UNITED STATES OF AMERICA U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY **UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD Complainant

vs.

RONELL ANTHONY STAMPER Respondent

Docket Number 2023-0121 Enforcement Activity No. 7652720

ORDER MEMORIALIZING OCTOBER 18, 2023, PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE <u>&</u> <u>CONSENT ORDER APPROVING OCTOBER 19, 2023, SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT</u>

On October 18, 2023, I convened a pre-hearing telephone conference to discuss the United States Coast Guard's (Coast Guard) Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement filed on September 11, 2023. Paul Lonardo, Bruce Davies, Esq., Jennifer Mehaffey, Esq., and Daniel Schaefer, Esq., appeared on behalf of the Coast Guard. Ronell Anthony Stamper (Respondent) appeared on his own behalf, *pro se*.

At the outset of the conference, I inquired whether Respondent had retained an attorney or representative in this matter and Respondent stated he would proceed without counsel. I also apprised the parties of my role as an independent fact finder and explained my decisions and rulings are not graded nor scored by the Coast Guard and I am not subject to performance evaluations. 33 C.F.R. § 20.206.

After some discussion and review of the September 11, 2023, Motion, I informed the parties I identified several inconsistencies with the agreement. These inconsistencies precluded my approving the agreement; thus, I denied the Motion, with leave to refile. I noted Respondent would be given credit for the period of time his credentials have been deposited.

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On October 19, 2023, the Coast Guard filed an Amended Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement and Entry of Consent Order addressing the deficiencies identified in the pre-hearing conference. I have carefully reviewed the terms of the Settlement Agreement and find that it is fair, reasonable, and in substantial compliance with the requirements of 33 C.F.R. § 20.502. Accordingly, the Coast Guard's Amended Motion is **GRANTED** and the October 19, 2023, Amended Settlement Agreement is **APPROVED** in full and incorporated herein by reference. This Consent Order shall constitute full, final, and complete adjudication of this proceeding.

SO ORDERED.

Done and dated this 24th day of October 2023, at Houston, Texas

Tony Cartall

HON. TOMMY CANTRELL ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD