

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

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD,)	
Complainant,)	
)	Docket Number: 2024-0074
vs.)	
)	Enforcement Activity Number: 7795812
TIMOTHY G. DEBRECHT,)	
Respondent.)	

ADMISSION ORDER

Issued: February 20, 2024

By Order of Chief Administrative Law Judge: Walter J. Brudzinski

Appearances:

For the Coast Guard

CWO Aaron P. Sala
USCG Marine Safety Unit Port Canaveral

For the Respondent

Timothy G. Debrecht, *Pro se*

ADMISSION ORDER

On February 5, 2024, the United States Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Port Canaveral (Coast Guard) issued a Complaint against Timothy G. Debrecht (Respondent) under 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(A) and 46 C.F.R. § 5.33, for two counts of violation of law or regulation.

Specifically, the Coast Guard alleges Respondent was serving as Master aboard the CYPRESS III, FL 8688PH, an Inspected Small Passenger Vessel, while underway carrying passengers for hire, upon the waters of Cypress Lake on August 14, 2023, when the vessel collided with the CYPRESS II, FL3376PF. The Complaint alleges Respondent violated 33 C.F.R. § 83.05, Inland Navigation Rule 5 – Look-Out, for failing to maintain a proper look-out, and 33 C.F.R. § 83.06(a), Inland Navigation Rule 6 – Safe Speed, for navigating around a narrow bend at an inappropriate rate of speed. As a result, Respondent failed to recognize that the CYPRESS II was approaching, was unable to take proper and effective action to avoid colliding with the CYPRESS II, and the two vessels collided. Respondent's violation of 33 C.F.R. § 83.05 and 33 C.F.R. § 83.06(a) are violations of law as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(A) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.33.

The Coast Guard further states, in aggravation, Respondent's violations contributed to the collision between the CYPRESS III and the CYPRESS II, resulting in injuries requiring 13 passengers to be taken to the hospital for emergency care. The Coast Guard proposes a sanction of 3 months outright suspension of Respondent's Merchant Mariner Credential.

In Respondent's Answer, dated February 13, 2024, he admits to all jurisdictional and factual allegations, and agrees with the Coast Guard's proposed sanction.

WHEREFORE,

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent's violation of law under 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(A) and 46 C.F.R. § 5.33 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 the date it was deposited with the Coast Guard.



HON. WALTER J. BRUDZINSKI
Chief Administrative Law Judge
United States Coast Guard

Date: February 20, 2024