



# OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

**Monday, September 11, 2023 – OIC LT Stone**

**WEEKLY MEETING:** CONVENTION CENTER – 40th STREET-Southwest corner on steps

**CREW CHIEF MEETING WITH AREA SERGEANTS:** 08:30hrs

**FULL CREW CHIEF MEETING:** 08:40hrs

**CREW MEETING:** 08:45hrs (Turn in individual stats, get schedule, and assignments, and information from Crew Chief)

**OFFICERS' MEETING:** 08:30hrs

**USLA ANNOUNCEMENTS:** 08:45hrs

**GENERAL MEETING:** 08:50hrs

**LIEUTENANTS' MEETING:** 09:15hrs

**OCBPSRA Certification:** All events have been completed for 2023  
(send copies of any completed certifications to Captain Arbin - NIMS, SCUBA, other)

**Work-out:** Swim Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet OPEN / 26th Street / 94th Street

**NOTE: Stand-Up Paddleboards are permitted everywhere today but must follow the Modified Surfing Rules.**

**Tides:** High: 6:15:00 PM

Low: 11:46:00 AM

**Special Events:** None

**Beach Weddings:** None

**Beach Bonfires:** 44<sup>th</sup>, 98<sup>th</sup>



**We are looking for SRTs to assist with AM and PM patrols from now through October 9<sup>th</sup>. Please let Lt Stone or Kovacs know so you can be added to the schedule.**

SRT Name	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	Crew #
	9/11/2023	9/12/2023	9/13/2023	9/14/2023	9/15/2023	9/16/2023	9/17/2023	
Daily Assignment								<b>Totals</b>
Rescues								
Preventative Actions								
First Aids								
Smoking Enforcement								

**Tuesday, September 12, 2023 – OIC LT Stone**

**OCBPSRA Certification:** : All events have been completed for 2023  
(send copies of any completed certifications to Captain Arbin - NIMS, SCUBA, other)

**Work-out:** Run Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet OPEN / 24th Street / 92nd Street

**Tides:** High: 6:54:00 PM

Low: 12:31:00 PM

**Special Events:** None

**Beach Weddings:** None

**Beach Bonfires:** 87<sup>th</sup>

**2023 W-2 Forms**

The Town of Ocean City will send your W-2 form to the permanent address on record for you. This is the address that is printed on your paystub. W-2s will be sent out by January 31, 2024. If you need to make any changes and/or adjustments, you must fill out a change of address form and submit it to the City Hall Human Resources department by January 1, 2024 and notify Beach Patrol at the same time.



Guidelines for Modified Surfing

**Note: The surfing ordinance is in effect until Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> each year.**

- Surfers must still wear a leash.
- Swimmers **always** have the right of way.
- Surfers must remain no less than 50 yds. from the nearest swimmer or non-surfer.
- Surfers should be moved to the area between the stands.
- If there are too many swimmers, then the surfers must relocate or stop surfing altogether.
- The use of skim boards and other watercraft (kite surfers, windsurfers, kayaks, & stand-up paddleboards) is still prohibited.
- If a surfer injures another person, he/she is responsible, and we must ID the surfer, involving the police if necessary.
- Stand-up paddle boarding is allowed starting the Monday following Labor Day if surfing is modified.



**Wednesday, September 13, 2023– OIC LT Kovacs**

**OCBPSRA Certification:** : All events have been completed for 2023  
(send copies of any completed certifications to Captain Arbin - NIMS, SCUBA, other)

**Work-out:** Swim Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet OPEN / 22nd Street / 90th Street

**Tides:** High: 7:30:00 PM

Low: 1:13:00 PM

**Special Events:** Bike Fest

**Beach Weddings:** None

**Beach Bonfires:** 54<sup>th</sup>, 95<sup>th</sup>, 143<sup>rd</sup>

**Thursday, September 14, 2023– OIC LT Kovacs**

**OCBPSRA Certification:** : All events have been completed for 2023  
(send copies of any completed certifications to Captain Arbin - NIMS, SCUBA, other)

**Work-out:** Run Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet OPEN / 20th Street / 88th Street

**Tides:** High: 7:43:00 AM

Low: 1:52:00 PM

**Special Events:** Bike Fest

**Beach Weddings:** 22<sup>nd</sup> 1600hrs

**Beach Bonfires:** 59<sup>th</sup>

**Friday, September 15, 2023 – OIC LT Stone**

**OCBPSRA Certification:** : All events have been completed for 2023  
(send copies of any completed certifications to Captain Arbin - NIMS, SCUBA, other)

**Work-out:** Swim Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet OPEN / 18th Street / 86th Street

**Tides:** High: 8:21:00 AM

Low: 2:30:00 PM

**Special Events:** Bike Fest

**Beach Weddings:** 146<sup>rd</sup> St 1830

**Beach Bonfires:** 53<sup>rd</sup>, 112<sup>th</sup>, 127<sup>th</sup>, 129<sup>th</sup>, 136<sup>th</sup>

**Saturday, September 16, 2023**

**OCBPSRA Certification:** : All events have been completed for 2023  
(send copies of any completed certifications to Captain Arbin - NIMS, SCUBA, other)

**Work-out:** Run Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet Conditionally OPEN / 16th Street / 84th Street

**Tides:** High: 8:59:00 AM

Low: 3:09:00 PM

**Special Events:** Bike Fest

**Beach Weddings:** 59<sup>th</sup> St. 1200, 128<sup>th</sup> 1500, 59<sup>th</sup> St. 1700

**Beach Bonfires:** 61<sup>st</sup>, 85<sup>th</sup>, 115<sup>th</sup>, 120<sup>th</sup> 131<sup>st</sup>, 136<sup>th</sup>, 141<sup>st</sup>



Extended Patrol and Close Down – If you indicated that you wanted to work past Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> to assist with Mobile Patrols and Close down you will be contacted by Lt Kovacs, for scheduling purposes. SRTs from this group will also be scheduled to work during the Ocean's Calling event.



Keep your feet in the sand,  
until the lifeguard's in the stand!



**Sunday, September 17, 2023 – OIC LT Stone**

**OCBPSRA Certification:** All events have been completed for 2023  
(send copies of any completed certifications to Captain Arbin - NIMS, SCUBA, other)

**Work-out:** Swim Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet Conditionally OPEN / 14th Street / 82nd Street

**Tides:** High: 9:37:00 AM

Low: 3:49:00 PM

**Special Events:** Bike Fest

**Beach Weddings:** None

**Beach Bonfires:** None



**Monday, September 18, 2023– OIC LT Stone**

**WEEKLY MEETING:** CONVENTION CENTER – 40th STREET-Southwest corner on steps

**CREW CHIEF MEETING WITH AREA SERGEANTS:** 08:30hrs

**FULL CREW CHIEF MEETING:** 08:40hrs

**CREW MEETING:** 08:45hrs (Turn in individual stats, get schedule, and assignments, and information from Crew Chief)

**OFFICERS’ MEETING:** 08:30hrs

**USLA ANNOUNCEMENTS:** 08:45hrs

**GENERAL MEETING:** 08:50hrs

**LIEUTENANTS’ MEETING:** 09:15hrs

**OCBPSRA Certification:** All events have been completed for 2023

(send copies of any completed certifications to Captain Arbin - NIMS, SCUBA, other)

**Work-out:** Run Day - Crew Chief determines specific workouts

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet OPEN / 12th Street / 80th Street

**Tides:** High: 10:15:00 AM


Low: 4:31:00 PM

**Special Events:** Bike Fest

**Beach Weddings:** None


**Beach Bonfires:** None

There are several SRTs who have completed all the criteria to receive SRT II certification, except the additional required NIMS courses (ICS 200 & 800). You may complete these courses at any time and your certification will be updated. However, to be considered for appointment as an ACC for the 2024 season you must complete these NIMS courses by December 31, 2023.



**\*\*\*RENTAL REIMBURSEMENT\*\*\***

There is a \$250 stipend to offset the cost of relocating and renting seasonal housing to work for the Beach Patrol. To qualify and receive the stipend you must complete the “Seasonal Rental Housing Stipend” form, meet all the listed criteria, and submit the required documentation. You may return the form by E-Mail or in person. The stipend will be paid once all obligations have been taken care of. Use the QR code below or go to [JoinBeachPatrol.com](http://JoinBeachPatrol.com) and click on the “Employees” tab and scroll down to the bottom of the page



**Upcoming Town of Ocean City Special Events**

Bike Fest  
 Ocean's Calling  
 Bronco Beach Bash  
 Sunfest  
 Winterfest of Lights – Train Display  
 Ocean City Christmas Parade

