

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

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD,

Complainant,

v.

JEREMY QUASHAN BEST,

Respondent.

DOCKET NO: 2025-0382
MISLE ACTIVITY ID. 8193977

HONORABLE GEORGE J. JORDAN
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

ADMISSION ORDER

On August 13, 2025, the United States Coast Guard, Sector Honolulu (Coast Guard) issued a Complaint against Jeremy Quashan Best (Respondent) alleging violation of misconduct, as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B), and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.27.

Specifically, the Coast Guard alleges:

1. On July 11, 2025, Respondent was employed by Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL) PRIDE OF AMERICA, and subject to NCL (Bahamas) Ltd. policies.
2. On July 11, 2025, NCL had a policy prohibiting employees from being intoxicated on board the NCL PRIDE OF AMERICA with a blood alcohol level (BAC) greater than 0.04%.
3. On July 11, 2025, Respondent was intoxicated with a BAC greater than 0.04 % while onboard the vessel, in violation of NCL's drug and alcohol policy.
4. Respondent's violation of NCL's drug and alcohol 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 one (1) month outright suspension of Respondent's Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC or credential). In Respondent's Answer, filed August 13, 2025, Respondent admits to all jurisdictional and factual allegations, and agrees with Coast Guard's proposed order of one (1) month outright suspension.

While I have the authority and exclusive discretion to select the appropriate sanction in these proceedings, I find the proposed and agreed-upon sanction reasonable and appropriate in this

case. 46 C.F.R. § 5.569(a); Appeal Decision 2362 (ARNOLD) (1984). First, violations of company policy are analogous to failing to obey a master or ship's officer's order. See Appeal Decision 2723 (BOUDREAUX) (2019). Second, the agreed-upon sanction is within the sanction range of one to three months specified for failure to obey a master or ship's officer's order. 46 C.F.R. § 5.569 tbl. 5.569. Therefore, it is reasonable and appropriate in this case.

WHEREFORE,

ORDER

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 [REDACTED] is **SUSPENDED OUTRIGHT FOR ONE (1) MONTH**, 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 MMCs, by mail, courier service, or in person to: LT Adrian Hill, United States Coast Guard, Sector Honolulu, Investigations Division, 433 Ala Moana Blvd., Pier 4, Honolulu, HI 96813. 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 18, 2025,
Seattle, Washington



GEORGE J. JORDAN
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE