Table S1. Bacterial strains and plasmids used in this study.

ns or plasmids	Genotypes	Sources
Strains		
E. coli		
DH5α	λ⁻φ80d*lacZ*Δ*M15*Δ(*lacZYA-argF*)*U169 recA1 endA1 hsdR17* ($r_K^-m_K^-$)*supE44 thi-1 gyrA relA1*	Our collection
S17-1	[C600::RP4-2 (Tc::Mu)(Km::Tn7) *thi pro hsdRM*$^+$ *recA*	1
S17-1 λ *pir*	S17-1 with λ*pir* lysogen	1
BL21(DE3)	F⁻*ompT hsdSB* (r_B^-,m_B^-)*gal dcm* (DE3)	Novagen
GI698	F⁻ λ⁻ *lacI*q*lacPL*8 *ampC*::Ptrp cI	2
V. vulnificus		
MO6-24/O	Pathogenic clinical isolate	3
ΔleuO	Derivative of MO6-24/O with a deletion in *leuO*	This study
Δhns	Derivative of MO6-24/O with a deletion in *hns*	This study
Δ*leuO*Δ*hns*	Derivative of MO6-24/O with double deletions in *leuO* and *hns*	This study
*ΔtoxRS*Δ*hns*	Derivative of MO6-24/O with triple deletions in *toxRS* and *hns*	This study
Plasmids		

pGEM-T easy	TA cloning vector, *lacZ*, f1 origin, Ap^r	Promega
pGEM-hns-up	pGEM-T easy vector containing *leuO* upstream region	This study
pGEM-hns-down	pGEM-T easy vector containing *leuO* downstream region	This study
pDM4	Suicide vector for an allelic exchange, *sacB*, Cm^r	4
pDM4-d*hns*	pDM4 with a deletion in *hns* of *V. vulnificus*	This study
pDM4-d*leuO*	pDM4 with a deletion in *leuO* of *V. vulnificus*	This study
pMZtc-*leuO*	pMZtc with a promoter region of *leuO*	5
pET21a	Expression vector, C-terminal His-tag, Ap^r	Novagen
pET-HNS	pET21a vector with *V. vulnificus* H-NS	This study
pET-ToxR-N	pET21a vector with *V. vulnificus* N-terminal domain of ToxR	5
pRE1-*leuO*	*leuO* expression vector	6
pBBR12-*leuO*-ara	pBBR-MCS2 vector with the *V. vulnificus leuO* under the *araC* promoter	5
pBAD-TOPO	Arabinose-regulated expression plasmid, Ap^r	Invitrogen
pBBR12-hns-ara	pBBR-MCS2 vector with the *V. vulnificus hns* under the *araC* promoter	This study

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Table S2. Primers used in this study.

Function and Name	Nucleotide sequence (5′ → 3′)
Construction of a *leuO*-deletion mutation	
dleuO-up-F	AATCCCGGGAGAGCTCTTGGCTTAGCGACGGTGA
dleuO-up-R	CAACCACTTCGCCACAGCTCATCGCATCTTTTTTATC
dleuO-down-F	AAAAGATGCGATGAGCTGTGGCGAAGTGGTTGCTGCG
dleuO-down-R	CGGGTAACCTGAGCTCATCGAAGATTTTCACTGC
Construction of a *hns*-deletion mutation, a *leuO/hns* deletion mutation, and *toxRS/leuO* double mutations	
dhns-up-F	CCTGAGCATGCGGATGTCCGTTACTTATG
dhns-up-R	TCAGGATCCCAACAGAGTTTTTGTTAG
dhns-down-F	GTCGGATCCGCGGGTAAATCTCTAGAAGAT
dhns-down-R	TACCTCGAGGTTGTTTTGACGCTTGGC
Construction of an arabinose-inducible H-NS expression system	
BAD-hns-F	ATGTCTGAACTAACAAAAACTC
BAD-hns-R	TTAGATTTCGAAATCTTC
pBAD-F	ATGCCATAGCATTTTTATCC
pBAD-R	GATTTAATCTGTATCAGG
qRT-PCR for quantitative analysis of *leuO* and *hns* transcripts	
leuO_qPCR_F	TCAAACTGGCGATTTGCAGC
leuO_qPCR_R	AGGATGCTGCTTAGACGTCAC
HNS_qPCR_F	GGAAGCAGAAGAACGTGCAG

HNS_qPCR_R	AGCTTGGATTGCAGAAGGTGT

ChIP analysis

leuO-chIP-F	CGGAGTGGATCTCAACCTACTGAC
leuO-chIP-R	ACGCATGAAAAGCTCATCATTAAA

Expression of a recombinant H-NS

Pet-hns-F	GGATCCATGTCTGAACTAACAAAAAC
Pet-hns-R	GTCGACGATTTCGAAATCTTCTAG

DNaseI footprinting

FP-leuO-F	CGCTAATATTGACGAGATTG
FP-leuO-F2	GGTACCCGCTAATATTGACGA
FP-leuO-F3	GTGGTGAAACAATAGTTAG
FP-leuO-R	GTCAGGAATAGATAACCTG
FP-leuO-R2	TTTGTTGATTAAAAACAT

Nucleotides modified for the generation of restriction sites are underlined.