

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF
FLORIDA, TAMPA DIVISION

**In the Matter of the Complaint of Todd Rosenthal, as Owner, of the
2013 Everglades 243CC**

Rosenthal · No. 8:25-cv-2000-KKM-CPT · Decided February 18, 2026

SUMMARY

This document is a default judgment entered by the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division, in an admiralty limitation-of-liability proceeding involving Todd Rosenthal and a 2013 Everglades 243CC vessel. The court entered final judgment by default, granting exoneration in favor of Rosenthal against potential claimants who failed to file claims or answers within the notice period. The document also includes standard information concerning attorney's fees, costs, and appellate deadlines.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division
DECIDED	February 18, 2026
DOCKET	8:25-cv-2000-KKM-CPT
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Default judgment in an admiralty limitation-of-liability action after potential claimants failed to file claims or answers within the established notice period.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential

TOPICS

limitation of liability admiralty default judgment final judgment rule appellate procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

admiralty limitation of liability civil procedure appellate procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the petitioner was entitled to final judgment by default against potential claimants who failed to file a claim or answer within the established notice period.

2. Whether the petitioner was entitled to exoneration from liability in the limitation-of-liability proceeding.

HOLDINGS

1. The court entered final judgment by default in favor of Todd Rosenthal and against all non-appearing potential claimants who failed to file a claim or answer within the established notice period.
2. The court awarded final judgment for exoneration by default in favor of Todd Rosenthal against the non-appearing potential claimants.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Final judgment for exoneration by default in favor of Todd Rosenthal and against all non- appearing potential claimants who failed to file a claim or answer within the established notice period.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Todd Rosenthal was the owner of the 2013 Everglades 243CC, identified by hull identification number RJDJ0224H213. He brought an admiralty action seeking exoneration from or limitation of liability. Potential claimants failed to file claims or answers within the court-established notice period.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Todd Rosenthal, as owner of the vessel 2013 Everglades 243CC, filed a complaint seeking exoneration from or limitation of liability. After notice was provided, potential claimants who failed to file a claim or answer within the established period were treated as non-appearing. The district court entered final judgment by default in favor of Rosenthal and against those non-appearing potential claimants.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Pitney Bowes, Inc. v. Mestre, 701 F.2d 1365, 1368 (11th Cir.)
- Williams v. Bishop, 732 F.2d 885, 885-86 (11th Cir.)
- Budinich v. Becton Dickinson & Co., 486 U.S. 196, 201, 108 S. Ct. 1717, 1721-22, 100 L. Ed. 2d 178 (1988)
- LaChance v. Duffy’s Draft House, Inc., 146 F.3d 832, 837 (11th Cir.)
- Cohen v. Beneficial Industrial Loan Corp., 337 U.S. 541, 546, 69 S. Ct. 1221, 1225-26, 93 L. Ed. 1528 (1949)
- Atlantic Federal Savings & Loan Association v. Blythe Eastman Paine Webber, Inc., 890 F.2d 371, 376 (11th Cir.)
- Gillespie v. United States Steel Corp., 379 U.S. 148, 157, 85 S. Ct. 308, 312, 13 L. Ed. 2d 199 (1964)
- Rinaldo v. Corbett, 256 F.3d 1276, 1278 (11th Cir.)

