Tips for TIPS on Publishing Newsletters from the Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee

Presented by Sarah Gayer, Esq. from Thompson & Bowie, LLP in Portland, Maine on behalf of Newsletter Editor Christopher Nolan, Esq. from Holland & Knight, LLP in New York, New York

Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee Newsletter Overview:
- The Committee publishes 4 newsletters every year which are published before each ABA/TIPS meeting
- The Newsletter is produced by four people: the Newsletter Editor, two vice-chairs and a law student member

Every newsletter contains:
- A Letter from the Chair summarizing recent Committee educational and networking events and highlighting upcoming events
- 3 to 4 articles, including one Trade Talk article and one article by one non-U.S. lawyer
- The benefits of Committee membership
- The web addresses of the Committee’s website and LinkedIn page

Additional Newsletter Content Includes:
- Winning submissions from the Committee’s Annual Law Student Writing Competition on recent developments in admiralty and maritime law
- Winning submissions from the Young Lawyers Writing Competition
- Articles summarizing past Committee events with photographs
- Descriptions of upcoming Committee events
- Year in Review- photographs providing a recap of the Committee’s events over the past ABA year

Source of Articles:
- Case notes
- Vice Chairs
- Requests for articles during our monthly business meeting calls
- Posts on LinkedIn
- Law Student Writing Competition
- Young Lawyer Writing Competition
- Company websites
Every issue the Committee spotlights an industry professional
Committee members value the opportunity to learn more about the fine in-house maritime lawyers throughout the country that they have the pleasure of defending cases for, have met at conferences, or will seek to meet the next time in town.

We use the same set of questions every issue:
1. Tell us what prompted you to get into the maritime industry?
2. Can you describe your experience working at ____?
3. What are your views on hiring outside counsel?
4. What legal issues are coming across your desk with some frequency these days?
5. For our practitioners, which maritime event(s) do you get the most out of?
6. In addition to the AMLC newsletter, of course, which maritime publication do you find most useful?
7. A sports question specific to the city in which the interviewee works
LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Committee Members and Friends:

We are at the mid-point of the 2014-15 bar year and it is hard to believe all that the Committee has accomplished so far this year. First, we have held several successful regional educational and networking events. The first of these events was an educational event in New Orleans with the Tulane Maritime Law Journal in October 2014 that was generously sponsored by Liskow Lewis and led by Vice Chair Ray Ward. The second event, the Vessel Arrest Symposium 2015, was a co-sponsored event in Miami with the Florida Bar Association and the University of Miami Law Society. This event brought in a diverse amount of attendees including seasoned practitioners, young lawyers and law students interested in the practice of maritime law. Once again, this event could not have been a success without the support of our sponsors - Fowler White Burnett and National Maritime Services. This event was led by Vice Chair Robert Gardana.

Next up we have the ABA TIPS Mid-Year Meeting in Houston in February. We will be having a CLE followed by a networking lunch at the Houston offices of Royston Razor on February 6, 2015. At 2:30 we will have a tour of the Houston port. The Committee will also hold a networking dinner at a location TBD on Thursday night. In the coming months we will also provide additional details about the law student and young lawyer writing competitions as well as an educational program on “Unsetting Settlements” using the Deepwater Horizon settlement issues as a guide in terms of how to break a settlement as well as how to make it stronger during the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago in August 2015.

While the Committee has many ongoing projects and plans we are always looking for new ideas and volunteers. If you have an idea for an event, an article or program please feel free to reach out to me or one of the other Committee members listed in this newsletter.

Pamela A. Palmer, Chair
Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee

Benefits of AMLC Membership

Opportunities to Become Involved

- Publication in the AMLC Newsletter or TIPS Law Journal
- Networking Opportunities
- CLE and Webinar Opportunities
- Leadership Positions
- Mentoring Relationships
- Law Student Writing Competition

Join Subcommittees

- Plaintiff
- Defense
- Insurance
- International
- Law Students/Young Lawyers
- Academic (Professors/Authors)

Additional Information

For more information regarding the benefits that membership in the AMLC can provide to you, check out our webpage at http://ambar.org/tipsadmiralty and join our group on LinkedIn. The Committee is open to all, including non-lawyer maritime professionals, law students and lawyers in every practice area who want to keep abreast of developments in the field.
Year In Review

Enjoy a recap of the AMLC’s activities this last year.

