

Vagia Skarpa, LLM

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Maritime Legal Counsel and Litigator with over 7 years of experience in providing legal advice for claims and disputes within the maritime industry combined with academic knowledge of Maritime Law gained during my LLM in London. Expertise in handling and supervising P&I, FD&D and H&M claims related to tankers, passenger vessels and cargo vessels by collaborating with stakeholders involving large scale incidents and accidents; Ability to accurately prepare, review, draft a wide variety of business contracts and related documents, in particular charterparty contracts and vessel purchases - sales agreements. Adept in negotiating P&I and H&M contract renewals.

Areas of Experience:

Protection & Indemnity (P&I) and FD&D Insurance Claims | Hull & Machinery (H&M) Insurance Claims | Charterparties - General Contracts | Insurances Renewals negotiations | Ship Sale and Purchase | Ship Registration | Loan/ Mortgage Documentation | Shipping Company Start-ups | Admiralty Claims | Conflict of Laws | General Practice

Core Competencies

- ▶ Managing, handling, supervising P&I claims such as cargo, collision, pollution, FFO and H&M claims from the start through to settlement.
 - ▶ Coordinating with the Technical and Operations Managers and Vessel's Masters following an emergency including crew and passenger injury in order to collect accurate information and documents to proceed with a claim or to defend a claim.
 - ▶ Monitoring the progress of a claim, preparing an initial estimate of costs and monitoring and control of costs.
 - ▶ Liaising with claims professionals such as average adjusters and surveyors.
 - ▶ Appointing, instructing and managing the work of external legal advisors and litigators.
 - ▶ Ensuring fair settlement of valid claims and preparing the relevant documentation including submissions, pleadings, settlement agreements and costs adjustments.
 - ▶ Drafting and reviewing Charterparties, MOAs, Seafarers Employment Agreements, Vessel Management Agreements & General Commercial Contracts and relevant documents.
 - ▶ Drafting all corporate by-laws, resolutions, and minutes.
 - ▶ Advising on day-to-day general legal and compliance issues, drafting legal opinions.
 - ▶ Attending court trials and successfully representing Vessel's Master and crew in disciplinary procedures following maritime incidents and drafting testimonies, pleadings.
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Work Experience

Blue Star Ferries – Superfast Ferries (Attica Group) • Kallithea - Greece <i>Passenger and Cargo Ferry Management Company</i> Position: In-house Legal Counsel	03/2015 – 03/2019
Empire Chemical Tanker Holdings Inc. • Piraeus - Greece <i>Tankers/ Dry Bulk Ship Management Company</i> Position: In-house Legal Counsel	01/2013 – 03/2015
Th. Vourdolís & Associates Law Office • Athens - Greece <i>General Practice Law Office</i> Position: Associate Attorney	09/2010 – 12/2013
Odysea Carriers S.A. • Voula - Greece <i>Dry Bulk Ship Management Company</i> Position: In-house Legal Counsel	07/2009 – 07/2010

Education

Master of Laws (LLM) in Maritime Law • King's College London	awarded: 2006
Bachelor of Laws (LLB) in Law • London Metropolitan University	awarded: 2004

Additional Information

Affiliations	Member of the Athens Bar Association (since 2009) President of the 2005 Postgraduate Law Society (PGLS) • King's College London
Other Information	Languages: Greek • English Computer Skills: MS Office: Word•Excel•PowerPoint•Access•Outlook