Overview
Ray Waid is a maritime lawyer and veteran-naval officer focused on helping companies in the marine and energy sector. Ray represents clients through all phases of litigation and in government investigations. He also provides clients with legal advice on maritime and environmental regulations and assistance in transactional matters, such as vessel sales, charterparties, and service agreements.

Vessel owners, operators and others involved in the marine and energy sector rely on Ray's advice and aggressive advocacy. They turn to him because he has the unique experience of operating a vessel at sea combined with a successful and diverse practice devoted to admiralty and maritime law.

Ray's experience is vital in the high-pressure environment immediately after marine casualties, when companies need a lawyer to quickly identify the legal issues, know what questions to ask, and what actions to take in order to put companies in the best position. This same experience makes him a highly effective advocate in marine and energy cases involving personal injury, property damage, and economic loss. As a full-time maritime lawyer, he has successfully handled the gamut of cases, including collision, allision, cargo, pollution, salvage, and injury cases. Here, for example, are a couple of high-stakes cases in which Ray was deeply involved:

- Represented the owners of a chemical tanker involved in a collision and a 282,000-gallon oil spill on the Mississippi River that resulted in multiparty claims of approximately $90 million. Ray helped obtain a zero-fault verdict after a nine-day, front-page trial in federal court in New Orleans. "Exoneration in a collision case is rare," Ray added.
- Defended a ship owner whose tanker was involved in a three-ship collision on the Mississippi River. "This is one of those cases where my sea time came in very useful," Ray explains. "My detailed study of the other vessel's engineering log revealed several discrepancies, leading to a strong argument that the logs were altered after the collision." The opposing lawyers had not discovered the error, which enabled Ray to surprise his opponents when he confronted them during depositions in Athens, Greece. The case settled shortly thereafter.
- Represented a container ship operator after an allision with a container terminal. "We took the unconventional tactic of immediately suing the terminal in federal court for violation of its safe berth obligations," Ray

Practice Areas
Environmental Regulatory
Maritime, Oilfield & Insurance Business Law
Maritime, Oilfield & Insurance Litigation

Bar Admissions
Louisiana, 2007
Washington, 2018

Education
Tulane University Law School, J.D., cum laude, 2007
- Trial Team, Moot Court
- Senior Articles Editor, Maritime Law Journal
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, B.A., magna cum laude, 1999
Political Science and Psychology
explained. “Allision cases often end with the vessel writing a large check, but we had a strong case that we wanted to highlight from the very outset of the litigation by throwing the first punch.” The aggressive approach to the case continued throughout the litigation, resulting in a large recovery on the eve of trial.

“I love my practice. I get a lot of personal and professional satisfaction from taking clients through a process that can be extremely frustrating. Nothing makes me feel better than winning for my clients.”

Experience
Ray combines years of real-world maritime experience in the United States Navy, a deep, technical knowledge of admiralty and maritime law, and a passion for helping his clients. Here’s a list of selected claims that Ray has handled:

Personal injury, fires and explosions
- Ship owner in a Jones Act personal injury case involving a plaintiff who was severely burned in a diesel engine explosion. Recovered several million dollars from third-party defendants after a 12-day state court jury trial and increased the recovery on appeal.
- Pipeline owner in a vessel allision involving a constructive total loss of the vessel, a wrongful death, and multiple injury claims.
- Jones Act employer in a commercial diver personal injury case where the plaintiff claimed traumatic brain injury. Obtained a favorable settlement at the conclusion of the first day of federal trial.
- A working-interest holder in litigation seeking to recover repair costs for property damaged in an offshore production platform explosion.

Contractual claims and disputes
- Owners of a spud barge against hull underwriters who wrongfully denied a constructive total loss claim after the vessel was severely damaged by a storm in Alaska. Underwriters’ wrongful denial of insurance coverage caused their insured to miss a gold mining season. Obtained a favorable resolution allowing the vessel owner to return to work and eventually be featured on the Discovery Channel’s Bering Sea Gold television show.
- Major international common carrier in claim against its subcontractor arising from an inland river transportation incident resulting in containers being lost over the side. Asserted contractual and additional assured claims against subcontractor and its insurers to resolve cargo and container damage claims.
- Underwriters in litigation of a $30 million builders’ risk insurance coverage claim arising from cost overruns on construction of an oil tanker.
- An offshore services company in asserting a salvage claim against a jack-up rig that was drifting in the Bay of Campeche during a tropical storm.

