

**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
(AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ)
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF MERCHANT MARINE
(DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE MARINA MERCANTE)
DEPARTMENT OF CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE
(DEPARTAMENTO DE CONTROL Y CUMPLIMIENTO)**

F-265
(DCCM)
V.00

MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-252

To: Shipowners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Security Organizations (RO's).

Subject: Stowaways Prevention of Access

Reference: ISPS Code Part A and B Sections 7, 8, 9,10,12,13
Resolution Fal.11 (37)
Resolution Fal.7 (29)
Resolution A.1027 (26)
Resolution A.871 (20)
Resolution MSC. 312(88)



1. This Circular has the purpose to inform that this Administration urges Ship-owners, operators, masters, companies of Panamanian flagged vessels to implement the necessary security measures to prevent stowaway's access either at sea or on arrival. When a stowaway is discovered, this indicates a failure in the implementation of the Ship Security Plan(SSP).
2. A stowaway is a person who is secreted on a ship, or in cargo which is subsequently loaded on the ship, without the consent of the ship-owner, master or any other responsible person and who is detected on board the ship after it has departed from a port, or in the cargo while unloading it in the port of arrival, and is reported as a stowaway by the master to the appropriate authorities.
3. Owners, operators, masters and Recognized Organizations (RO's) of Panamanian flagged vessels are reminded that the Panama Administration has to be informed whenever stowaways are found onboard and the operating company shall coordinate an additional audit with their RSO in a period not to exceed 90 days to verify the SSP breach.

For this case it will be necessary request an additional audit authorization through the E-segumar platform and select the Security Incident option in the following website <http://certificates.amp.gob.pa/certificates> and to more reference you can download the MMC-359 (item11).

4. All Panamanian flagged vessels when calling ports and during their stay in ports, where there is risk of a stowaway embarkation, must implement preventive measures, as follows but not limited to:
 - a). All doors, hatches and means of access to holds or stores, which are not used during the ship's stay in port should be locked;
 - b). Access points to the ship should be kept to a minimum and be adequately secured;
 - c). Areas seaward of the ship should be adequately secured;
 - d). Adequate deck watch should be kept;

- e). Boarding's and disembarkations should, where possible, be tallied by the ship's crew or, after agreement with the master, by others;
- f). Adequate means of communication should be maintained; and
- g). At night, adequate lighting should be maintained both inside and along the hull.
5. When a stowaway is found on board a ship, the responsibility of the Master and the Shipowner is: a). To determine immediately the port of embarkation of the stowaway;
- b). To establish the identity, including the nationality/citizenship and residence of the stowaway;
- c). To prepare a statement containing all available information relevant to the stowaway for presentation to the appropriate authorities at the port of embarkation, the next port of call, flag State and any subsequent ports. In this respect should be used and completed the following **STOWAWAYS INCIDENT REPORT** (See Annex);
- d). To ensure that stowaways are not forced to work on board the ship, except in emergency situations or in relation to the stowaway's accommodation on board;
- e). To ensure that stowaways are treated humanely, consistent with the basic principles.
- f). To comply with any removal directions made by the competent national authorities at the port of disembarkation;
- g). To cover any applicable costs related to the removal, detention, treatment and disembarkation of the stowaway in accordance to the legislation of the States which may be involved.
- h). Not to depart from the planned voyage to seek the disembarkation of a stowaway discovered on board the ship after it has left the territorial waters of the State where the stowaways embarked unless permission to disembark the stowaway has been granted by the public authorities of the State to whose port the ship deviates, or repatriation has been arranged elsewhere with sufficient documentation and permission given for disembarkation.
6. For reference and use take into account the Revised Guidelines on the Prevention of access by Stowaways and the allocation of Responsibilities to seek the successful resolution of the Stowaway cases. (Resolution Fal.11(37) adopted on 9 September 2011) (For reference visit Maritime Security Link, IMO Documents).
7. Once all requirements are met, they shall be submitted to the following email address: isps@amp.gob.pa, or through any of the SEGUMAR offices worldwide according to Merchant Marine Circular 242.

August, 2023 – CANCELLED.

April, 2020 – Modification of paragraph 3.

October, 2019 – Exclusion in paragraph 3 to the MMC 207.

June 2019 – Refers to paragraph 5 point c to the STOWAWAYS Incident Report Annex and the Revised Guidelines described in paragraph 6 to Maritime Security Link, IMO Documents.

August, 2012

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to:
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority
Phone: +507 501-5010

Fax: +507-501-5011

CANCELLED



**Panama Maritime Authority
Maritime Ships Security Department
Directorate General of Merchant Marine**

**FORM OF STOWAWAY DETAILS REPORTS
CONVENTION ON FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME TRAFFIC 1965, AS
AMENDED**

SHIP DETAILS	
<i>Name of ship:</i>	<i>Date of birth:</i>
<i>IMO number:</i>	<i>Place of birth:</i>
<i>Flag:</i>	<i>Claimed nationality:</i>
<i>Company:</i>	<i>Home address:</i>
<i>Company address:</i>	<i>Country of domicile:</i>
<i>Agent in next port:</i>	<i>ID-document type:</i>
<i>Agent address:</i>	<i>e.g. Passport No.:</i>
<i>IRCS:</i>	<i>if, yes,</i>
<i>INMARSAT number:</i>	<i>When issued:</i>
<i>Port of registry:</i>	<i>Where issued:</i>
<i>Name of Master:</i>	<i>Date of expiry:</i>
	<i>Issued by:</i>
STOWAWAY DETAILS	<i>Photograph of the stowaway:</i>
<i>Date/time found on board:</i>	<div><i>Photograph if available</i></div>
<i>Place of boarding:</i>	
<i>Country of boarding:</i>	
<i>Date/time of boarding:</i>	
<i>Intended final destination:</i>	
<i>Stated reasons for boarding the ship:</i>	
<i>Surname:</i>	<i>General physical description of the stowaway:</i>
<i>Given name:</i>	
<i>Name by which known:</i>	
<i>Gender:</i>	<i>Other languages:</i>
<i>First language:</i>	<i>Spoken:</i>
<i>Spoken:</i>	<i>Read:</i>
<i>Read:</i>	<i>Written:</i>
<i>Written:</i>	



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Page 2

OTHER DETAILS

Method of boarding, including other persons involved (e.g. crew, port workers, etc.), and whether they were secreted in cargo/container or hidden in the vessel:

Inventory of stowaway's possessions:

Was the stowaway assisted in boarding the vessel, or assisted by any member of the crew? If so, was any payment made for this assistance?



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Other information (e.g. names and addresses of colleagues, community leader, e.g. mayor, tribal chief, contacts in other parts of the world):

Statement made by stowaway:

Statement made by master (including any observations on the credibility of the information provided by the stowaway):

Date (s) of interview (s):

Stowaway's signature

Master's signature

Date:

Date: