

# United States Coast Guard Environmental Emergency Response Capability “Then” and “Now”

Leonard Rich, U.S. Coast Guard Fifth District Environmental Specialist



The implementation of the Spilled Oil Recovery System



Expanding functional use of the pre-positioned equipment for dewatering during shipboard fires

**The U.S. Congress, in recognizing the need for better Federal, State and local emergency response after the 1989 M/V Exxon Valdez oil spill, signed and funded the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) of 1990**



Revisiting the condition and continued use of OPA 90 procured first response “band-aid” equipment



Designing and implementing an off-load pumping system for viscous oil



Redistribution and adjusting the location of the Vessel of Opportunity Skimming Systems



Modifying the basic response equipment systems for fast current spill response