

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commandant
United States Coast Guard

2703 Martin Luther King JR Ave SE
Washington, DC 20593-7509
Staff Symbol: CG-MMC
Phone: (202) 372-2357
Fax: (202) 372-4908

16721
CG-MMC Policy Letter
No. 01-20
12 May 2020

From: M. Medina
COMDT (CG-MMC)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Medina", written over the typed name and title.

To: Distribution

Subj: AFFIDAVITS USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH MARINER CREDENTIALING

Ref: (a) Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations 10.229

1. Purpose. To provide guidance on the affidavit submitted to the Coast Guard when requesting a duplicate Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) or Mariner Medical Certificate.
2. Background.
 - a. In accordance with reference (a), mariners who request a duplicate MMC or medical certificate must submit an affidavit describing the circumstances resulting in the loss of their credential as part of the application.
 - b. Duplicate credentials may be issued after the Coast Guard confirms the validity of the credential.
3. Directives Affected. None.
4. Discussion.
 - a. As provided in reference (a), a mariner submitting an application for a duplicate credential to replace a lost MMC or mariner medical certificate must provide an affidavit describing the circumstances of the loss. The standard credential application process is abbreviated because no additional authority is being given to the applicant.
 - b. The affidavit may be submitted in writing or electronically. When submitted, this information will be presumed to be true and correct to the best of the applicants ability. This will be presumed whether the affidavit is signed and submitted thru the mail or electronically within an email or an attachment to an email.
 - c. As part of the Coast Guard's responsibility under Title 46 United States Code (USC) 7101 and 7302, the Coast Guard may verify the information within the affidavit as part of the evaluation of the application for a duplicate credential.

Subj: AFFIDAVITS USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH MARINER CREDENTIALING

- d. Consistent with Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 5.57(b), when submitting an application for a duplicate credential a mariner is considered to be acting under the authority of their credential. Any fraudulent action taken as part of that application may subject the mariner to the suspension and revocation of their MMC.
 - e. Furthermore, when submitting the affidavit to the Coast Guard, the mariner is affirming that all information provided is true and correct to the best of their knowledge. Where the Coast Guard determines the mariner has submitted materially false information within the affidavit the Coast Guard may refer the matter to the U.S. Attorney for action under Title 18 USC 1001.
5. Action.
- a. This policy is effective immediately. The National Maritime Center shall be guided by the information in this policy letter.
 - b. This policy is posted along with other CG-MMC policy letters on the Coast Guard's Homeport internet website at <http://homeport.uscg.mil> by selecting the following links: Library > Policy > Policy Letters > credentialing.
6. Disclaimer: This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule. It is not intended to nor does it impose legally-binding requirements on anyone. It represents the Coast Guard's current thinking on this topic.
7. If you have questions or comments on this policy, you may contact the Mariner Credentialing Program Policy Division (CG-MMC-2) at MMCPolicy@uscg.mil or call (202) 372-2357.

#

Distribution: National Maritime Center