



**Justin G. Guthrie**  
*Associate*

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**PRACTICE AREAS**

Admiralty & Maritime  
Insurance Coverage & Defense  
Litigation  
Logistics

**INDUSTRIES**

Logistics & Supply Chain  
Maritime

**LICENSED IN**

Georgia  
Virginia

**EDUCATION**

Tulane University Law School: J.D.,  
Maritime Law Certificate, 2016  
University of Virginia: B.A., Foreign Affairs  
& International Relations, 2012

**AFFILIATIONS**

State Bar of Georgia  
American Bar Association: Tort Trial &  
Insurance Practice Section; Admiralty and  
Maritime Law Committee

**EXPERIENCE**

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*Justin Guthrie is an associate who focuses his practice on maritime and admiralty law where he has experience litigating marine casualties involving recreational, commercial, and ocean-going vessels.*

As a P&I Port Correspondent, Justin is regularly called on to provide the P&I Clubs and their ocean carrier members with legal advice, on-scene casualty investigation, regulatory assistance, and related services for legal matters arising in the Port of Savannah, including defending vessel interests in state and federal court. Justin also advises individuals, businesses, and insurance carriers concerning maritime personal injury and property damage, oil spill liability, vessel finance, logistical disputes, and commercial fishing and aquaculture-related casualties. In addition to assisting clients' litigation needs, he also helps navigate certain regulatory concerns involving the U.S. Coast Guard, the National Vessel Documentation Center, the Federal Maritime Commission, and Customs and Border Protection.

Justin earned his J.D. and Certificate of Specialization in Maritime Law from Tulane University and his B.A. in Foreign Affairs & International Relations from the University of Virginia. During law school, Justin was an editor on the *Tulane Maritime Law Journal*, and he clerked for the U.S. Department of Justice's Aviation & Admiralty litigation division and the Federal Maritime Commission in Washington, D.C. Prior to law school, Justin was a collegiate sailor, a U.S. Sailing instructor and racer, and an oyster farmer for one of the largest aquaculture oyster companies on the Chesapeake Bay.

**REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS**

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- Assisted a foreign vessel owner in obtaining summary judgment in a longshore personal injury matter involving the alleged failure of container vessel lashing gear.
- Assisted in the defense of a national pharmaceutical distributor in an opioid lawsuit of first impression brought by twenty-one plaintiffs seeking over \$200 million in damages, resulting in a defense jury verdict after a 5-week trial.
- Assisted a foreign vessel owner in the expeditious release of its vessel from arrest and successfully defended a bunker broker's necessities claim against that vessel.
- Assisted a marine insurance carrier in obtaining a declaratory judgment based on a primary residence exclusion in its insurance policy.

Defense Research Institute  
Maritime Law Association  
Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute  
Tulane Maritime Law Journal  
Virginia State Bar

#### COMMUNITY WORK

UVA Club of Savannah  
Tulane Maritime Law Journal: Alumni  
Mentor

- Assisted a naval architect in his defense against a shipbuilder's breach of contract claim, resulting in a defense jury verdict, and pursued a successful breach of contract counterclaim against that shipbuilder.
- Assisted a marine insurance carrier in obtaining a declaratory judgment based on a seaworthiness condition in its insurance policy and successfully defended that finding on appeal to the Fourth Circuit and on brief to the Supreme Court of the United States.
- Assisted a marine insurance carrier in connection with the favorable pre-trial resolution of several lost fish catch and commercial fishing gear damage claims.
- Advised commercial aquaculture clients as to maritime personal injury and Jones Act liability and has assisted in the drafting of an amendment to the Jones Act concerning aquaculture workers, 46 U.S.C. § 30104 (b).
- Assisted vessel owners and insureds in successfully limiting their liability for certain marine casualties under the Limitation of Liability Act of 1851, 46 U.S.C. § 30501, et seq.
- Assisted vessel owners and insureds in their defense against maritime personal injury claims arising from various marine casualties, including collision, allision, and wake.
- Assisted vessel owners in the favorable representation and resolution of varying degrees of vessel damage claims against marinas and storage facilities, including fire, flooding, and total loss claims.
- Favorably represented consignors and logistics brokers in connection with several commercial trucking, transport, and cold storage related disputes across the United States.
- Favorably defended auto insurance carriers and their insureds as lead trial counsel in matters relating to insurance coverage, breach of contract, and personal injury.

#### ARTICLES

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##### *Fisheries Recent Case Update*

By Justin G. Guthrie, distributed to the Maritime Law Association in October 2023.

##### *Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law*

Published in the Spring 2022 Survey Issue of the American Bar Association's

*Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal.*

*Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law*

Published in the Spring 2021 Survey Issue of the American Bar Association's  
*Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal.*

*Recent Developments in Admiralty and Maritime Law*

Published in the Spring 2020 Survey Issue of the American Bar Association's  
*Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal.*

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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*Issues in Maritime Products Liability*

Co-presented at the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys' Annual Meeting  
in Virginia Beach, Virginia, in October 2023.

*Fisheries Recent Case Update*

Presented at the Maritime Law Association's Fall Meeting in San Francisco,  
California, in October 2023.

*Fisheries Recent Case Update*

Presented at the Maritime Law Association's Spring Meeting in New York, New  
York, in May 2023.

*The Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, and Eleventh Circuit Update*

Presented at the Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute (SEALI) Annual Seminar  
in Louisville, Kentucky, in June 2022.

*Maritime Personal Injury and the Aquaculture Business*

Presented at the East Coast Commercial Fishermen's & Aquaculture Trade  
Exposition in January 2020.

*A Practical Guide to the Limitation of Liability Act*

Presented to the Mid-Atlantic Mariner's Club in October 2019.

*Navigating Marine Insurance from the Insured's Point of View*

Presented to the Virginia Yacht Club in October 2018.

*Shedding Light on the Legal Side of Aquaculture*

Presented at the Virginia Aquaculture Conference in November 2017.