

## CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

### MEMORANDUM

**Date:** April 21, 2022  
**To:** Harbor Commission  
**From:** Mike Wiltshire, Waterfront Director  
**Subject:** **Harbor Operations Report**

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#### **GRAY WHALE SIGHTED IN THE HARBOR**

This is an excellent time to see migrating gray whales along the California Coast, with large numbers of whales traveling north. Gray whales leave Baja's lagoons to migrate north early February through April and the female whales with newborn calves are the last to depart in order to give the calves as much time as possible to grow. The mother and calf pairs tend to stay close to the coast throughout their migration, as they are looking to avoid predators such as killer whales and great white sharks. Gray whale calves will nurse for approximately seven months and will stay by their mom's side for up to nine months.

Saturday, March 19, a juvenile gray whale was sighted in the Santa Barbara harbor between Stearns Wharf and the sand spit. The whale did not show any signs of distress or injury and was displaying normal behavior. The whale was most likely exploring and feeding in the shallow waters of the harbor. While eating, gray whales move along the seafloor on their side, using their baleen to sift their food from the sediment.

All marine mammals are federally protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), all viewing should be done so within the boundaries of the law, and viewers should make sure to not disturb the animals.

The MMPA includes a definition of the term "harassment," a prohibited activity, as "any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance, which –

- Has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild; or
- Has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering."

Historically, Harbor Patrol educates onlookers on the Marine Mammal Protection Act and has forwarded complaints to the Marine Fisheries when warranted.

Further reading on the Marine Mammal Protection Act's laws and policies is online at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/laws-policies#marine-mammal-protection-act>.

## **HARBOR OPERATIONS STAFFING UPDATE**

### Harbor Patrol Officers

The Waterfront Department is pleased to announce that Stella Nicodemus and Tucker Zimmerman have accepted the offers as Harbor Patrol Officer Trainee's.

Stella Nicodemus is originally from Oxnard, CA, and has grown up around the water all her life. She comes to us most recently from the Morro Bay Harbor Patrol, where she worked as a reserve Harbor Patrol officer. A recent graduate from California Polytechnic State University in environmental studies, Stella is also a USLA-certified lifeguard, and has worked the beach for California State Parks in Oceano as well as for the City of Port Hueneme. Stella holds a valid EMT certification, has completed PC 832 Arrest and Firearms, and is in the process of receiving her USCG captain's license with a commercial towing endorsement. Stella is excited to join the Harbor Patrol team, and has already started introducing herself to the Waterfront community.

Tucker Zimmerman comes to us from Ventura Harbor Patrol, where he worked as an officer for the past 5 years. Tucker also worked for the California State Parks as a USLA-certified lifeguard since 2013. He holds a valid EMT license, has completed his PC 832 Arrest and Firearms training, and has completed courses in Rescue Boat Operations and Marine Firefighting. Tucker lives with his family in Ventura, and has stated that his dream is to work for the Santa Barbara Harbor Patrol.

### Harbor Operations Assistant

The Waterfront Department is pleased to announce that Aundre Guillen has accepted the position of Harbor Operations Assistant. Aundre was hired as an Office Specialist II last year and was promoted to Harbor Operations Assistant this month.

Aundre will continue running the Public Counter and will provide administrative support for a wide variety of marina management transactions including slip permit transfers. Aundre provides outstanding customer service and you will often see him at our front counter dealing with day-to-day operations.

Please Welcome Stella, Tucker, and Aundre to the Waterfront team!

## **HARBOR PATROL BLOTTER**

### March 29, 2045 hours

Harbor Patrol Officer Kelly and Halamiccek responded in Vehicle #2711 on a report of an unconscious person in the men's restroom at the base of Stearns Wharf. Officers Kelly and Halamiccek found the unresponsive male adult in one of the restroom stalls. The patient was cyanotic with agonal respirations and holding a straw with burnt foil and

lighters next to him. Recognizing the patient had overdosed, Officers administered one dose of NARCAN and began rescue breathing with a bag valve mask. It was learned that the patient became semi-conscious in the ambulance and admitted to using Fentanyl.

#### April 7, 1523 hours

Harbor Patrol Officer Gray received a report from the vessel *Condor Express* of a possible unconscious person in the water south of Leadbetter beach. Officer Gray notified the captain that Harbor Patrol would be responding. While en-route aboard Patrol Boat #1 with three Santa Barbara Fire personnel on board, the Captain of the *Condor Express* relayed that they had pulled the patient on board with CPR in progress. A short time later Officer Gray and fire personnel met the *Condor Express* offshore at which time fire personnel boarded the *Condor Express* and took over CPR.

The patient, a local kite surfer, was transported to the launch ramp by the *Condor Express*, and then transported by AMR to Cottage Hospital. The Waterfront Department would like thank all those involved with this rescue effort, particularly Captain David Beezer and his crew.

#### April 10, 0910 hours

Harbor Patrol Officer Rick Hubbard responded Code 3 in Vehicle #2711 to a report of a Code Blue (unresponsive no pulse not breathing) patient at the benches adjacent to the Leadbetter restrooms. Upon arrival, Ofc. Hubbard observed bystander CPR in progress and Officer Hubbard began to hook up the patient to an AED. After no shock was advised, Ofc. Hubbard took over CPR until AMR and Fire personnel arrived on scene. After additional rounds of CPR were administered, the patient regained a pulse and was ultimately transported Code 3 to Cottage Hospital.

### **UPCOMING WATERFRONT EVENTS REMINDER**

Don't forget to mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- Operation Clean Sweep - 5/7/22
- Nautical Swap Meet - 5/21/22
- Fourth of July Celebration - 7/4/22
- Harbor & Seafood Festival - 10/15/22
- Parade of Lights - 12/11/22

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