

46 USC 12131

§ 12131. Command of documented vessels

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), a documented vessel may be placed under the command¹ only of a citizen of the United States.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (a) does not apply to—

- (1) a vessel with only a recreational endorsement; or
- (2) an unmanned barge operating outside of the territorial waters of the United States.