails unless in an emergency. You may bring a cellular phone, but do not expect it to work once offshore. For truly urgent matters, you can be reached via the Executive Officer at Michael.A.Turdo@uscg.mil. Use this sparingly! If your family has an emergency when you are underway, please have them contact the Atlantic Area Command Center at (757) 398-6390 who will get in touch with EAGLE.

15. POTENTIAL SCHEDULE CHANGES:

a. It is highly recommended that you purchase refundable tickets when making your travel plans. Unfortunately, schedules sometimes change even on a training vessel. Every effort will be made to ensure you have the most up to date information with regards to any potential delay in our arrival or departure from a port of call.

## SHIP'S DATA

### 1. MISSION:

As the sole tall ship in United States government service, U.S. Coast Guard Barque EAGLE uniquely executes its two primary missions of training and representation. The demands on team organization, coordination, and unity of effort required to successfully sail a square-rigged sail vessel make EAGLE a superlative leadership laboratory, providing Coast Guard cadets and officer candidates opportunities to practice time-honored and newly identified leadership principles. Further, successfully operating a demanding anachronistic technology in some of the most arduous conditions humankind experiences challenges each individual to achieve greater heights of personal dedication and devotion to a common goal.

While EAGLE often performs in a multi-missioned operational manner expected of all Coast Guard ships, called upon to execute missions ranging from search and rescue to marine environmental protection, our secondary mission after training is representation. Barque EAGLE serves as U.S. and U.S. Coast Guard ambassador wherever the ship may be viewed—on the high seas, in coastal waters, and especially during ports of call. EAGLE proudly represents our nation and our Service, using every opportunity to tell the Coast Guard's story of over 200 years of exemplary service as a military armed force and a humanitarian service.

### 2. CHARACTERISTICS:

a. Length overall:	295 feet
b. Length along waterline:	231 feet
c. Beam:	39.1 feet
d. Draft:	17 feet
e. Navigational draft:	20 feet
f. Minimum pier length necessary:	350 feet
g. Masthead height above waterline:	147.4 feet    Housed: 133.1 feet
b. Type of shore services required:	
Potable water:	8000 gallons per day
Electric:	450 VAC, 3 phase 400 AMP
i. Full load displacement:	1816 tons
j. Fresh water capacity:	25,900 gallons at 95%
k. Fuel capacity:	24,170 gallons
m. Anchors:	
Starboard:	3800 pounds, 11 shots of chain
Port:	3500 pounds, 11 shots of chain
n. Ship's company:	
Officers:	6 plus 4 Temporary Duty
Chief Petty Officers:	3 plus 2 Temporary Duty
Enlisted:	49 plus 13 Temporary Duty
Cadet cadre:	21 upper class cadets
Trainees:	129 underclass cadets or officer candidates

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

Release executed on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_,  
by \_\_\_\_\_,  
whose address is \_\_\_\_\_,  
City of \_\_\_\_\_,  
County of \_\_\_\_\_,  
State of \_\_\_\_\_

Initial each paragraph after reading it.

\_\_\_\_\_ For the purposes of this release and Waiver of Liability and Indemnity Agreement, the United States of America, and all agencies and instrumentalities thereof, including the Department of Homeland Security and the United States Coast Guard, its officers, enlisted members, employees and contractors, acting officially or otherwise, shall hereinafter be referred to as the UNITED STATES.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to release the UNITED STATES from all liability for loss, damage, physical injuries and even death resulting from my touring and or sailing in USCGC EAGLE, or activities related thereto, even if caused by the negligence of the UNITED STATES or otherwise.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree that my spouse, legal representative, heirs and assigns will not hold the UNITED STATES liable for any loss, damage, physical injuries and even death resulting from my touring and or sailing in USCGC EAGLE, or activities related thereto, even if caused by the negligence of the UNITED STATES or otherwise.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to indemnify the UNITED STATES for any loss, liability, damage or cost the UNITED STATES may incur due to my touring and or sailing in USCGC EAGLE, or activities related thereto.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree that my spouse, legal representative, heirs and assigns will indemnify the UNITED STATES for any loss, liability, damage or cost the UNITED STATES may incur due to my touring and or sailing in USCGC EAGLE, or activities related thereto.

