

2012 TOP MARITIME LAW ATTORNEYS



Hard-working mariners risk their lives to help build our country - a maritime law attorney's job is to protect their rights.

While America was in its infancy and cities along the Eastern Seaboard were being built with goods shipped from overseas, somebody was there to protect the rights of those workers who helped build this country. The practice of maritime, or admiralty law, dates all the way back to before the American Revolution. In fact, two of our founding fathers, Alexander Hamilton and John Adams, practiced in the field of maritime law, and ever since Hamilton hung up his first shingle in New York City, the rules of maritime law have been changing like the seas.

Due to the inherent danger of the high seas, problems do arise. These problems range from lost wages to injuries and all too often, casualties. When disaster strikes, it is important to know who to call for legal counsel. The best maritime law attorneys

are those that know the law, in and out. The following attorneys have devoted their careers to the practice of maritime law, improving their knowledge of the law and sharpening their skills in the courtroom, all in an effort to represent you better.

As a professional mariner, it is important to know which maritime law attorneys are at the top of their field, and who you can count on for legal help. Each attorney featured this year has the credentials to prove their merit:

John Merting of the Law Offices of John W. Merting, P.A. located in Gulf Breeze, Florida, has been representing those injured at sea for over 40 years and is board-certified in Maritime & Admiralty Law by the Florida Bar.

C. Arlen Braud and Michelle Gallagher of Braud & Gallagher in Mandeville, Louisiana seek out the larger, more

challenging cases. Preparation is their key to victory, and they utilize a mock court-room they've built to work on every detail of each case before it goes to trial.

Tonya Meister-Griffith of Miami, Florida, is also board-certified in Maritime & Admiralty Law by the Florida Bar. She found her calling representing plaintiffs injured at sea while serving as a crew member on a dive excursion passenger vessel while finishing college.

Stephen Moon practices out of Cocoa, Florida, and is also board-certified in Maritime & Admiralty Law by the Florida Bar. He has successfully represented plaintiffs since 1988.

Ryan Zehl, of the law firm Fitts Zehl, LLP, in Houston, Texas - has an impressive record of successfully representing plaintiffs, including obtaining 2011's largest accident verdict in the State of Texas.

Carolyn Latti and David Anderson of the firm, Latti & Anderson in Boston, Massachusetts - work on cases across the country and all over the world and have successfully taken on huge multinational corporations.

Captain Reginald McKamie, of the Law Offices of Reginald McKamie, Sr. in Houston, Texas has been named an Unlimited Master Mariner by U.S. Coast Guard and has practiced law at his firm since 1989.

Larry Curtis, with his office in Lafayette, Louisiana, has won some of the largest settlements in Maritime Law history and is recognized as one of the preeminent injury attorneys in the state of Louisiana.

For more information on this section, please contact: slavery@blackmatterhorn.com

TONYA J. MEISTER

Attorney Tonya Meister is a maritime law expert. She is board certified in admiralty and maritime law by the Florida Bar. Meister Law is dedicated to protecting seafarers' rights. As a former crew member, Attorney Meister has seen firsthand how difficult it can be for seafarers to receive the protections they are entitled to by the law.

Attorney Meister has devoted her career to protecting the men and women that work at sea. She has represented clients from across the world in cases in arbitration and throughout state and federal courts in Florida as well as the U.S. Supreme Court. Regardless of the forum of your case, she concentrates her efforts on two things: taking care of your immediate needs, and then ensuring that you receive compensation for your injuries or the loss of a loved one. Attorney Meister has built her reputation on providing knowledgeable and aggressive representation for seafarers. Most cases are handled on a contingency fee basis, which

means no payment of attorney fees or costs until and unless you make a recovery. You can rest assured that Attorney Meister has the dedication, experience, and skill to help you secure the best possible results in arbitration proceedings or at trial. If you are a seafarer and need legal help, contact Attorney Meister to stand up for your rights and get you the compensation you deserve.

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PROFESSIONAL MARINER

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