

Maritime Corporate & Finance

Cozen O'Connor's maritime corporate and finance attorneys have been representing clients in complex cross-border and domestic transactions for decades. Our attorneys are widely recognized for their ability to help clients adapt to changing political and economic circumstances by providing steady, practical counsel.

The firm represents foreign and domestic vessel owners, offshore energy rig owners, maritime-related investors, and financial institutions. Our attorneys assist owners of all types of vessels engaged in every sector of the maritime trades. We also work with banks, private equity funds, individual investors and other lending institutions whose portfolios include foreign and/or domestic maritime-related assets.

Cozen O'Connor's Corporate & Maritime Finance Practice covers traditional asset-backed ship finance, leasing transactions and other custom-tailored financings valued in the billions of dollars. We help clients raise capital through private lending institutions, the issuance of publicly traded debt and securities, private placement of government guaranteed loans, and secured and unsecured debt obligations.

To support the construction and financing of U.S. flag vessels and drilling rigs, Cozen O'Connor advises clients on the Maritime Administration Title XI Loan Guarantee Program, Maritime Security Program, Capital Construction Fund, U.S. cargo preference programs, Export-Import Bank lending, and all relevant maritime regulations, including the Jones Act, dredging, fisheries, other cabotage laws, U.S. build requirements, and environmental protection laws.

Cozen O'Connor's maritime attorneys provide clients with ongoing counsel on a multitude of corporate issues. We prepare charter parties, advise clients on the flagging or reflagging of vessels according to the maritime laws of the U.S., the Republic of Vanuatu, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Liberia and other registries; counsel on citizenship requirements and assist clients with restructuring, workouts and maritime lien enforcement, as well as maritime-related bankruptcies. We have significant experience in negotiating and drafting contracts with shipyards and other vendors engaged in vessel construction. Our maritime corporate and finance attorneys frequently serve as special counsel in mergers and acquisitions that involve maritime-related assets.

In this rarefied world of high-value ship finance, Cozen O'Connor distinguishes itself by being lean and efficient. Because we maintain a low-leverage staffing model and use individualized fee arrangements, we are able to provide optimal service at a price point that appeals to well-managed clients.

Cozen O'Connor's nationwide transportation shipping regulatory and ship finance practices have been listed by Chambers & Partners USA as Band 1 and Band 3, respectively. *The Legal 500 United States* has recognized the practice group as a Top Tier Firm for Transport: Shipping. Individual members of the maritime team have also been recognized as industry leaders by independent legal publications, including *Chambers & Partners USA*. The Maritime Practice Group includes several former presidents of the Maritime Administrative Bar Association and contributing authors to numerous publications, including Schoenbuam's *Admiralty & Maritime Law* and Wolters Kluwer's *Maritime Law Handbook*.

Experience

Acted as special U.S. maritime counsel to a bank in connection with a new Senior Secured Term and Revolving Credit Facilities Agreement for \$1 billion, including preparing mortgages on the U.S. flag



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Related Practice Areas

- Cruise Industry
- Intermodal & Logistics
- Maritime Antitrust & Competition
- Maritime Corporate & Finance
- Maritime Litigation
- Maritime Regulatory
- Trade Regulations, Export Controls & Sanctions
- Transportation & Trade

Industry Sectors

- Maritime

vessels owned by U.S. vessel trusts where the borrow was the beneficial owner; negotiating tripartite agreements among agent and trustee, U.S. vessel trust owners, and U.S.-bases bareboat charterers; and obtaining other U.S. security.
