

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



Commanding Officer  
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## MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY BULLETIN 43-11

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### **Gangway Access Control on Foreign Vessels Calling on the Ports of Savannah and Brunswick**

Marine Safety Unit (MSU) Savannah has become aware of instances where longshoremen have refused to show identification when requested by access control personnel on foreign ships. This has raised concerns about the proper implementation of vessel security measures required by U.S. law and international convention. In response to these concerns, MSU Savannah will conduct random security examinations on vessels calling on the Savannah Captain of the Port (COTP) Zone and will take enforcement actions against any vessel found to be out of compliance with their approved vessel security plan.

Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations Part 104 and the International Ship & Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code require deep draft foreign vessels to implement an approved security plan which includes proper measures for access control. Vessels found out of compliance with their security plan may be subject to delays, detentions, restriction of cargo operations, or expulsions from port by the COTP. Persons unaccounted for by vessel crews will be immediately expelled from the vessel or handed over to the local law enforcement authorities.

It is important to remember that knowledge of persons onboard a vessel is not just a security concern, it is also paramount to ensuring safety. Responsibility for the number of people on a vessel at any given time allows for proper response in the event of an emergency. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Lieutenant Junior Grade Jennifer L. Carty at (912) 652-4353 Ext 236.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. B. LORING".

J. B. LORING  
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port