



Hon. Tommy B. Cantrell

U.S. Administrative Law Judge
Houston, Texas

Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard



In May 2023, the Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, appointed Judge Tommy B. Cantrell to serve as a United States Coast Guard Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). As an ALJ, Judge Cantrell hears and decides Coast Guard Suspension and Revocation cases and disputes from various other agencies as assigned by the Office of Personnel and Management. Judge Cantrell's chambers are in Houston, Texas, and his primary area of responsibility covers the states along the Gulf of Mexico.

Judge Cantrell is a 2006 graduate of the University of Kentucky, magna cum laude, and a 2009 graduate of Loyola New Orleans College of Law, cum laude. While at Loyola, he served on the Moot Court Board as the Selection Committee Chairman and authored *Going Overboard: The Ninth Circuit Forces Seaman to Walk the Plank of Arbitration in Rogers v. Royal Caribbean Cruise Line*, published in the *Loyola Maritime Law Journal*.

After receiving his juris doctor, Judge Cantrell received a Master of Laws in Admiralty and Maritime from Tulane School of Law. While at Tulane, Judge Cantrell was named the 2009-2010 Admiralty and Maritime Fellow and was a member of the *Tulane Maritime Law Journal*. He received his LL.M. with honors in 2010.

After law school, Judge Cantrell clerked on the Kentucky Supreme Court for the Honorable William Thompson Scott. After his clerkship, Judge Cantrell joined Houck Anderson in Miami, Florida, a boutique law firm concentrating on admiralty and maritime law in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeal. Judge Cantrell then served as a Trial Commissioner for the 35th District of Kentucky.

In 2014, the Chief ALJ of the Coast Guard selected Judge Cantrell as an attorney advisor, where he served for nearly a decade. In this role, Judge Cantrell advised numerous ALJs, attended countless in-person hearings, and traveled throughout the continental United States in support of the Office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge.