

2005 Admiralty and Maritime Law Conference

October 21, 2005 • Four Seasons Hotel • Houston, TX

Friday Morning, Oct. 21, 2005

Presiding Officer:

Julia M. Adams, Sedgwick Detert Moran & Arnold LLP - Houston, TX

8:45 am 0.75 hr	<p>Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits</p> <p>This annual update covers the admiralty work of Congress, the Supreme Court, and the Courts of Appeals for the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits. It also includes selective coverage of other courts of appeals.</p> <p>David W. Robertson, University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX</p>
9:30 am 0.50 hr	<p><i>Spector v. Norwegian Cruise Line</i>—The ADA and Foreign Ships</p> <p>We will explore the effect of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in <i>Spector v. Norwegian Cruise Line</i> on the maritime industry.</p> <p>Michael J. Muskat, Muskat, Martinez & Mahony, LLP - Houston, TX</p>
10:15 am 0.75 hr	<p><i>Norfolk Southern Ry. v. James N. Kirby Pty Ltd.</i></p> <p>In a rare cargo case, the U.S. Supreme Court has not only announced two important new principles of cargo law but has also fundamentally changed a key rule of admiralty contract jurisdiction and reaffirmed a traditional principle of maritime law federalism that has been under fire in recent years.</p> <p>Michael F. Sturley, University of Texas School Of Law - Austin, TX</p>
11:00 am 1.50 hrs	<p><i>Stewart v. Dutra Construction Co.</i></p> <p>The Court's determination that 1 U.S.C. sec. 3 "codified the meaning that the term vessel had acquired in general maritime law" and "suppl[ies] the default definition of vessel throughout the U.S. Code, 'unless the context indicates otherwise,'" bears directly on the coverage of the Jones Act and the LHWCA and has important jurisdictional and substantive implications throughout the maritime law. Mr. Beckcom will discuss the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in the <i>Stewart v. Dutra</i> case and provide his interpretation of the case from the plaintiff's side.</p> <p>Brian Beckcom, Vujasinovic & Beckcom - Houston, TX James Patrick Cooney, Royston Rayzor Vickery & Williams, L.L.P - Houston, TX Thomas C. Fitzhugh III, Fitzhugh Elliott & Ammerman - Houston, TX David W. Robertson, University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX</p>

Friday Afternoon, Oct. 21, 2005

Presiding Officer:

Julia M. Adams, Sedgwick Detert Moran & Arnold LLP - Houston, TX

12:30 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Luncheon Presentation: International Maritime Contracts in the Energy Sector</p> <p>Captain William Schubert, former Maritime Administrator (2000-2005) will address U.S. Maritime Policy and what it was like for him to try to get things done during his tenure in Washington, D.C.</p> <p>William G. Shubert, International Trade and Transportation, - The Woodlands, TX</p>
1:30 pm 0.50 hr	<p>All You Need to Know to Keep Your Boat Afloat</p> <p>Revisions to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure are under discussion. Learn what is being proposed and how to best counsel your clients on what should be retained and what should be tossed overboard!</p> <p>Lana K. Varney, Fulbright & Jaworski - Austin, TX</p>
2:00 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Perspectives from the Bench</p> <p>Hon. Clement gives her view from the bench, such as 5th Circuit cases of interest, and the different perspectives of district v. circuit judges.</p> <p>Harold R. Demoss, US Circuit Judge - Houston, TX</p>
2:45 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Indemnity Agreements</p> <p>Can you be indemnified for your own negligence? Who has authority to sign these agreements? What form of contract is valid—MSA vs. Work Order? What applies to them?</p> <p>Patrick C. Appel, Chevron International Exploration & Prod - San Ramon, CA Kenneth G. Engerrand, Brown Sims PC - Houston, TX Charles R. Lane, New Orleans, LA Robert B Nolan, Adams and Reese LLP - New Orleans, LA</p>
3:45 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Investigating a Maritime Accident: Practical and Ethical Aspects</p> <p>Maritime fires and explosions pose serious threats to life and property. Investigations to determine the root cause require the application of the scientific method. Panelists will also address practical and legal issues an attorney must consider when investigating a maritime accident.</p> <p>John G. Atherton, Burgoyne Inc - Marietta, GA James A George, George And George Ltd - Baton Rouge, LA William P. Glenn, Royston Rayzor Vickery & Williams LLP - Galveston, TX</p>