



Maritime Emergency and Casualty Response Team

Jones Walker has assisted clients with minimizing exposure and maximizing recovery after marine casualty events for over 75 years. Our attorneys have experience responding to and investigating any type of marine casualty, including collisions, pollution, fires, and explosions. We also assist clients with inquiries by regulatory authorities, including potential civil and criminal investigations.

Being prepared to handle a catastrophic event or accident requires a carefully coordinated and tested casualty response and investigation plan tailored to your company's unique requirements, along with an experienced team to navigate the aftermath of a major casualty.

Maritime and offshore industries operate 24/7. Because issues can arise at any time, members of our team are on call day and night to:

- Effectively respond to an emergency as it happens;
- Implement emergency response plans;
- Navigate the legal, insurance, and public-relations aftermath; and
- Interface with regulatory agencies.

Casualty Response Management: When "What If?" Becomes "What Now?"

We draft, audit, and review emergency response plans so that our clients can effectively respond to any type of marine casualty. Any size company should have a safety and environmental management system in place that includes an emergency response plan.

Accidents happen, but effective responses are planned and tested in advance. Our team advises companies as they prepare for, respond to, and recover from unforeseen crises. We partner with clients before, during, and after a marine casualty takes place to protect human life, the environment, and property.

We try cases and understand the myriad legal issues that arise when drafting, communicating, and implementing emergency response plans because of our extensive experience representing clients as they work through the aftermath of major events. We organize our support temporally in relation to a marine incident.

Incidents We Handle:

- Spills and other pollution-related incidents
- Fires and explosions
- Vessel casualties including collisions, allisions, and groundings
- System failures and product liability issues
- Hull and machinery claims
- Cargo damage claims
- Salvage, wreck removal, and general average
- Pleasure boat incidents



Clients We Serve

- Vessel owners and operators
- Port operators
- Cruise lines
- Stevedores
- Shipyard and repair facilities
- Terminal and fleet operators
- Major offshore oil and gas exploration, production, transmission, and service companies

Honors and Rankings

- Jones Walker ranks nationally in the 2025 edition of **Chambers USA** in the Transportation: Shipping/Maritime: Litigation (outside New York), Transportation: Shipping/Maritime: Regulatory, and Transportation: Shipping/Maritime: Finance practices.
- The **Legal 500** United States 2025 recognizes Jones Walker as a “Top Tier” firm in Transport: Shipping – Litigation and Regulation and Transport: Shipping – Finance.
- Jones Walker ranks nationally in U.S. News - Best Lawyers® “Best Law Firms” in the area of Admiralty and Maritime Law.



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The team demonstrates the highest level of competence and professionalism.

“

Outstanding, responsive and knowledgeable.

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Chambers USA client quotes

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