

**NATIONAL BOATING SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**November 11, 2012  
Watsonville, CA**

**Resolution Number 2012-90-05**

**Terminology Update for Life Jacket Carriage Requirements**

**WHEREAS**, NBSAC Resolution 2009-83-01 recommended in part that the USCG “transition to a new consolidated North American [life jacket] standard...”; AND

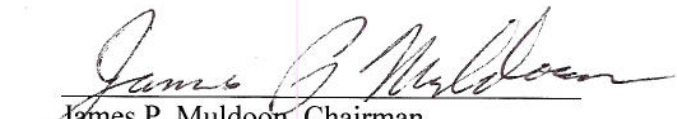
**WHEREAS**, the USCG Lifesaving and Fire Safety Division has been diligently working towards achieving a transition to new life jacket standards, which will happen in the next year or two; AND

**WHEREAS**, those new life jacket standards will use different terminology than the current standards, including no longer using the familiar Type I, II, III, IV and V codes; AND

**WHEREAS**, existing life jacket carriage requirements currently found in 33 CFR Subpart B, Personal Flotation Devices specify that boaters carry and/or use Type I, II, III, IV and V personal flotation devices in the various requirements; AND

**WHEREAS**, replacing the instances of Type I, II, III, IV and V with “U.S. Coast Guard approved” would not change the intent and effect of the regulations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Boating Safety Advisory Council, meeting in regular session in Watsonville, California, on November 11, 2012, recommends that the U. S. Coast Guard update its regulations found in 33 CFR 175 Subpart B by replacing every instance of Type I, II, III, IV and V with “U.S. Coast Guard approved” or other appropriate language to ensure that boaters do not run afoul of obsolete regulations upon the introduction of life jackets manufactured under new standards.

  
James P. Muldoon, Chairman  
National Boating Safety Advisory Council