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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contest Rewards Kids for Wearing Life Jackets and Telling Us About It

Manassas, VA (June 14, 2005) – The National Safe Boating Council’s Boating Safety Sidekicks want kids to tell us the reasons why they wear their life jackets. We hope that by hearing these stories their parents, brothers, sisters, families and friends will realize how important it is for children as well as adults to wear their life jackets. The “Why I Wear My Life Jacket” contest is requesting essays or short stories from kids between the ages of 4 and 15, explaining the importance of wearing a life jacket and why they choose to wear one. The stories should be between one and two pages and discuss their various boating experiences and why they have worn a life jacket while on the water. The entries can be mailed or emailed to the National Safe Boating Council at Sidekicks Life Jacket Stories, P.O. Box 509, Bristow, VA 20136 or to sidekicks@safeboatingcouncil.org.

A first, second, and third prize winner will be announced in the following age groups: 4 to 7 years old, 8 to 11 years old, and 12 to 15 years old. Winners will receive a \$100 dollar savings bond! Awards will be given based upon good grammar, punctuation, composition, and the story told. Entries should include your name, age, and mailing address. Please visit www.boatingsidekicks.com or www.safeboatingcouncil.org for more information on this contest or to submit your entry. The deadline for entries is November 1, 2005. The winners will be announced the first week in December on the “Sidekicks” and the Council’s web sites.