

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

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD,)	
Complainant,)	
)	Docket Number: 2025-0320
vs.)	
)	MISLE Activity ID: 8158129
CHRISTOPHER WADE BALDWIN,)	
Respondent.)	

CONSENT ORDER

Issued: October 8, 2025

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

Appearances:

For the Coast Guard

Paul Lonardo
USCG Sector Houston/Galveston

For the Respondent

Christopher Wade Baldwin, *Pro se*

CONSENT ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

On June 17, 2025, the Coast Guard filed a Complaint against Christopher Wade Baldwin (Respondent) seeking to suspend his Merchant Mariner Credential for six (6) months. On September 25, 2025, the Coast Guard filed a Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement and Entry of Consent Order, containing the Second Amended Settlement Agreement to be approved as a settlement of this case under 33 C.F.R. § 20.502.¹

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.

¹ The Coast Guard filed two Motions for Approval of Settlement Agreement and Entry of Consent Order prior to the Motion I am granting in this Order. The previous Motions, dated August 26 and August 29, 2025, requested approval of earlier versions of the Settlement Agreement. Because the Coast Guard did not withdraw the previous Motions prior to submitting the subject Motion with the Second Amended Settlement Agreement, I deny the previous Motions as moot.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, the Motions for Approval of Settlement Agreement and Entry of Consent Order dated August 26 and August 29 2025, are **DENIED AS MOOT**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, the Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement and Entry of Consent Order dated September 25, 2025, is **GRANTED**, and the Second Amended Settlement Agreement is **APPROVED** in full and incorporated herein by reference. This Consent Order shall constitute full, final, and complete adjudication of this proceeding.

Done and dated October 8, 2025
New York, NY

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. MehaFFEY', is written over a faint, light blue rectangular stamp.

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