

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

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD,

Complainant,

vs.

KARLTON COLE BOOTH,

Respondent.

Docket Number 2025-0427
Enforcement Activity No. 8170715

UPDATED ADMISSION ORDER

Issued: December 8, 2025

By Administrative Law Judge: Honorable Timothy G. Stueve

Appearances:

**Jennifer Stein
Paul Tramm
Sector Puget Sound**

For the Coast Guard

Karlton Cole Booth, pro se

For Respondent

On or about October 3, 2025, the United States Coast Guard (USCG or Coast Guard), filed an Amended Complaint against Karlton Cole Booth (Respondent) alleging Respondent committed misconduct while acting under the authority of Respondent's Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) as Crew Member aboard the vessel CHETZEMOKA, as required by law or regulation.

The Coast Guard alleges:

1. On March 30, 2025, Respondent was employed by Washington State Department of Transportation and subject Washington State Department of Transportation policies.
2. On March 30, 2025, Washington State Department of Transportation had a policy prohibiting employees from reporting to work in an unfit condition and/or affected by alcohol.
3. On March 30, 2025, Respondent reported to work onboard a company vessel while in an unfit condition and affected by alcohol, in violation of section 19-3.1 of Washington State Department of Transportation's Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace policy.
4. Respondent's violation of Washington State Department of Transportation's Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace policy is Misconduct, as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.27.

In Respondent's Answer, filed November 18, 2025, Respondent admits to all jurisdictional and factual allegations, in the Complaint. Respondent also agreed to the proposed order of five (5) months outright suspension, with no additional conditions stipulated.

Upon consideration of the record, I hereby find that the allegations in the Complaint are **PROVED BY ANSWER**. I find that on March 30, 2025, Respondent's violation of Washington State Department of Transportation's Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace policy is Misconduct, as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.27.

SANCTION

I have carefully reviewed the Complaint and Answer and find that the proposed sanction is appropriate under the provisions of 46 C.F.R. § 5.569.

WHEREFORE,

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, Respondent's Coast Guard issued MMC is **SUSPENDED OUTRIGHT FOR FIVE (5) MONTHS**, commencing the date it was deposited with the Coast Guard.

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 December 8, 2025, at
Alameda, California



Hon. Timothy G. Stueve
Administrative Law Judge
U.S. Coast Guard