THE PORT OF VIRGINIA®

News Release

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- - MEDIA ALERT - -

20th Annual Search and Rescue Forum
Active Operational Drills at Town Point Park

First-responders hone skills with real-time exercises

WHO: Attendees of the 20th annual Steven "Todd" Dooley Search and Rescue (SAR) Seminar will be conducting – practicing – operational search and rescue exercises to hone their skills in number of real-world scenarios. Participants engage in challenging evolutions focused on navigation and SAR operations under difficult conditions designed to reinforce learned skills.

WHY: These real-time exercises help ensure attendees gain the knowledge, confidence and real-world experience necessary to effectively respond to maritime emergencies. This training is part of a six-day day forum that blends classroom instruction and hands-on training, incorporating both practical and advanced search and rescue exercises to strengthen operational readiness.

* During these exercises spectators will see smoke, floating debris, use of mannequins, deployment of multiple emergency vessels and first responders from several departments.

WHERE: Town Point Park waterfront in downtown Norfolk

WHEN: Friday, Feb. 27, beginning at 8AM and finishing at noon

MEDIA: Media is encouraged to attend this unique opportunity to see how responses to emergencies at sea are coordinated and conducted; no RSVP is necessary. The on-site point of contact is Bill Burket, The Port of Virginia's® Maritime Incident Response Team's senior director: 757-615-6661.

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