



US Department  
of Transportation  
Maritime  
Administration

## MANUAL OF ORDERS

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

REVOKES

NO.

550-6

EFFECTIVE DATE

February 25, 1982

### SUBJECT

Determining Compliance With Midshipman  
Service Agreements Under P.L. 96 - 453

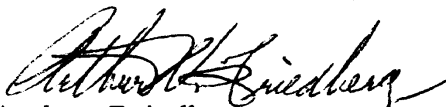
### Section 1. General:

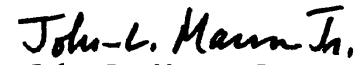
This Order sets forth responsibilities for making determinations of compliance with service agreements, including appeals and reviews, of students and graduates of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and the State Maritime Academies and Colleges, pursuant to the Maritime Education and Training Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-453).

### Section 2. Responsibilities:

2.01 Determinations of compliance with the service agreement, and appeals and reviews, shall be made as follows:

- 1 The Academies Program Officer, Office of Maritime Labor and Training, shall:
  - (1) render determinations of whether a student or graduate has breached his or her service agreement;
  - (2) grant or deny a deferment of the service obligation except obligations otherwise a part of the graduate Reserve Officer status; and
  - (3) grant or deny a waiver of the requirements of the service agreement in hardship cases.
- 2 When required, the Director, Office of Maritime Labor and Training shall convene a four-person Appeals Review Panel consisting of the Director, as Chair, and a representative of the Navy Department, the NOAA Corps, and the U.S. Coast Guard. The Appeals Panel considers and issues final decisions on:
  - (1) appeals of the decisions of the Academies Program Officer pertaining to breach of the service agreement and to hardship cases;
  - (2) appeals from denial of deferral by the Academies Program Officer; and,
  - (3) any issues of procedure or of the merits of cases referred to the Panel by the Academies Program Officer.

  
Arthur Friedberg  
Director, Office of Maritime  
Labor and Training

  
Concurrence: John L. Mann, Jr.  
Director, Office of  
Management and Organization