

**Law Enforcement Committee Report
October 19, 2016
Doug Boyd – Chair**

Steve VanderKooy (GSMFC) summarized the proposed changes to the 2017-2018 Gulf of Mexico Cooperative Law Enforcement Operations Plan, and the 2017-2020 Gulf of Mexico Cooperative Law Enforcement Strategic Plan. These changes were developed by the LEC/LETC over a series of webinar/conference calls. The changes included the addition of a seventh goal to address short-term response and long-term recovery from manmade and natural disaster. In addition, several objectives in the Operations Plan were reorganized to fit under goals that were more appropriate.

By a unanimous vote, the Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Council approve the 2017-2018 Gulf of Mexico Cooperative Law Enforcement Operations Plan, and the 2017-2020 Gulf of Mexico Cooperative Law Enforcement Strategic Plan.

Staff noted that the LEC/LETC currently has two Chairs and two Vice-chairs, one each for the GSMFC's LEC and the Council's LETC. The membership of the two committees is the same except for the U.S. Coast Guard representative, who is a member of the LEC but not the LETC (because he is also a Council member). To improve efficiency and reduce confusion, the LEC/LETC is considering having one Chair and Vice-chair for the combined committee, starting with the next election.

The LEC/LETC was advised that the Council will be soliciting nominees for the next (2016) Officer of the Year award. Committee members agreed to submit nominees to the Council by December 1, 2016. LCDR Danaher asked if federal agencies could submit nominations. Staff responded affirmatively, noting that both Coast Guard Districts and NOAA Enforcement could submit nominations.

Newly elected LEC Chair Rusty Pittman (Mississippi DMR) thanked Steve VanderKooy and Steven Atran for their efforts in guiding the efforts to revise the Strategic and Operations Plan.

Madam Chair, this concludes my report.