Collisions and allissions
- Owners of a chemical tanker involved in a collision and a 282,000-gallon oil spill, resulting in claims of approximately $90 million. Obtained a zero fault verdict after a nine-day trial in federal court.
- Container ship owner as part of a global litigation team defending claims of $336 million arising from a collision in Chinese territorial waters.
- A container ship owner in litigation arising from a grounding and allision in the Mississippi River.
- A ship owner whose tanker was involved in a three-ship collision in the Mississippi River. Settled favorably after litigation in federal court, 2008-2009.
Involvement

Professional
“I love helping clients, and I try to stay on the cutting edge of my field so that I can better serve them. I teach a maritime law class at Tulane University Law School and serve on the Board of Advisory Editors of the Tulane Maritime Law Journal. I enjoy participating in a number of maritime organizations and frequently speak at maritime events all over the world.”

- Pro Bono Project - Board of Directors
- Washington State Bar Association - Member
- Tulane University Law School – Adjunct Lecturer in Law, Cargo Law Class
- Tulane Maritime Law Journal – Board of Advisory Editors
- American Bar Association - Tort Trial & Insurance Section, Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee, 2010-2016 Vice Chair, 2016-17 Chair
- Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute - Member of the Long Range Planning Committee 2010-2013
- Federal Bar Association - Member
- Louisiana State Bar Association - Member

Recognition
- Recognized as an Acritas Star lawyer, 2019
- AV Preeminent Martindale Hubbell Rating, 2019
- Monte M. Lemann Distinguished Teaching Award, Tulane University Law School
- Louisiana Super Lawyers “Rising Star,” 2013-2018
- Louisiana Super Lawyers, 2019-2020

Presentations
• “Business Challenges in the Coming Decade,” Admiralty Disruption, American Bar Association (2019).
• “A Discussion of Maritime International Dispute Resolution,” ABA TIPS Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee and Vancouver Maritime Arbitrators’ Association Regional Program, February 2, 2018.
• “Legal Issues Involved in the USS McCAIN and USS FITZGERALD Collisions,” Eighth Annual Oslo-Southampton-Tulane Colloquium, Panama City, Panama (2017).
• “Maritime Law Roundup,” ABA TIPS Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee Regional Program (2017).
• In-House Counsel Perspective,” American Conference Institute’s Sixth Annual Forum on Admiralty & Maritime Claims and Litigation (Moderator & Conference Co-Chair) (2017).
• “Mediating Maritime Personal Injury Claims” Federal Bar Association Admiralty Section and ABA TIPS Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee’s Maritime Law by the Bay (Moderator & Program Co-Chair) (2016).

Publications
• Maritime Industry COVID 19 Update
• Third Circuit Issues Long-Awaited Ruling in OPA Liability Case
• Fifth Circuit Addresses A Complicated Cargo Dispute, Resulting In A Victory For Vessel-Operating Common Carriers
• U.S. Fifth Circuit Greenlights Contribution Action for Purely Economic Damages Under Oil Pollution Act (OPA)
• Highlights of the ACI Admiralty and Maritime Claims and Litigation Conference in Miami
• 7 Takeaways from the Maritime Investigations Presentation at This Year’s Work Boat Show in New Orleans

• "Supreme Court Provides Clarity for Cargo Damage Liability Arising from Multimodal Shipments," Shipping and Transport International (April 2011).


• “Carmack Gets Sea Legs - The Widening Gap in the Carmack/COGSA Circuit Split,” ABA Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee Newsletter (Spring 2009).

