



U.S. COAST GUARD WITNESS / INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT FORM

(Please Print Clearly)

Witness Name: Derrick Amor North Employer Name: GMS Marine
 Street Address: [Redacted] Employer Address: 728 Highlandia Dr. Suit A
 City/State/Zip: [Redacted] City/State/Zip: Baton Rouge, LA 70810
 Phone No: [Redacted] Phone No: _____
 Position: Captain License/Doc. # USA [Redacted]

I, the undersigned, make the following statement voluntarily, without threat, duress or promise of reward:

Watch was made at 0525 on the Ava Claire, 5 min. before entering Le Land Bowman Locks. The Pilot was having trouble communicating with deckhand on the handheld VHF radio. I relieved the pilot, then started my way lock walls and chamber. My speed was about 2.0 in clutch for steering. At about 600ft from #3 gate. I begin backing slow asteer, at 200ft was backing full asteer, was slowing down, but was not able to stop. at 0535 made contact with #3 gate binding the gear rail and a small dent on starboard bow corner of the #FL 439. The deckhand caught a line before contact, but was not able to stop the tow. Re caught the line backing up, then tow was stopped. I have been a wheelman on the m/v Ava Claire for a 2200 and operating for 2 months in the rivers for the last 6.5 years. I have been operating a 2600 from Houston to N.O. and back. I have not had a incident with a lock in 28 years of my career. I am truly apologizing for this incident and will not let this happen type of incident happen again.

OATH/SIGNATURE: I have read my statement consisting of page(s) and hereby swear or affirm the information provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. _____ SIGNATURE OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT
 _____ SIGNATURE OF INTERVIEWER

Subscribed and sworn to me, a person authorized by law to administer oaths, this 22 (day) of 03 (month), 2021 (year)

 SIGNATURE OF PERSON ADMINISTERING OATH