



## 2011 Law Enforcement Committee Survey on:

### **Electronic (or) “E-Tickets”**

In the not too distant future you may likely be handed a computerized printout instead of a handwritten ticket for a boating law violation. State and local law enforcement have been switching from paper to “E-Ticket” technology on the road. The electronic ticket has a similar format as the old version but the benefit of the new system for law enforcement and court staff is expected to be tremendous.

The new technology is expected to reduce errors and eliminate countless hours spent manually entering ticket data. That said, getting the new software to jive with the records systems has been trickier than expected, frustrating initial users when it hasn’t worked the way it’s supposed to, especially given the money spent on the system. Another challenge is that on the road motorists are required to have a driver’s license which can be scanned and automatically populate the necessary data into the e-ticket system – The question is; can this technology adapt to the marine environment and remain user friendly for marine law enforcement?

The NASBLA LE subcommittee of Techniques and Technology designed a survey of the NASBLA’s 56 members and received 36 responses on the topic of E-Tickets.

1. 83 % of the respondents are not currently using “E-Tickets” but of those 72% want to develop the application
2. The two most common obstacles to using “E-Ticket” technology was cost and acceptance by the court system
3. Of the agencies that did adopt the technology the greatest challenge was resistance from their own officers.

Based on the findings of the survey, the subcommittee on Techniques and Technology has decided to:

1. Identify the equipment currently being used in the marine environment
2. Provide messaging templates to promote boating safety on the ticket template
3. Make recommendations on meeting the challenges of implementation