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

### **UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Complainant

vs.

#### JABR AHMED MATARI,

**Respondent.** 

Docket Number 2024-0319 Enforcement Activity Number 7875573

#### **ADMISSION ORDER**

#### Issued: August 20, 2024

# By Administrative Law Judge: Honorable George J. Jordan

**Appearances:** 

Dawn M. Kallen Sector Long Island Sound For the Coast Guard

Jabr Ahmed Matari, *Pro se* For the Respondent

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

On July 24, 2024, the United States Coast Guard, Marine Safety Detachment Nags Head

(Coast Guard) issued a Complaint against Jabr Ahmed Matari (Respondent) alleging violation of

regulation, as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B), and defined in 46 C.F.R. § 5.27.

Specifically, the Coast Guard alleges that:

- 1. On May 18, 2023, Respondent was employed as the Chief Steward by Ocean Ships, Inc. (OSI) and was subject to OSI's policies while employed on the U.S. flagged vessel CAPE ISABEL (O.N. 577636).
- 2. On May 18, 2023, OSI had a policy in place within Appendix E of their Integrated Management Manual which prohibits sexual assault, sexual harassment, harassment and bullying by employees, on board ships managed by OSI.
- 3. On May 18, 2023, Respondent asked Chief Cook to go to his stateroom with him and to give him a back massage, which is sexual harassment, in violation of Appendix E, Section E1 of OSI's Zero Tolerance for Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, Harassment and Bullying Policy.
- 4. Respondent's violation of OSI's Zero Tolerance for Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, Harassment and Bullying Policy is misconduct, as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.27.

Accordingly, 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 August 1, 2024, Respondent admits to all jurisdictional and factual

allegations, and agrees with the Coast Guard's proposed order of three (3) months outright

suspension, with no additional conditions requested.

## WHEREFORE,

#### <u>ORDER</u>

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Respondent's violation of 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 the date it is deposited with the Coast Guard. Respondent shall immediately deliver all Coast Guard issued credentials, licenses, certificates, or documents, including the MMC, by mail, courier service, or in person to: Dawn M. Kallen, Investigating Officer, United States Coast Guard, Sector Long Island Sound, 120 Woodward Avenue, New Haven CT 06512. In accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 2197, if Respondent knowingly continues to use the Coast Guard issued MMC, Respondent may be subject to criminal prosecution.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, service of this Decision on the parties and/or parties' representative(s) serves as notice of appeal rights set forth in 33 C.F.R. §§ 20.1001 – 20.1004. (Attachment A).

Done and dated August 20, 2024, Seattle, WA

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