

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

**United States
Coast Guard**



Captain of the Port
United States Coast Guard
Sector Lake Michigan

2420 S. Lincoln Memorial Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 53207
Work: (414) 747-7001
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16604
January 27, 2012

Michael P. Kelly
Superintendent and CEO
Chicago Park District
541 North Fairbanks
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Mr. Kelly:

As you know, in preparation for the May 2012 Group of 8 and North Atlantic Treaty Organization Summits in Chicago, the Coast Guard is working with representatives from the Chicago Park District as well as other key partners to assess security risks. As a National Special Security Event, numerous locations must be secured in order to ensure the safety and security of the visiting dignitaries. One location that has been identified as a particular area of concern is Burnham Harbor. In order to mitigate the risks associated with this location, the Coast Guard intends to promulgate a security zone requiring that all vessels be removed from, and remain out of, this area.

I intend to restrict vessels from this area under my authority as Captain of the Port (COTP). This authority permits a COTP to take necessary action to safeguard from subversive acts under the Magnuson Act, 50 U.S.C. §191 and the Ports and Waterways Safety Act, 33 U.S.C. §1226. In conjunction with my actions and to assist with keeping vessels out of the harbor, I request that the Chicago Parks District join us in closing Burnham Harbor and that you proactively inform all boat owners that Burnham Harbor will be closed to all vessels from May 16 through May 23. This will provide early and direct notification to the impacted waterway users. Coordinating our actions will also greatly assist the Coast Guard in establishing and enforcing the security zone.

I understand that the harbor typically re-opens on May 1st of each year and that this action will have economic and political implications, but the Coast Guard believes this action is necessary to ensure the safety and security of both Summit participants and the public. We are making this request only after carefully balancing the impact to local waterway users with the need to ensure a secure environment for both Summits.

If you would like to discuss the Coast Guard's plans further, please feel free to contact Commander Jerry Davenport at (414) 747-7145. Assuming that you concur with our proposal, I ask that you inform impacted vessel owners at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. W. Sibley" with a stylized flourish at the end.

M. W. SIBLEY
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard

Copy: USCG Ninth Coast Guard District, USCG Marine Safety Unit Chicago