

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD,	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	Docket Number: 2023-0317
vs.	)	
	)	Enforcement Activity Number: 7756836
CHRISTOPHER CORDERO,	)	
Respondent.	)	

**CONSENT ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND  
ORDER CANCELLING HEARING**

**By: Honorable Walter J. Brudzinski, Chief Administrative Law Judge**

**Issued: January 18, 2024**

**Appearances:**

**DANIEL B. SCHAEFER, ESQ.  
JENNIFER A. MEHAFFEY, ESQ.  
USCG Suspension and Revocation  
National Center of Expertise  
For the Coast Guard**

**CWO MICHAEL E. LEATHERS  
USCG Sector New York  
For the Coast Guard**

**OWEN F. DUFFY, ESQ  
Attorney for the Respondent**

**CONSENT ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND  
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The United States Coast Guard (Coast Guard) initiated this administrative proceeding by filing a Complaint on September 18, 2023, seeking to revoke CHRISTOPHER CORDERO's Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC or credential). In its Complaint, the Coast Guard alleged Respondent violated 46 U.S.C. § 7704(b) and 46 C.F.R. § 5.35, for use of, or addiction to the use of dangerous drugs. Specifically on May 2, 2023, Respondent took a required pre-employment drug test pursuant to 46 C.F.R. Part 16, in which his urine specimen tested positive of marijuana metabolites (THCA). On November 7, 2023, Respondent submitted his Answer, wherein he agreed with all jurisdictional allegations, but denied factual allegations 4 and 7.

The Coast Guard and Respondent agreed to settle this matter. Therefore, on January 17, 2024, the Coast Guard submitted the parties' Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement and Entry of Consent Order to be approved as a settlement of this case under 33 C.F.R. § 20.502. I have carefully reviewed the terms of the Settlement Agreement and find that the agreement is fair and reasonable and in substantial compliance with the requirements of 33 C.F.R. § 20.502.

WHEREFORE,

**ORDER**

Upon consideration of the record, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the Settlement Agreement is **APPROVED** in full and incorporated herein by reference.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, this Consent Order shall constitute full, final, and complete adjudication of this proceeding.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, the hearing scheduled to commence on April 10, 2024 in New York, NY is **CANCELLED**.

Done and dated January 18, 2024  
New York, NY



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HON. WALTER J. BRUDZINSKI  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD