



\*\*\*\*\* PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT \*\*\*\*\*

## ARE YOU CONSIDERING BRINGING SUPPLIES TO THE BAHAMAS BY BOAT?

Do not become a victim in need of rescue yourself!



### Can you answer these questions positively?

- Have you made the trip to The Bahamas before?
- Is your boat seaworthy in possible storms and high seas?
- Are you tracking sea conditions and tides?
- Do you have sufficient fuel to return?
- Do you have a float plan? Who will you be leaving your float plan with?
- Do you have lifesaving equipment on board:
  - EPIRB, life jackets, flares, food, water, and emergency equipment?
- Do you have a marine radio? GPS?
- Do you have a contact in The Bahamas with a working phone who can meet you?
- Have you notified U.S. Customs & Border Protection prior to departure?
- Are you exceeding safe operating limitations as listed on the vessel's capacity plate?

If you cannot answer these questions with absolute certainty, consider this alternative:

**Bring your donated supplies to a drop-off center, where delivery will be safe, reliable and made to those in need. The following organizations are approved by the Bahamas National Emergency Management Agency:**

NEMA: [www.bahamas.gov.bs/nema](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs/nema)

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: [www.rotarybahamas.com](http://www.rotarybahamas.com)

BAHAMAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: [www.thebahamaschamber.com/](http://www.thebahamaschamber.com/)

BAHAMAS RED CROSS: [www.bahamasredcross.org](http://www.bahamasredcross.org)

AMERICAN RED CROSS: [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

SALVATION ARMY: [www.salvationarmybahamas.org](http://www.salvationarmybahamas.org)

CARIBBEAN DISASTER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY: [www.cdema.org](http://www.cdema.org)

### JUST AS IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER.

Some navigation channels and harbors that you may be familiar with are now impassable, or contain submerged objects that create a potential hazard to your vessel.

For more info on safety requirements, call the Coast Guard at (305) 415-6869.

**YOU MUST BE SELF SUFFICIENT TO HELP!**