\_\_\_\_\_ I expressly agree that this Release and Waiver of Liability and Indemnity Agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by law, and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall continue in full legal force and effect.

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby declare that the terms of this Release and Waiver of Liability and Indemnity Agreement have been completely read and fully understood and voluntarily accepted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Received

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



Commanding Officer  
USCGC EAGLE (WIX 327)

45 Mohegan Avenue  
New London, CT 06320  
Staff Symbol: XO  
Phone: (860) 625-0831  
FAX: (860) 439-1659

5000  
08 Jan 2013

Dear Doctor:

Your patient is a guest who will be sailing aboard the USCGC EAGLE for several days. While underway, we do not have the same medical options we enjoy ashore. In order to ensure their health and safety, please fill out and return the enclosed form as soon as possible.

I prefer this form is scanned and e-mailed back to me at [Michael.A.Turdo@uscg.mil](mailto:Michael.A.Turdo@uscg.mil). Please do not attempt to mail a printed copy as we are at sea for significant portions of the year and it is often months before mail is delivered to the ship. We have underway e-mail connectivity, but bandwidth is limited; the scanned form must be smaller than 500kb or I will not receive it. If you have trouble scanning the medical form please e-mail me so we can make other delivery arrangements.

EAGLE is a 295-foot three-masted square rigger built in 1936. Its primary mission is to train cadets for eventual commissioning as officers in the U. S. Coast Guard. The focus is therefore on drilling and training young men and women in a physically and mentally challenging environment. Life aboard EAGLE is spartan at best. EAGLE is not a cruise ship designed to accommodate passengers. Life can be difficult, even for those in the best of shape. Your patient will sleep in a steel frame bunk bed, and even may be required to climb into the upper berth. In heavy seas there is significant pitching and rolling. This in turn significantly increases the risk of being tossed out of bed and make even basic activities, such as walking and climbing stairs, extremely difficult. Ladders/stairs are steep and are often slippery in rough weather. Meals are regular and nutritious but special diets cannot be accommodated.

A physician and a Coast Guard Health Services Technician will be aboard anytime that EAGLE is underway. The medical team can provide only basic first aid, simple urgent care needs (seasickness, minor lacerations, colds, etc.) and initial stabilization of emergencies in preparation for transport. There is no lab or x-ray available. There is no medication on board for treatment of chronic illnesses such as hypertension, diabetes, or heart failure. In case of a medical emergency, there is frequently no easy way to evacuate patients.

Guests should be in good health with good balance and sustainable strength to withstand the rigors of life at sea for up to three weeks at a time. If chronic medication is required they will need an adequate supply for the entire trip. Hypertension and other chronic conditions should be very well controlled. If they have medical problems that could be aggravated by the conditions in EAGLE, seasickness, or physical exertion please advise them not to sail.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. You may reach me by e-mail at: [Michael.A.Turdo@uscg.mil](mailto:Michael.A.Turdo@uscg.mil). Thank you very much for your assistance.

Sincerely,

M. A. Turdo  
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard  
Executive Officer  
USCGC EAGLE (WIX 327)

Encl: (1) USCGC EAGLE Medical Questionnaire

## USCGC EAGLE GUEST MEDICAL QUESTIONNAIRE

Patient's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Patient's NOK: \_\_\_\_\_

NOK's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **General Medical Information** (to be completed by patient):

Allergies (Food/Medications): \_\_\_\_\_

Medical History/Health Problems (e.g. Heart Disease, Hypertension, Asthma, Diabetes,  
Orthopedic Problems, Psychiatric Conditions): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Surgeries/Hospitalizations: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Medications: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Medical Recommendation** (to be completed by a physician):

I have discussed the trip aboard EAGLE with my patient and feel that they would / would  
not (*circle one*) be medically fit to travel aboard EAGLE.

I believe that they are fit / not fit (*circle one*) to climb the rigging.

Concerns/Comments (*continue on back if necessary*): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

***THIS FORM FALLS UNDER THE PRIVACY ACT. ALL INFORMATION WILL BE TREATED AS  
CONFIDENTIAL. AT THE PATIENT'S REQUEST, THIS FORM WILL BE RETURNED UPON  
COMPLETION OF THE VOYAGE. OTHERWISE IT WILL BE APPROPRIATELY DESTROYED.***