Sept 13-19      Daily  
 Sept 29- Oct 1      Daily  
 Oct 13 – 15      Daily  
 Oct 19 – 22      Daily  
 Nov 16 – Dec 31      Wed-Sun  
 Dec 2      Saturday

Inlet Lot  
 South Ocean City  
 Inlet Lot  
 Inlet Lot  
 Convention Center Welcome Hall  
 Old Landing Rd. to 120<sup>th</sup> Street



**Verification of contact information and certification status**

An e-mail asking you to verify your off-season contact information, with your OCBPSRA certification record attached will be sent in November. Failure to reply to this request will mark your E-mail as not deliverable and the January "Notification of Status" will not be sent. Please keep us updated about any changes in your contact information so that you will continue to receive important correspondence from the patrol.

**Notification of Status for Next Season**

An email will be sent to the address that you have provided (make sure it is up to date and you are checking it), letting you know that you have received an "A" rating and are being offered a position for the coming season.

This email will also contain a link to an on-line form that you will need to respond to giving us some preliminary information on availability so we may continue planning and know how many candidates we still need to appoint to Surf Rescue Academy from our remaining tests.

You can expect this email in late January. If you do not receive this email you need to contact Captain Arbin to inquire about your status.

**Employee Evaluations: Not the Entire Picture**

Although having satisfactory evaluations is very important, they are only one aspect of each employee's summative performance rating. Employee commendations, incidents, responsibility for equipment, amount of time worked, amount of time taken off during the summer, fulfilling work agreement, and last day worked with documentation are all considered by the review panel. Only after a full and thorough assessment is completed will a final recommendation be made to the Captain, by the evaluation committee, regarding an employee's status for the next season.

**You may contact Captain Arbin at [BARbin@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:BARbin@oceancitymd.gov)**

<b><u>Statistics</u></b>	<b><u>Week 15</u> 8/28/23 to 9/3/23</b>	<b><u>Week 15</u> 8/29/22 to 9/4/22</b>	<b><u>Week 15</u> 8/30/21 to 9/5/21</b>	<b><u>YTD</u> 2023</b>
<b>Action</b>				
Preventions	8228	1905	1845	94181
Rescues	448	5	34	1987
Minor First Aid	22	29	11	1503
Ambulance Calls	9	2	9	220
Police Calls	4	0	6	41
USCG/MDNRP	0	0	0	3
Lost/Found Persons	19	14	29	380
N. Surf Beach Population	13	30	NA	434
S. Surf Beach Population	74	NA	NA	2284
Inlet Surf Beach Population	10	2	NA	702
Beach Wheelchair Usage	9	26	17	394
Smoking Enforcement	29	43	44	3864



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## OCBP Question-of-the-Week for The Worcester County Times

### **It's fall, but do the rules remain the same?**

With the change in season people often think that the rules change, and they can start taking their dogs on the beach. Some beach patrons are even surprised that we still have lifeguards on duty. Some people are under the impression that the beach patrol and all the beach rules end after Labor Day. The reality is, for over 50 years, the OCBP has never gone off duty following Labor Day. In fact, in the 1970s we guarded well into November. The earliest the beach patrol has gone off duty for the season has been the Sunday of Sunfest weekend which was always the 3rd weekend (Sunday) following Labor Day. In more recent years Sunfest has moved into October, but the Beach Patrol has maintained that the 3rd Sunday after Labor Day will be the final day for having lifeguard stands on the beach each season.

During the period following Labor Day, as Ocean City Beach Patrol personnel return to other obligations we are in a reduced coverage mode, and the number of Surf Rescue Technicians (Lifeguards) available to staff the stands along the 10 miles of beach decreases. This results in a reduction in the total number of stands from our ideal 91 (less than 200 yds apart) in July to 16 stands or less (1,000 yards apart, 2/3 mile) following Labor Day. The Ocean City Beach Patrol is committed to provide Surf Rescue Technicians (Lifeguards) along the entire beach for all visitors and residents so rather than have unguarded areas the number of available lifeguard towers are equally distributed along the beach front. As this redistribution occurs the location and distance between stands changes. You can see the actual daily locations on our homepage.

This reduction in personnel is an annual occurrence with the start of college classes and the return of our education professionals to school systems throughout the U.S.

