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**RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ADMIRALTY AND  
MARITIME LAW AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL AND  
IN THE FIFTH AND ELEVENTH CIRCUITS**

**Michael F. Sturley**  
Fannie Coplin Regents Chair in Law  
University of Texas at Austin

**Matthew H. Ammerman**  
LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW H. AMMERMAN, P.C.

## Author Contact Information:

Michael F. Sturley  
University of Texas School of Law  
[msturley@law.utexas.edu](mailto:msturley@law.utexas.edu)  
512-232-1350

Matthew H. Ammerman  
LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW H. AMMERMAN,  
P.C.  
[mha@MaritimeDefense.net](mailto:mha@MaritimeDefense.net)  
713-227-1404

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NATIONAL LEVEL AND IN THE FIFTH AND ELEVENTH CIRCUITS**

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Michael F. Sturley  
Fannie Coplin Regents Chair in Law  
University of Texas  
727 East Dean Keeton Street, Austin, Texas 78705  
512/232-1350; Fax 512/471-6988  
[msturley@law.utexas.edu](mailto:msturley@law.utexas.edu)

Matthew H. Ammerman  
LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW H. AMMERMAN, P.C.  
2040 North Loop West, Ste. 390, Houston, Texas 77018-8114  
713/227-1404; Fax 713/456-2634  
[mha@MaritimeDefense.net](mailto:mha@MaritimeDefense.net)

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

This is the twenty-second paper in a series of annual reports on U.S. admiralty and maritime law and practice.<sup>1</sup> In these papers, we try to call attention to significant national-

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<sup>1</sup> The preceding twenty-one papers are Michael F. Sturley & Matthew H. Ammerman, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 46 TUL. MAR. L.J. 531 (2022) [hereinafter *2021 Recent Developments*]; Michael F. Sturley & Matthew H. Ammerman, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 45 TUL. MAR. L.J. 549 (2021) [hereinafter *2020 Recent Developments*]; Michael F. Sturley & Matthew H. Ammerman, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 44 TUL. MAR. L.J. 513 (2020) [hereinafter *2019 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson, Michael F. Sturley & Matthew H. Ammerman, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 43 TUL. MAR. L.J. 367 (2019) [hereinafter *2018 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson, Michael F. Sturley & Matthew H. Ammerman, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 42 TUL. MAR. L.J. 373 (2018) [hereinafter *2017 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 41 TUL. MAR. L.J. 437 (2017) [hereinafter *2016 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 40 TUL. MAR. L.J. 343 (2016) [hereinafter *2015 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth*

level developments that bear on the work of admiralty judges, lawyers, and scholars, and we look more closely at the relevant work of the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits. We do not warrant full coverage, although with respect to the Fifth and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeals, we try to be more thorough.<sup>2</sup>

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*and Eleventh Circuits*, 39 TUL. MAR. L.J. 471 (2015) [hereinafter *2014 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 38 TUL. MAR. L.J. 419 (2014) [hereinafter *2013 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 37 TUL. MAR. L.J. 401 (2013) [hereinafter *2012 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 36 TUL. MAR. L.J. 425 (2012) [hereinafter *2011 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 35 TUL. MAR. L.J. 493 (2011) [hereinafter *2010 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 34 TUL. MAR. L.J. 443 (2010) [hereinafter *2009 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 33 TUL. MAR. L.J. 381 (2009) [hereinafter *2008 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 32 TUL. MAR. L.J. 493 (2008) [hereinafter *2007 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 31 TUL. MAR. L.J. 463 (2007) [hereinafter *2006 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 30 TUL. MAR. L.J. 195 (2006) [hereinafter *2005 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 29 TUL. MAR. L.J. 369 (2005) [hereinafter *2004 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 16 U.S.F. MAR. L.J. 147 (2004) [hereinafter *2003 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 27 TUL. MAR. L.J. 495 (2003) [hereinafter *2002 Recent Developments*]; David W. Robertson & Michael F. Sturley, *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law at the National Level and in the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits*, 26 TUL. MAR. L.J. 193 (2001) [hereinafter *2001 Recent Developments*].

<sup>2</sup> We make no attempt to be thorough respecting district court decisions, although we have included many for their information value. “A decision by a federal district judge is not binding precedent in either a different judicial district, the same judicial district, or even upon the same judge in a different case.” 18 MOORE’S FEDERAL PRACTICE

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