



## Memorandum

**Memorandum No: 25-134**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Rickelle Williams, City Manager *AW*

**DATE:** August 7, 2025

**SUBJECT: Fort Lauderdale Police Department Marine Unit Participation in Operation "Risky Business"**

---

### Operation Overview:

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department's Marine Unit participated in a multi-jurisdictional marine operation named "Risky Business" with the Fort Lauderdale Station of the United States Coast Guard (USCG). The objective of this operation was to conduct recreational safety boardings on vessels operating as charters. Each law enforcement vessel would have USCG personnel on board to assist with the boardings and inspections. The agencies included in the operation were the USCG, City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward Sheriff's Office, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC), City of Hallandale, City of Hollywood, and the United States Customs & Border Patrol, Port Everglades.

The operation took place on the Intracoastal Waterways of the City of Fort Lauderdale and Port Everglades over two days (July 19 – 20, 2025) and personnel executed proactive enforcement actions on vessels suspected of engaging in illegal charters in Police Districts 1 and 3, and City Commission Districts 1, 2 and 4.

### Key Outcomes in Fort Lauderdale:

- 111 Vessels boarded
- 9 Illegal Charters terminated
- 7 Recreational voyages terminated for safety equipment violations
- 62 Coast Guard violations issued
- 9 Coast Guard warnings issued
- 54 State uniform boating citations issued

**Fort Lauderdale Police Department Specific Statistics:**

- 18 Vessels boarded
- 7 Illegal Charters terminated
- 1 Recreational voyage terminated for safety equipment violations
- 8 State uniform boating citations issued

**Regional Context:**

FLPD's role in operation "Risky Business" reflects the effectiveness of strategic enforcement and strong interagency collaboration. The vessel boardings and sustained presence during this operation disrupted illegal vessel charter activity, enhanced public safety, and demonstrated the value of regional partnerships in addressing charter violations on navigable waterways within the City of Fort Lauderdale.

For any additional information, please contact Chief William Schultz at 954-828-5590.

c: D'Wayne M. Spence, Interim City Attorney  
David R. Soloman, City Clerk  
Patrick Reilly, City Auditor  
City Manager's Office  
Department Directors