

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

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**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

**Complainant**

**vs.**

**GREGORY STEPHEN WELSH, JR.,**

**Respondent.**

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**Docket Number 2023-0133  
Enforcement Activity Number 7659985**

**ADMISSION ORDER**

**Issued: September 27, 2023**

**By Administrative Law Judge: Honorable George J. Jordan**

**Appearances:**

**William E. Taylor  
Sector Honolulu  
For the Coast Guard**

**Gregory Stephen Welsh, Jr., *Pro se*  
For the Respondent**

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

On March 30, 2023, United States Coast Guard Sector Honolulu (Coast Guard) issued a Complaint against Gregory Stephen Welsh, Jr. (Respondent) alleging negligence as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.27. Specifically, the Coast Guard alleges on March 14, 2023, Respondent was employed by Norwegian Cruise Lines and subject to Norwegian Cruise Lines policies while working as a crewmember on the cruise ship Pride of America (O.N. 1146542). On March 14, 2023, Norwegian Cruise Lines had a policy requiring a crewmember to submit to an alcohol test, if requested while aboard. On March 14, 2023, Respondent refused to submit to an alcohol test, directed by the Staff Captain in violation of Norwegian Cruise's Drug and Alcohol Policy. Respondent's violation of Norwegian Cruise Lines Drug and Alcohol Policy is Misconduct, as described in 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.27. The Coast Guard proposes a sanction of three (3) months outright suspension of Respondent's Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC or credential).

In Respondent's Answer, dated September 12, 2023, he admits to all jurisdictional and factual allegations. Further, the Coast Guard advises that Respondent accepted the proposed sanction, and deposited his credential with the Coast Guard on August 14, 2023.

WHEREFORE,

**ORDER**

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Respondent's violation of misconduct under 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B) and 46 C.F.R. § 5.27 is **PROVED BY ANSWER**. I have carefully reviewed the file and find that the proposed sanction is appropriate under the provisions of 46 C.F.R. § 5.569.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent's Merchant Mariner Credential is **SUSPENDED OUTRIGHT FOR THREE (3) MONTHS**, commencing on August 14, 2023, the date it was deposited with the Coast Guard.

Done and dated September 27, 2023  
Seattle, WA

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Jordan", is written over a horizontal line.

HON. GEORGE J. JORDAN  
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD