

**27<sup>th</sup> Annual Admiralty and Maritime Law Conference**  
**September 21, 2018 • South Texas College of Law Houston • Houston, TX**

**Friday Morning, Sep. 21, 2018**

**Presiding Officer:**

**W. Robins Brice**, Brice Mediation - Houston, TX

7:45 am	<p><b>Registration Opens</b></p> <p>Includes continental breakfast.</p>
8:25 am	<p><b>Welcoming Remarks</b></p>
8:30 am 1.50 hrs	<p><b>Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits</b></p> <p>The eighteenth annual installment of the seminal paper surveys developments, identifies issues of genuine national importance, and discusses items of significant interest from the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits.</p> <p>David W. Robertson, The University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX  Michael F. Sturley, The University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX  Matthew H. Ammerman, Law Office of Matthew H. Ammerman, P.C. - Houston, TX</p>
10:00 am	<p><b>Break</b></p>
10:15 am 0.75 hr	<p><b>Judicial Perspective: <i>Doiron</i> and Maritime Contracts</b></p> <p>The author of the unanimous <i>en banc</i> decision of the Fifth Circuit in <i>In re Larry Doiron, Inc.</i> discusses the difficulty with the previous test for determining whether a contract is a maritime contract, the confusion and conflict in the application of the test to contracts involving drilling and production of oil and gas on navigable waters, and the development of a simpler and more straightforward method to determine whether oilfield contracts are maritime.</p> <p>Hon. W. Eugene Davis, U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit - New Orleans, LA  Kenneth G. Engerrand, Brown Sims, P.C. - Houston, TX</p>
11:00 am 0.50 hr ethics	<p><b>Ethical Issues When Insurers Won't Fund the Defense</b></p> <p>There's a gap between <i>Hamel's</i> "fully adversarial trial" requirement and <i>Lyda Swinerton Builders'</i> permission for insureds to "settle or litigate, at [the insured's] option." How insureds and their counsel fill that gap when insurers refuse to defend raises issues from legal creativity to outright chicanery.</p> <p>Samantha Trahan, Trahan Kornegay Payne LLP - Houston, TX</p>
11:30 am 0.75 hr	<p><b>FMC Primer: The Shipping Act and Regulatory Matters</b></p> <p>The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) is the federal agency tasked with regulating international ocean transportation in the U.S. foreign commerce. Review the basic jurisdiction of the FMC and potential issues involving marine terminal operators and ocean common carriers, and survey potential legislative and policy changes affecting the shipping community.</p> <p>Rachel Anne de Cordova, Phelps Dunbar LLP - Houston, TX</p>

12:15 pm

**Pick Up Lunch**

Included in registration.

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**Friday Afternoon, Sep. 21, 2018**

**Presiding Officer:**

**Harold K. Watson**, Chaffe McCall LLP - Houston, TX

**LUNCHEON PRESENTATION**

12:35 pm

0.50 hr

**US LNG Gold Rush—Where are the Shovels?**

A closer look at where maritime lawyers may benefit and be of service to the proliferation of US LNG export projects.

Stuart P. Sperling, Poten & Partners - Houston, TX

1:05 pm

**Break**

1:20 pm

1.00 hr

**Criminal Prosecution of Pollution Cases**

Hear from the experts how pollution is being investigated, and explore the implications of recent cases.

Anthony M. DeStefano, LCDR, U.S. Coast Guard, Office of Maritime and International Law - Washington, DC

Marla Poirot, Foley & Lardner LLP - Washington, DC

2:20 pm

0.50 hr

**Sanctions on Imports and Exports and Their Impact on the Shipping Industry**

International trade grows more complex by the day, creating new risks for those seeking to import and export goods. Explore the current state of sanctions on imports and exports, and examine the implications this rapidly changing environment is having on the shipping industry.

Jonathan Epstein, Holland & Knight - Washington, DC

2:50 pm

0.75 hr

**Drafting Effective Arbitration Clauses**

Drafting effective arbitration clauses is more complicated than it may appear, and the selection of what rules and procedures will apply can make or break your case. Explore the available options, and learn how to make the most of this pivotal set of provisions.

Katharine Fleischer Newman, ConocoPhillips - Houston, TX

Douglas J. Shoemaker, Blank Rome LLP - Houston, TX

3:35 pm

**Break**

3:45 pm  
0.75 hr

**Maintenance and Cure: Experimental and Speculative Medical Procedures**

Examine the law regarding maintenance and cure, including when maintenance and cure may be owed for experimental medical procedures and long-term care.

Brandon K. Best, The Bale Law Firm, PLLC - Sugar Land, TX  
Cory D. Itkin, Arnold & Itkin LLP - Houston, TX

4:30 pm  
1.00 hr ethics

**What To Do If Your Client Is Misbehaving, Part VIII**

Real-world questions and answers regarding ethics, the law, and what your client has asked you to do—or hide. Stump our experts with your hardest questions!

Please submit your questions in advance to [ConferenceQA@utcle.org](mailto:ConferenceQA@utcle.org) or on-site at the conference registration desk.

William J. Chriss, The Snapka Law Firm - Corpus Christi, TX  
Bradley A. Jackson, Retired Admiralty and Maritime Lawyer - Houston, TX

5:30 pm

**Adjourn**