



Christopher Raleigh

Member

New York

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Christopher focuses his practice on the litigation and arbitration of disputes which involve the maritime, aviation, and energy industries, and the analysis and litigation of insurance coverage issues that touch upon every aspect of these industries. Christopher has litigated hundreds of disputes arising from vessel casualties, including losses involving fires, collisions, and catastrophic container losses; defended airlines against death and catastrophic injury claims; and litigated disputes for Fortune 500 energy companies that involve the transportation and sale of oil, natural gas, and electricity.

Experience

Won summary judgment resulting in the dismissal of an \$8 million claim against our clients, Hess Corporation ("Hess") and Hess Energy Marketing, LLC. The plaintiff was a New Jersey fuel oil delivery company which alleged that an oral joint venture existed between Hess and it which entitled the plaintiff to a portion of the proceeds when Hess sold its energy marketing business.

Reviewing and negotiating terminal lease agreements, equipment lease agreements, equipment interchange contracts and liner service agreements.

Advising clients on the drafting and revision of bareboat, time and voyage charter parties.

Representing a terminal operator and its employees at administrative proceedings before the Waterfront Commission of New York Harbor.

Litigating whether a cracked pipeline used to transport natural gas constituted force majeure under an industry contract form promulgated by the North American Energy Standards Board.

Arbitrating a multi-million dollar dispute before the Society of Maritime Arbitrators arising from the sale of a tanker fleet.

Resolving disputes between a French insurer and a U.S. logistics company arising from a complex, multimillion dollar claims program that involved thousands of intermodal losses.

Litigating an \$80 million insurance coverage dispute arising out of the destruction of a marine terminal by Hurricane Wilma.

Defending an oil refinery against claims by a vessel owner that a catastrophic engine loss was caused by defective bunker fuel.

Defending a classification society against a charterer which claimed that negligent class inspections resulted in the sinking of the ship transporting its cargo.

Practice Areas

- Transportation & Trade
- Transportation & Logistics Litigation
- Maritime Litigation
- Intermodal & Logistics
- International Arbitration

Industry Sectors

- Aviation
- Insurance

Education

- Fordham University School of Law, J.D., 1980
- St. Michael's College, B.A., *cum laude*, 1974

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey
- New York

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court -- Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court -- New Jersey
- U.S. District Court -- Southern District of New York
- U.S. Supreme Court

Affiliations

- Association of the Bar of the City of New York
- Maritime Law Association of the United States
- New Jersey State Bar Association
- New York County Lawyers Association

Awards & Honors

- Best Lawyers in America 2008-2020
- New York Super Lawyers Top Rated Transportation & Maritime 2008-2010; 2013-2018

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