• “Piloting in Post-Kirby Waters: Navigating the Recent Circuit Court Split Over Whether the Carmack Amendment Applies to the Land Leg of an Intermodal Carriage of Goods on a Through Bill of Lading,” 34 Transp. L. J. 113 (Summer 2007).

Military
Prior to attending law school, Ray was an officer in the United States Navy. He was stationed onboard USS O’BRIEN (DD 975) in Yokosuka, Japan, from 2001 to 2004. During that time, he stood watch on the bridge, engine control room and combat information center. He accumulated over 500 days at sea, including 55 consecutive days at sea between Bahrain and India after September 11, 2001, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He attained the rank of Lieutenant on active duty and was subsequently promoted to Lieutenant Commander in the Navy Reserve.

After Hours
"I played water polo in college and law school and still enjoy swimming on the weekends."

"I also get a lot of satisfaction from performing pro bono legal work. I've been appointed to represent indigent defendants by our local federal and criminal courts and I serve as a U.S. State Department panel attorney for international child abduction cases. I represent parents whose children were abducted from a foreign country to the U.S. I've helped recover children for three foreign clients as their pro bono lawyer."

"Lawyers have great power…and an even greater obligation to serve those who need but cannot afford representation."

News/Insights

INSIGHTS
3.26.20
Maritime Industry COVID 19 Update

NEWS
12.19.19
Forty-Six Liskow Lawyers Selected to 2020 Louisiana Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters

NEWS
11.7.19
Forty-Two New Orleans Liskow Lawyers Named “Top Lawyer” by New Orleans Magazine

NEWS
4.9.19
Ray Waid Partners Again with CMA CGM on Maritime Exercise for Tulane Law Cargo Class

NEWS
NEWS
12.27.18
Thirty-Nine Liskow Lawyers Selected to 2019 Louisiana Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters

NEWS
11.9.18
Thirty-Eight New Orleans Liskow Lawyers Named “Top Lawyer” by New Orleans Magazine

INSIGHTS
4.5.18
Third Circuit Issues Long-Awaited Ruling in OPA Liability Case

NEWS
4.2.18
Ray Waid and CMA CGM Partner on Negotiation Exercise for Tulane’s Cargo Law Class

NEWS
1.5.18
Ray Waid to Present in Seattle on Maritime Best Practices

NEWS
12.27.17
Forty-Four Liskow Lawyers Selected to 2018 Louisiana Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters

NEWS
11.3.17
Forty Liskow Lawyers Named “Top Lawyer” by New Orleans Magazine

NEWS
10.9.17
This Week in Panama: Ray Waid To Present on Legal Issues Involved in the Recent U.S. Navy Collisions

NEWS
8.30.17
Ray Waid, outgoing chair of the ABA’s Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee, honored by the Committee's selection for the Overall Excellence Award

NEWS
8.14.17
Ray Waid Concludes Year as Chair of American Bar Association Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee

INSIGHTS
8.11.17
Fifth Circuit Addresses A Complicated Cargo Dispute, Resulting In A Victory For Vessel-Operating Common Carriers

NEWS
7.11.17
Ray Waid to Address Hot Topics in the Houston Maritime Industry

INSIGHTS
6.13.17
U.S. Fifth Circuit Greenlights Contribution Action for Purely Economic Damages Under Oil Pollution Act (OPA)
INSIGHTS
2.8.17
Highlights of the ACI Admiralty and Maritime Claims and Litigation Conference in Miami

NEWS
12.29.16
Forty-One Liskow Lawyers Selected to Louisiana Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters 2017

INSIGHTS
12.2.16
7 Takeaways from the Maritime Investigations Presentation at This Year's Work Boat Show in New Orleans

NEWS
11.10.16
Forty-Four Liskow Lawyers Named "Top Lawyer" by New Orleans Magazine

NEWS
6.17.15
A Liskow Team Obtains Dismissal of Deportation Proceedings Against Abandoned Child

NEWS
4.7.15
Holden and Waid Successfully Resolve International Child Abduction Case

NEWS
1.9.15
Liskow & Lewis Attorneys Named to Louisiana Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters 2015