

26th Annual Admiralty and Maritime Law Conference
September 29, 2017 • South Texas College of Law Houston • Houston, TX

Friday Morning, Sep. 29, 2017

Presiding Officer:

Stephany Olsen-LeGrand, Eversheds Sutherland - Houston, TX

7:45 am	Registration 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 seventeenth 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. David W. Robertson, The University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX Matthew H. Ammerman, Law Office of Matthew H. Ammerman, P.C. - Houston, TX Co-Author: Michael F. Sturley, The University of Texas School of Law and National University of Singapore - Austin, TX and Singapore
10:00 am	Break
10:15 am 0.75 hr	Jones Act and Cabotage Rules in the OCS Explore how the Customs and Border Protection Agency's January 2017 notice of its intention to reverse its Jones Act exceptions resets the playing field for OCS subsea operations. Also, review the Jones Act waivers and other new developments, including wind farms. Samuel A. Giberga, Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc. - Covington, LA Jonathan K. Waldron, Blank Rome LLP - Washington, DC
11:00 am 1.00 hr	OW Bunker Litigation: Maritime Practitioners' Perspectives Examine the procedural and substantive issues involving maritime liens, and the interplay of maritime lien and bankruptcy issues from the perspective of vessel owners, physical suppliers of necessities, and secured lenders. Moderator: Julia M. (Adams) Palmer, Holland & Knight LLP - Houston, TX Panelists: Keith B. Letourneau, Blank Rome LLP - Houston, TX Bruce G. Paulsen, Seward & Kissel LLP - New York, NY James Harold Power, Holland & Knight LLP - New York, NY
12:00 pm	Pick Up Lunch Included in registration.

Friday Afternoon, Sep. 29, 2017

Presiding Officer:

Rachel Anne de Cordova, Phelps Dunbar LLP - Houston, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:20 pm 0.50 hr	Introduction to Classification Societies Analyze the purpose and functions of classification societies in today's world as well as the future of classification, including a review of the legal exposure of class. Robert G. Clyne, American Bureau of Shipping - Houston, TX
12:50 pm	Break
1:05 pm 0.50 hr	State Law in a Maritime Case: "The Devil's Own Mess" Discover the complexity of and approaches to the issue of when it is appropriate to apply state law in a maritime case. Hon. John W. deGravelles, U.S. District Court, Middle District of Louisiana - Baton Rouge, LA
1:35 pm 0.50 hr 0.25 hr ethics	Mediating the Maritime Claim When Insurance Coverage is in Dispute Explore challenges and get suggestions for handling disputed coverage in conjunction with mediating a plaintiff's underlying lawsuit. Examine the practical and legal perils and pitfalls of handling coverage issues in mediation by a defense lawyer hired by the insurance company under reservation of rights, the respective roles of defense lawyer/coverage counsel/insurance representative, and additional complications in educating the mediator on highly specialized insurance and maritime concepts. Robert J. Cunningham, Roach & Newton, LLP - Houston, TX
2:05 pm 0.50 hr	Complex Insurance Coverage and Dispute Resolution Issues The wording in insurance policies is often underappreciated by the insured, particularly for catastrophic event coverage that is seldom called upon. But when a claim is pursued for a major incident such as the BP Deepwater Horizon blowout, both specific coverage and dispute resolution provisions can become serious obstacles to the insured's ability to collect. What should be in your clients' policies? James W. Ferguson, Halliburton - Houston, TX
2:35 pm 0.75 hr	Nearly Random Thoughts on the Law and Sea A conversation among Kenneth G. Engerrand, the audience, and Judge Hughes. Judge Lynn N. Hughes, United States District Court, Southern District of Texas - Houston, TX Kenneth G. Engerrand, Brown Sims, P.C. - Houston, TX
3:20 pm	Break

3:30 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Trying Your Maritime Case in State Court</p> <p>How does a maritime trial in state court differ from one in federal court? Take a short voyage to see the differences between trials in state and federal courts. Ports of call include jury selection, cross-examination, standards for admitting expert testimony, and charging the jury.</p> <p>Hon. Dan Hinde, 269th District Court, Harris County - Houston, TX</p>
4:00 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Preserving Error and Navigating Appeals in State Court</p> <p>Learn about error preservation tips and traps, getting a case into the Texas Supreme Court, and the story behind the latest Texas Supreme Court case on vessel status.</p> <p>Christina F. Crozier, Haynes and Boone, LLP - Houston, TX</p>
4:30 pm 1.00 hr ethics	<p>What to Do if Your Client is Misbehaving, Part VII</p> <p>Real-world questions and answers regarding ethics, the law, and what your client has asked you to do—or hide. This ethics session is designed to be interactive. Audience participation is encouraged!</p> <p>Please submit your questions in advance to ConferenceQA@utcle.org or on-site at the conference registration desk.</p> <p>William J. Chriss, Law Office of William J. Chriss, P.C. - Corpus Christi, TX Bradley A. Jackson, Retired Admiralty and Maritime Lawyer - Houston, TX</p>
5:30 pm	<p>Adjourn</p>