FALL: OCTOBER 2013

The ABA year runs August to August and the first TIPS meeting of the year was held in the second week in October, 2013 at the Courtyard Minneapolis Downtown in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Chair Jim Koelzer hosted the committee at the Robins Kaplan offices for a lively presentation on the Pennsylvania Rule

TIPS Sponsor Thomson Reuters provided field passes for TIPS leaders to enjoy a Minnesota Vikings game at the Metrodome.
SUMMER: AUGUST 2014

The ABA Annual Meeting was held in Boston, Massachusetts

The Committee gathered for a CLE on key maritime circuit splits at the offices of Holland & Knight

Moderators Pam Palmer and Chris Nolan join speakers J. Ben Segarra and Andy Mau
For our thirteenth “Trade Talk” piece, we are pleased to spotlight Peter F. Black, Claims Executive at Charles Taylor P&I Management (Americas), Inc, on behalf of the managers of The Standard Club Europe Ltd. The Standard Club is a mutual insurance association, owned by its shipowner members and controlled by a board of directors drawn from the membership. The club insures shipowners, operators and charterers for their liabilities to third parties arising out of ship operations. The Standard prides itself on the quality of its service to its members, and sets great store on responsiveness and support at all times, especially in times of crisis. Just as important is the emphasis on financial strength and stability through the club’s strong balance sheet and financial resilience. The Standard Club is a member of the International Group of P&I clubs. The managers are Charles Taylor & Co (Bermuda), who delegate day-to-day administration to Charles Taylor & Co Ltd in London and other companies within the Charles Taylor group. The principal management offices outside Bermuda are in London, Singapore, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Piraeus and New York. The main elements of P&I cover are:

Loss of life and injury to crew, stowaways, passengers and others

Physical damage caused to docks, and other fixed or floating objects

Collision damage caused to other ships

Pollution

Cargo loss or damage

Below are excerpts from our interview with Peter which address his views on the maritime industry, issues concerning the hiring of outside counsel, and how a Red Sox fan copes with living full time in New York.

Q. Peter, tell us what prompted you to get into the maritime legal industry?

R. There was no particular turning point or event that prompted my interests. Rather, it was a natural continuation of doing what I enjoyed. I grew up sailing in Annapolis, MD and had worked as an Assistant Harbormaster for two summers in addition to having always been interested in pursuing a career in law. After working for a freight forwarder that specialized in nuclear and radioactive cargoes, I decided to pursue both my interest in law, as well as my fascination with the maritime field, at Tulane University Law School.

Q. Can you describe your experience of working at Charles Taylor?

R. It’s energizing. No two days are the same and I get to see many different sides of the maritime field. Everything from appointing surveyors and cargo shortages to medical care for injured crewman and vessel collisions.

Q. What are your views on hiring outside counsel?

R. As a P&I club, we try to handle claims as quickly and efficiently as possible. However, not every claim gets settled quickly and we often need the assistance of experienced maritime
For our twelfth “Trade Talk” piece, we are pleased to spotlight Gavin Black, in-house counsel at Moran Shipping Agencies, Inc. The activities of the fine folks at Moran can be followed on the company website at http://www.moranshipping.com/index.html. Below are excerpts from our interview with Gavin which address his views on the maritime industry, issues concerning the hiring of outside counsel, and a careful analysis of New England sports.

Q. Gavin, tell us what prompted you to get into the maritime legal industry?

R. I worked in the maritime industry for ten years managing port calls in Houston, TX, and Southeastern New England. That experience guided my decision to pursue a maritime law degree.

Q. Can you describe your experience of working at Moran?

It’s been very interesting; no two days are the same in the marine operations business. You are on call 24/7 following the voyage schedules of the vessel, arranging pilots, tugs, stevedores and longshoremen on arrival. Once the vessel is made all fast, we board with US government officials to ensure the proper legal disposition and expedient discharge or loading of the cargo. After government formalities are taken care of and the vessel is performing cargo operations, our focus shifts to managing the husbandry needs of the vessel including crew handling and transportation, repatriations, payroll delivery, bunkers, stores and spares maintenance.

Q. What are your views on hiring outside counsel?

R. I handle most of the legal concerns that Moran faces, but when local issues arise, it is a tactical advantage to utilize the expertise of local counsel. We collaborate with outside counsel in strategic locations such as Houston, TX, New York, NY and New Orleans, LA which are the vital organs of the Moran Companies field operations. I prefer managing the legal matters with hand selected maritime firms rather than having our insurance providers assign one of their pool attorney’s to us, which does occasionally happen.

Q. What legal issues are coming across your desk with some frequency these days?

R. We’ve had a glut of cross-border insolvencies where we represented the interests of many of the marine tradesmen who were unsecured creditors. Many were the provider of “necessaries” and received payment as critical vendors while the debtor’s in possession continued to operate in US waters.

Q. For our practitioners, which maritime event(s) do you get the most out of?

R. I have been very impressed with the MLAUS meetings and try to attend each one. I’ve recently joined the In-House Counsel committee and look forward to collaborating with them in the upcoming Philadelphia