Overview of Yacht and Ship Licensing Program:

Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) licenses and regulates yacht and ship brokers and salespersons in California. Any person selling used vessels 16 feet or longer and less than 300 gross tons, for others and who does not own those vessels, is required to be licensed in CA. DBW enforces the Harbors & Navigation Code 700-740 and California Code of Regulations Title 14 Article 8 Sections 7601-7623 to regulate the activities of licensees to ensure compliance and provide consumer protection.

The program objectives are:

1) To provide consumer protection and licensing information to public.
2) Issue yacht and ship broker/salesperson license to qualified applicants.
3) Interpret and enforce boating laws that govern the program.

The five main components of the licensing program are:

1) To license and regulate yacht and ship broker/salesperson licensees.
2) Process applications for yacht broker and salesperson licenses.
3) Ensure that all duties related to application processing and licensing for yacht and ship brokers are completed to comply with the laws, policies and procedures that govern the program.
4) Facilitate and proctor yacht and ship broker and salespersons license examinations.
5) Review applicant DOJ and FBI backgrounds before issuing license.

Program Staff, Budget and Cost:

1) The Yacht and Ship licensing and enforcement team consists of three staff that oversee the duties of the program, two Licensing Administrators (SSA) and one Enforcement Officer (AGPA). The unit is overseen by the manager of the Department’s Boating Safety Unit.

2) The annual budget for the program is $375,000.00.

3) The 3-year average cost to administer the operations of the Yacht and Ship Program was $358,947.33.