



July 17, 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR: A.I.S., Inc.,
East West Technical Services,
Fathoms Research LLC, and
MRAG Americas
At-Sea Monitors, Industry Funded Scallop Observers, and
Northeast Fisheries Observer Program Observers

FROM: Amy S. Van Atten
Branch Chief, Fisheries Sampling Branch (FSB)

SUBJECT: Drug/Alcohol Awareness Training

This purpose of this memo is to inform observers and observer service providers and their staff of a new Drug Awareness training that was recently created and presented at the May 2013 NEFOP training. The presentation was created in collaboration with the US Coast Guard. The presentation will now be included as part of all NEFOP, ASM and IFS initial trainings and is being sent to all current observers and monitors to ensure that information is provided to all active NEFOP observers. The objectives of this presentation are as follows:

- Make observers aware that illegal drugs and drug use may occur on vessels
- Help observers identify dangerous or potentially dangerous drug paraphernalia and behaviors
- Inform observers on how to report an unsafe drug or alcohol use situation

This presentation has been created to increase observer safety through education. This presentation is not meant to provide observers with training to act in an enforcement capacity, but rather to be educated and aware and ultimately be as safe as possible aboard fishing vessels. Observer safety remains the number one priority for the NEFOP program. This information should assist observers in identifying potentially unsafe vessels, therefore allowing observers to make better decisions about whether or not to deploy on a vessel. Reporting this information via an incident report, if you've felt that an unsafe situation was created, or if the operator of the vessel was abusing drugs or alcohol, will further assist the program in supporting fellow observers in creating a safer environment.

For questions or concerns involving this memo or any drug/alcohol related questions or issues please contact:

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Attachment: Drug/Alcohol Awareness Presentation