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Norfolk A.V. attorney and Proctor in Admiralty Deborah C. Waters has an unusual law practice. Her representation includes a primary focus on maritime personal injury cases. She handles Jones Act claims, Death on the High Seas Act claims, general maritime law claims and supportive state law claims. In addition, Waters represents maritime labor unions in Virginia as part of her practice of labor law and played an important role in the recent collective bargaining process for Virginia's ports. She is General Counsel for all union locals affiliated with International Longshoremen's Association in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Waters is a 1988 graduate of Marshall-Wythe School of Law of the College of William and Mary in Virginia, where she later taught Trial Advocacy for 14 years. In 2014, Governor Terry McAuliffe appointed Ms. Waters as a Commissioner of Virginia Port Authority; she was reappointed to a second term by Governor Ralph Northam and continues to serve the Commonwealth in that capacity. In 2014, she was honored as one of *Virginia's Most Influential Women* by *Virginia Lawyers Weekly Magazine*. Ms. Waters is currently Vice Chair of the Advisory Council of the Maritime and Supply Chain Programs at Old Dominion University. She is a past member of the Board of Directors of Maritime Law Association of the United States and a member of the Board of Governors of Virginia Trial Lawyers Association. She is past president of AAJ's Admiralty Section and the first woman to serve in that office. Debbie was a member of the Limitation and Maritime Law Committee for claimants in the BP Oil Spill MDL litigation in New Orleans. Debbie has been named as a SuperLawyer in the field of admiralty and maritime law for many years and one of Best Lawyers in America in Admiralty and Maritime since 2017. Ms. Waters is a frequent presenter at CLEs and national conferences and has written numerous articles on maritime topics.