

George M. Chalos

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George M. Chalos is the principal and founding member of Chalos & Co, P.C. Mr. Chalos has been engaged in the practice of maritime, admiralty and insurance law for over twenty (20) years, and is experienced in all facets of civil and criminal maritime matters, casualty and pollution response, Marpol, Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (“OPA '90”), Clean Water Act (“CWA”), environmental matters, insurance coverage, defense, and handling of primary, excess, and reinsurance claims, contract disputes, and complex civil litigation. Mr. Chalos has been counsel of record in over fifteen hundred (1500) civil and criminal maritime matters, in approximately twenty-five (25) different U.S. District and Appellate Courts. He also has extensive experience arbitrating matters before tribunals of the Society of Maritime Arbitrators (“SMA”) in New York, has conducted numerous court-ordered and private mediations, and has assisted in presenting claims before the London High Court of Justice.

Additionally, Mr. Chalos has a known specialty and expertise in OPA '90, CERCLA, CWA, Marpol and other pollution related matters, including the defense of criminal allegations and complex third-party litigation which customarily arise in any significant pollution incident. Mr. Chalos has been a published author with respect to the presentation of claims to the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and the United States' vessel initiative program wherein the government has targeted suspected Marpol violators for criminal prosecution. Mr. Chalos has defended numerous individuals and organizational defendants and has successfully recovered over \$100 million from the NPFC-OSLTF for various clients and/or their insurers. Mr. Chalos obtained landmark determinations in the M/T ATHOS I oil spill matter with respect to the Owner's affirmative demonstration of its entitlement to limit liability and obtain an award of nearly \$100 million dollars, as well as has obtained several complete acquittals of both individual and organizational ship owning and operating clients in various criminal Marpol prosecutions.

Education

J.D., St. John's University

B.S., University of Vermont

- Business Administration

Admissions

Mr. Chalos is licensed to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States; all trial and appellate courts sitting within the states of New York, Texas, Utah, as well as the United States District Courts for the Southern, Eastern & Northern Districts of New York; the District of Connecticut, the Southern and Eastern District of Texas, the Central District of Utah, the Central District of Illinois, the Northern District of Florida, the District of Columbia, and the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Ninth, Eleventh, and D.C. Circuit Courts of Appeals.

Publications and Memberships

Mr. Chalos has authored numerous articles involving matters of international litigation and arbitration, which have been published in law journals and bar association newsletters, and is regularly called upon as a speaker at conferences throughout the world. He is a contributing member and author for the Shiparrested.com network, an international network of lawyers who specialize in handling ship arrests and attachments around the world. He is a Proctor in Admiralty, which is the highest distinction and honor bestowed upon U.S. maritime lawyers by the Maritime Law Association, and is a member of several professional organizations including, but not limited to, the American Bar Association, the New York State Bar Association, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Connecticut Maritime Association, the Houston Mariners Club, and the Maritime Association of the Port of New York. Mr. Chalos held positions including New York Director of the Federal Bar Association, Admiralty Section; President of the Propeller Club Chapter of the Port of New York / New Jersey; member of the National American Maritime Ministry Association's ("NAMMA") Industry Advisory Counsel; and member of the Board of Governors for the International Propeller Club, where he has been Chairman of the Positions and Resolutions Committee. In addition, Mr. Chalos serves as President of a local amateur youth ice hockey organization.