Currently we have additional returning Surf Rescue Technicians to allow us to increase the total number of stands (and decrease the distance between stands) on weekends. The Town has provided a travel stipend to help returning SRTs with the added cost of returning from distances over 110 miles away. Our main message this time of the year is to only swim when the Beach Patrol is on duty (10:00 – 5:30) and to please swim in front of a lifeguard. This short walk is worth the lives of you and your family.

Because of the dedication and commitment of our Surf Rescue Technicians, we will continue to provide daily coverage between 10:00 and 5:30 for all 10 miles of Ocean City beaches until Sunday, September 24, 2023. Although this coverage will be done with fewer personnel and less lifeguard towers, we will supplement this coverage by increasing the number of Mobil Rescue Units patrolling the beach. These mobile units are first-aid, PPE and AED equipped with one SRT (rider) acting as the primary rescue swimmer, while the other SRT (driver) maintains radio communication and backup during an emergency. Both are qualified as surf rescue technicians, medical first responders and are quad (ATV) certified. PLEASE walk to the nearest guard tower before going in the water.

As far as the rules go (Town of Ocean City Ordinances) most remain in effect until September 30th. The specific ordinance regarding dogs, states that dogs are not permitted on the beach or boardwalk from May 1st to September 30th. The Ocean City Beach Patrol strictly enforces the "No Dog" ordinance which also includes following the very strict "Service Animal" regulations under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) titles II and III. Other ordinances and laws such as public drinking, vehicles on beach and fires on beach (during the day), remain in effect throughout the year. The fall season also brings more surfing. The beach patrol will allow modified surfing along the entire beach, except where guards are posted. There are less swimmers this time of the year and manage the beach by keeping the swimmers in front or near a lifeguard stand and the surfers will congregate away from the swimmers. It's a great time of the year for surfers. They can surf while the Patrol is on duty and not be confined to designated surfing beaches like they are during the summer. Surfers must still utilize an ankle leash and remain 50 yards from the nearest swimmer. Having surfers close often proves valuable in saving lives. It is helpful to have the extra floatation devices in the water at this time of year when the coverage is spread over larger spans of beach. It is not unusual for surfers to aid a distressed swimmer and keep them afloat until a Surf Rescue Technician can reach them and take them safely back to shore, which occurred dozens of times over the recent Labor Day weekend. Although surfing is modified, the beach patrol still reserves the right to prohibit surfing in certain areas or under certain conditions. By enactment of section 106-94 (11) of the town code, the City Council allows the use of SUP's beginning on the Monday following Labor Day, on any day that surfing is modified. There are specific requirements included in the ordinance and can be accessed on the Towns website. The use of skim boards and other watercraft (kite surfers, windsurfers, kayaks, etc) is still prohibited.

As a reminder, SRTs will be on duty daily between 10:00 am and 5:30 pm. To aid your SRT, the Beach Patrol suggests taking extra precautions and make sure to walk the short distance to the nearest lifeguard stand and check in with the Surf Rescue Technician and always swim in front of the SRT on duty. The first priority of the Ocean City Beach Patrol continues to be public safety. We strongly encourage all beach patrons to restrict any beach or water-related activities to times and locations when and where beach patrol personnel are on duty, never swim alone, always stay within the limits of their swimming ability and never rely on a flotation device in place of your swimming ability.



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### Meet the Lifeguard: Crew Chief Tyler Khounsacknarath

CC Tyler Khounsacknarath has been with the Beach Patrol for 6 years. He is the Crew Chief (a management position) for Crew 14 in the north area of Ocean City. In his free time, he likes to play floor hockey, softball, go to the gym, and watch sports. In the off season he works as a bar manager of a rooftop lounge in old city Philadelphia and cheers on his "Eagles" who he previously worked for. CC Tyler Khounsacknarath and the other lifeguards of the Ocean City Beach Patrol are glad to answer any of your beach and water safety questions.

If you think you would like a position with the Patrol like Tyler, ask any of our Surf Rescue Technicians or visit our website at [JoinBeachPatrol.com](http://JoinBeachPatrol.com). We will be testing throughout the winter in various off-site locations for summer 2024. We pay (\$18.44 - 2023 rate but will be receiving a pay increase for 2024) while we train you in our Surf Rescue Training Academy where all certifications will be provided and are offering a \$500.00 signing bonus. It's too late for this summer but never too late to join our team. To learn more about this amazing opportunity ask any of our Surf Rescue Technicians (Lifeguards) who can help you train or visit [JoinBeachPatrol.com](http://JoinBeachPatrol.com) for training tips.



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