

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

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD,)	
Complainant,)	
)	Docket Number: 2025-0296
vs.)	
)	MISLE Activity ID: 8116184
ORLANDO ANTONIO ESCOBAR,)	
Respondent.)	

ADMISSION ORDER

Issued: July 24, 2025

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

Appearances:

For the Coast Guard

CWO Stephanie Bible
USCG Sector Corpus Christi

For the Respondent

Orlando Antonio Escobar, *Pro se*

On June 10, 2025, Coast Guard Sector Corpus Christi (Coast Guard) filed a Complaint against Orlando Antonio Escobar (Respondent) alleging one count of negligence as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.29.

In the Complaint the Coast Guard alleges Respondent acted under the authority of his Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) by serving Master aboard the ST PADRE PIO as required by law or regulation. The Coast Guard further alleges:

1. On April 12, 2025, at approximately 1424, Respondent had direction and control of the Inspected Towing Vessel ST PADRE PIO (ON 1212045), while underway upon the Intracoastal Waterway located, near mile marker 483.
2. At approximately 1424, Respondent allided the ST PADRE PIO with the private docks near mile marker 483.
3. Respondent's alliding the ST PADRE PIO with the private docks raises the presumption of negligence, as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.29.
4. In aggravation: The Master admitted that he fell asleep while piloting the ITV ST PADRE PIO in addition to running the barges aground.

Based on these facts, the Coast Guard proposes a sanction of two (2) months outright suspension of Respondent's MMC.

In Respondent's Answer, dated June 30, 2025, he admits to all jurisdictional and factual allegations, and agrees with the proposed sanction.¹

Upon consideration of the record, I hereby find that the allegations in the Complaint are **PROVED BY ANSWER**. I find that on April 12, 2025, Respondent

¹ I note the Answer mistakenly notes the MISLE Activity ID as 8116814. The correct ID is 8116184.

committed an act of negligence as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(l)(B) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.29.

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 that Respondent's misconduct as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(B) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.29 is **PROVED BY ANSWER**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent's Merchant Mariner Credential is **SUSPENDED OUTRIGHT FOR TWO (2) MONTHS**, commencing on the date Respondent deposits his credential 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 July 24, 2025
New York, NY



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