

HF Distress and USCG Contact Frequencies

Effective 7 February 2022, the U.S. Coast Guard ceased watchkeeping on all High Frequency (HF) shortwave voice (radiotelephone) distress calling frequencies within the contiguous United States and Hawaii, **except for Kodiak AK and Guam on 4125 kHz only**. Watchkeeping continues instead on HF digital selective calling (DSC) frequencies available from any DSC-equipped HF marine radio.

Note: Voice watchkeeping on 6215 kHz and 8291 kHz at Kodiak and Guam has also been discontinued, a change from that announced by USCG Marine Safety Information Bulletin [MSIB Number 10-21](#).

HF DIGITAL SELECTIVE CALLING

These are the DSC distress and calling frequencies monitored by the Coast Guard. If you press the distress button, a DSC distress will be sent on one or more of these frequencies. If you wish to contact the Coast Guard using DSC for other urgent reasons, these are the frequencies to use.

Portsmouth/NMN, Boston/NMF, Miami/NMA, New Orleans/NMG, Pt. Reyes/NMC, Honolulu HI/NMO, Kodiak AK/NOJ	
4207.5	DSC test calls on 4207.5 kHz will be automatically acknowledged from any of the US Coast Guard Communication Stations listed below EXCEPT USCG SECTOR Guam.
6312	
8414.5	
12577	
16804.5	

Note: For digital selective calling, frequencies listed are assigned. [Carrier frequency](#) is located 1700Hz below the [assigned frequency](#).

These are the DSC identities of the Coast Guard stations monitoring HF DSC distress calls. If you wish to contact one or more of them for the urgent reasons, or to make a test call, these are the identities to use.

Station	MARITIME MOBILE SERVICE IDENTITY
Universal US Coast Guard shore-based identity	003669999
USCG Communications Command, Chesapeake VA/NMN	003669995
USCG Communications Command, remotely keying transmitters at Boston/NMF	003669991

USCG Communications Command, remotely keying transmitters at Miami/NMA	003669997
USCG Communications Command, remotely keying transmitters at New Orleans/NMG	003669998
USCG Communications Command, remotely keying transmitters at Pt. Reyes CA/NMC	003669990
USCG Communications Command, remotely keying transmitters at Honolulu HI/NMO	003669993
USCG Communications Command, remotely keying transmitters at Kodiak AK/NOJ	003669899
USCG Sector Guam/NRV	003669994

Contact U.S. Coast Guard Communications Command (COMMCOM) [here](#). USCG COMMCOM is responsible for HF and MF communications services to mariners.

OTHER DISTRESS COMMUNICATION RESOURCES

Amateur radio [Maritime Mobile Service Network](#) on 14,300 kHz. ITU and FCC regulations allow a mariner in distress to use any means possible to attract attention to obtain help, including amateur radio frequencies.

[U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Centers emergency telephone numbers](#). 24 hour Regional Contacts for Emergencies. Use this if you have access to cell or satellite telephone.

[Rescue 21 VHF Distress System](#) on VHF channel 16 and VHF DSC.

Satellite from Inmarsat-C or Iridium LT-3100S terminal.

This information and schedule is/was effective November 2025.