

31st Annual David W. Robertson Admiralty and Maritime Law Conference
October 14, 2022 • South Texas College of Law Houston • Houston, TX
October 14, 2022 • Live Webcast

Friday Morning, Oct. 14, 2022

Presiding Officer:

Julia M. Haines, Holland & Knight LLP - Houston, TX

7:45 am In Houston Only	Conference Room Opens Includes continental breakfast.
8:20 am	Welcoming Remarks
8:30 am 1.50 hrs	Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits The twenty-second 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. Matthew H. Ammerman, Law Office of Matthew H. Ammerman, P.C. - Houston, TX Michael F. Sturley, The University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX
10:00 am	15-Minute Break
10:15 am 0.50 hr	Primer: Reverse-Erie Doctrine What you may have forgotten but certainly need to know about the reverse- <i>Erie</i> doctrine. F. Daniel Knight, Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Aughtry - Houston, TX
10:45 am 0.50 hr ethics	What Every Attorney Needs to Know About Cybersecurity Review an attorney's ethical duty to safeguard client information, then explore how that duty intersects with cyber threats, including ransomware and data breaches. The speakers provide a list of best practices for securing your electronic devices at home and while traveling. <i>This pre-recorded presentation has been added to the agenda due to the cancelation of "Improper Joinder Gains a Salty Flavor: The application of the Fifth Circuit's Improper Joinder Doctrine and the Seaman's Status Test post-Sanchez."</i> <i>The speakers will not be available in real-time to answer any questions.</i> Jennifer S. Freel, Jackson Walker LLP - Austin, TX Co-Author: David Springer, Dropbox, Inc. - Austin, TX

11:15 am 0.50 hr	Longshore Update A significant increase in litigation of extension act cases (particularly under the Defense Base Act) affected the litigation of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act claims in the past year. Hear about trends at the OALJ as well recent case law on pertinent longshore topics. Monica Fekete Markovich, Brown Sims PC - Houston, TX
11:45 am In Houston Only	Pick Up Lunch Included in registration.

Friday Afternoon, Oct. 14, 2022

Presiding Officer:

Claude L. Stuart III, Hall Maines Lugin, P.C. - Houston, TX

Luncheon Presentation

12:05 pm 0.50 hr	Construction and Start-Up of First U.S. Wind Turbine Installation Vessel Construction is well underway in Brownsville, Texas, of the first wind turbine installation vessel designed to be Jones Act compliant and U.S.-flagged. Explore progress and challenges of establishing this asset and its support functions domestically. Charlotte P. McAfee, Dominion Energy Services, Inc. - Richmond, VA
12:35 pm	15-Minute Break
12:50 pm 1.00 hr	Dr. Strangehearing, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Virtual Proceeding Are you "zoomed" out yet? Hear from state and federal judges on the role, if any, they see for virtual hearings or trials in a post-COVID legal world. This presentation was originally scheduled on Friday at 10:45 a.m. Moderator: F. Daniel Knight, Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Aughtry - Houston, TX Panelists: Hon. Tracy Christopher, Fourteenth Court of Appeals - Houston, TX Hon. Kevin D. Jewell, Fourteenth Court of Appeals - Houston, TX Hon. Beau A. Miller, 190th Civil District Court - Houston, TX
1:50 pm 1.00 hr	OCSLA, Jurisdiction, and Choice of Law Judge Jones discusses some of the challenges faced by judges and lawyers in determining jurisdiction and applicable law in cases arising from oil-and-gas operations on the outer Continental Shelf. Hon. Edith H. Jones, U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit - Houston, TX Kenneth G. Engerrand, Brown Sims, P.C. - Houston, TX

2:50 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Current Developments in Regulation and Litigation of Demurrage and Detention Practices and Charges</p> <p>Demurrage and detention charges in intermodal ocean shipping have been a contentious issue for stakeholders and a target of Federal Maritime Commission scrutiny for some time before pandemic-fueled congestion drove demurrage and detention charges to unprecedented levels. An up-to-date overview of new legislative efforts, new regulations, and current developments in investigations and litigation concerning demurrage, detention, and related issues.</p> <p>Gerald A. Morrissey III, Holland & Knight LLP - Washington, DC</p>
3:20 pm	10-Minute Break
3:30 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Handling Environmental/Spills/Claims</p> <p>A discussion on the environmental consequences of released oil resulting from a vessel collision, including civil penalties and natural resource damages.</p> <p>Molly Cagle, Baker Botts - Austin, TX Co-Author: Austin Echols, Baker Botts - Houston, TX</p>
4:00 pm 1.00 hr ethics	<p>What to Do if Your Client is Misbehaving, Part XII</p> <p>Real-world questions and answers regarding ethics, the law, and what to do when your client asks you to do something improper. Stump our experts with your hardest questions! Please submit your questions in advance to ConferenceQA@utcle.org.</p> <p>Bradley A. Jackson, The University of Texas School of Law - Houston, TX Scott Rothenberg, Law Office of Scott Rothenberg - Bellaire, TX</p>
5:00 pm	Adjourn