

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

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD,)	
Complainant,)	
)	Docket Number: 2025-0122
vs.)	
)	Enforcement Activity Number: 8080658
LAWRENCE GRAHAM O'BRIEN,)	
Respondent.)	

CONSENT ORDER

Issued: March 18, 2025

By Order of Administrative Law Judge: Hon. Jennifer A. Mehaffey

Appearances:

For the Coast Guard

LT Paola Velazquez Colón
USCG Sector New York

For the Respondent

Lawrence Graham O'Brien, *Pro se*

CONSENT ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

On March 12, 2025, the Coast Guard filed a Complaint against Lawrence Graham O'Brien (Respondent) seeking revocation of his Merchant Mariner Credential. On March 13, 2025, the Coast Guard filed a Motion for Approval of a Settlement Agreement and Entry of Consent Order (Motion), containing the Settlement Agreement signed on March 12, 2025, to be approved as a settlement of this case under 33 C.F.R. § 20.502.

As evidenced by their respective signature, the parties assert that settlement is in the public interest and appropriate based on Respondent's cooperation and good faith efforts towards remediation. The parties also agree the entry of a Consent Order approving this settlement without further litigation is the proper means of resolution in this matter. Accordingly, the parties have expressly waived their right to a hearing and appeal in this matter and I have not conducted a hearing on the merits of this case.

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. However, the first row of the table contained in paragraph 6 states upon successful completion of the conditions of the Settlement Agreement, Respondent's MMC will be "suspended for the period of outright deposit". Per the terms of the agreement, revocation of Respondent's MMC is stayed to allow Respondent to complete the cure process while his MMC is on deposit with the Coast Guard. However, the term "outright deposit" has no known meaning in Coast Guard settlement agreements. In accordance with Coast Guard binding precedent and policy, upon successful completion of the requirements of the Settlement Agreement the pending revocation order is modified to reflect Respondent's MMC as being "suspended outright for the period of

deposit” with the Coast Guard. See Marine Safety Manual, Volume V, “Investigations and Enforcement,” at C4-57, COMDTINST M16000.10A (April 2008).

Accordingly, my approval of the Settlement Agreement and incorporation by reference in this order amends the first row of the table contained in paragraph 6 of the agreement to reflect:

If Respondent...	then Respondent’s MMC will be
successfully completes these conditions to the satisfaction of the U.S. Coast Guard,	suspended outright for the period of deposit.

If either party objects to this amendment of the Settlement Agreement they have **10 days** from the date of issuance of this order to file an opposition to the approval and consent of the Settlement Agreement as amended.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, the Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement and Entry of Consent Order is **GRANTED**, and the Settlement Agreement is **APPROVED**, as amended, in full and incorporated herein by reference. This Consent Order shall constitute full, final, and complete adjudication of this proceeding.

Done and dated March 18, 2025
New York, NY



HON. JENNIFER A. MEHAFFEY
Administrative Law Judge
United States Coast Guard