



Charlie Papavizas

Partner, Washington, DC
Chair, Maritime Practice
+1 202-282-5732
cpapaviz@winston.com

Chair of the firm's top-ranked maritime and admiralty practice, Charlie is nationally recognized in major legal directories. *Chambers USA* ranks him as the only "Star Individual" in the category of "Transportation: Shipping/Maritime: Regulatory," who is "the Dean of the maritime bar" and "the godfather of maritime law." He is widely known for his experience with Jones Act laws and the U.S. offshore wind industry.

Services	Litigation, Corporate & Finance, Transportation Finance
Sectors	Maritime & Admiralty, Maritime Insolvency, Environmental & Energy Compliance & Counseling, International Trade, Customs & Export Controls, Regulatory & Legislative, Transactions, Jones Act
Admissions	District of Columbia
Education	George Washington University, JD, 1984 Columbia University, MA, 1981 Georgetown University, BA, 1978

Charlie Papavizas focuses his practice on administrative, legislative, and finance matters, primarily in the maritime industry generally and the U.S. offshore wind industry in particular. He has been actively engaged in the U.S. offshore wind sector since 2009 and counsels numerous clients working in various aspects of the industry, including obtaining the first Jones Act offshore wind-related ruling in 2010.

Charlie is frequently consulted on the application of U.S.-flag laws and regulations, particularly the application of U.S. coastwise laws ("[Jones Act](#)") to cargo, passenger, and vessel movements and investments in U.S. companies.

He has extensive experience in advocacy on behalf of maritime clients before various federal agencies, including the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Maritime Administration, and the U.S. Congress. Such clients have included U.S. and foreign vessel owners and operators, industrial companies, private equity firms, commercial banks and other financial institutions, shipyards, ship managers, and marine equipment suppliers.

Experience

Recent projects in which Charlie has been active include:

- The sale and charter of U.S.-flag tank vessels for BP America Inc.
- U.S. citizenship advice with respect to the whole company asset financing of Centerline Logistics Corporation.

- Advice to Oaktree Capital Management, L.P. with respect to its investment in Rand Logistics, Inc.
- Representation of lenders in connection with the restructurings of several U.S.-flag Jones Act companies.
- Multiple litigation and arbitrations on behalf of Liberty Maritime Corporation with respect to its collective bargaining agreements.
- Representation of multiple offshore companies in every sector of the offshore wind industry in the U.S. market.

Honors & Awards

Charlie has been recognized for shipping and maritime law by *Chambers USA* since 2005 (including a Star Individual ranking, 2017-2021), as well as for Admiralty and Maritime Law by *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2008. Charlie has also been recognized as a leading lawyer in the field of Transport – Shipping Regulation by *The Legal 500 United States* in the 2018-2021 editions. Winston’s admiralty and maritime group has been recognized by *U.S. News & World Report - Best Lawyers* as “Law Firm of the Year” in Admiralty & Maritime Law, and *Chambers USA 2020* refers to the group as “masters of maritime law.”

Activities

Charlie has served as Chair of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard Documentation and U.S. Citizenship Matters, Marine Finance Committee, The Maritime Law Association of the United States since August 2017. Charlie also serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Maritime Law and Commerce* and has been a Member of the American Bureau of Shipping since 2015. He previously served as a member of the board of governors of the District of Columbia Port, Propeller Club of the United States (1996-2002).

Credentials

Charlie received a B.A. in Government from Georgetown University in 1978, a M.A. in International Affairs from Columbia University in 1981, and a J.D., with honors, from the George Washington University National Law Center in 1984.

Publications & Speaking Engagements

Charlie has published a number of articles on a wide range of maritime topics, including “The Story of the Jones Act” and “Jones Act Waivers” in *Tulane Maritime Law Journal*; “What CBP’s Jones Act Changes Mean For Offshore Industries” in *Law360*; “NY Offshore Wind Plan Spotlights Jones Act Compliance” in *Law360*; “Last Port of Call for the U.S. Merchant Marine?” in *Maritime Reporter & Engineering News*; “New Leasing Accounting Rules May Impact Jones Act Vessel Financing,” in *Marine Money*; and “Working with the Jones Act in the Offshore Wind Industry,” in *Offshore Wind Journal*.

Charlie also is a frequent speaker at conferences. Some of his recent topics include “U.S. Offshore Regulatory Update,” April 2021, Danish Shipping; “Offshore Wind Under the New Administration: Federal Policy Update,” January 2021, The Business Network for Offshore Wind Webinar; “U.S. Offshore Wind Market Update,” February 2020, Offshore Wind Journal Offshore Wind Conference; “Current State of the U.S. Offshore Wind Market,” November 2018, New York City Bar Admiralty Committee Meeting; “Preparing Ports for Staging Offshore Wind” and “Developing Jones Act Compliant Marine Logistics Capabilities,” September 2018, Infocast Offshore Wind Implementation Conference; “Puerto Rico and The Jones Act,” May 2018, Marine Log’s Tugs & Barges Conference; “Restructuring in the Offshore Sector,” May 2018, Marine Money Houston Offshore Finance Forum; “Equity Investments in the Offshore Wind (OSW) Sector,” April 2018, Offshore Wind Finance Forum hosted by the Business Network for Offshore Wind; “Policy and Regulation: What’s in Store in the Era of Trump,” September 2017, Jones Act Shipping Forum; “Reinterpreting the Jones Act for Offshore Construction Vessels,” May 2017, Marine Money’s Houston Offshore Finance Forum.