

ACCIDENT REPORTING

Boat operators involved in an accident must provide their name, address and vessel registration number to other involved parties, provide assistance to any injured persons and, in case of a death or disappearance, report the accident without delay to law enforcement officials.

Boat operators or owners must also make a written report of a boating accident to the Department of Boating and Waterways when:

- A person dies, disappears, or is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid.
- Total damage to all vessels involved and other property is more than \$500 or there is complete loss of a vessel.

This report must be made within 48 hours of the accident in cases involving a disappearance, death that occurs within 24 hours of the accident, or injury that requires medical treatment beyond first aid. In all other incidents where a written accident report is required, the report must be made within 10 days of the accident.

An accident report form is contained in this booklet and may be used for such reports. Forms are available through most sheriffs and harbormasters offices and many police departments. They may also be obtained by writing to the Department of Boating and Waterways or visit www.dbw.ca.gov. Failure to comply with the above requirements is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 or imprisonment up to six months, or both.