



Admiralty & Shipping



**MCKINNEY
BANCROFT
& HUGHES**
COUNSEL & ATTORNEYS

A long history in Admiralty & Shipping

McKINNEY, BANCROFT & HUGHES is one of the largest and oldest firms in The Bahamas and conducts an extensive international and domestic practice from its offices in the cities of Nassau and Freeport. MB&H is a full service client centered premiere law firm with one of the largest and most highly regarded Litigation Departments in The Bahamas. The Firm delivers its legal services through thirteen main Practice Areas involving over thirty lawyers and is the exclusive Bahamian member of Lex Mundi, the world's leading network of independent law firms in 160+ countries.

The Firm has a long and rich tradition in shipping matters. With its cadre of experienced Admiralty and Shipping lawyers, the Firm's Admiralty and Shipping practice is one of the most extensive in The Bahamas and dates

back to the very beginning of The Bahamas' development as an international maritime center. Throughout that development the lawyers in the Firm's Admiralty & Shipping practice group have been on hand, advising ship-owners on a multitude of issues from crew contracts to registration requirements to advising lenders and owners on ship financing transactions. Additionally the Firm's shipping litigation work is unparalleled and our lawyers regularly advise clients who are involved in major shipping litigation matter in The Bahamas.

The Firm also specialize in registration and transfers of ships, ship sales, leasing and financing, corporate structures, and bareboat leasing.

Bahamas Maritime Authority

The BMA was established in 1995 to administer the rapidly expanding Bahamas Ship Register, and is responsible for the registration of vessels, the enforcement of ship and environmental safety requirements and the constant monitoring of all registered vessels. The BMA is committed to quality and compliance and is focused on ensuring that Bahamian registered ships uphold international standards. The BMA has established offices in Nassau, London, New York and Hong Kong with Agents in Tokyo, Japan, Germany and Greece. Maritime law in The Bahamas is governed by the below legislation, copies of which can be obtained from bahamasmaritime.com.

Legislation

Bahamas Merchant Shipping Act

Bahamas Merchant Shipping (MLC) Regulations 2012

Bahamas Merchant Shipping (Training, Certificate, Manning and Watch-keeping) Regulations 2011

Boat Registration Act

Penal Code

List of Notifiable Diseases

Firearms Act

Merchant Shipping Oil Pollution Act

Reg - Formal Investigation Rules

Reg - Guarding of Machinery & Safety of Electrical Equipment 1988 as amended

Reg - Hatches and Lifting Plant 1988 amended

Reg - Health and Safety - General Duties 1984

Reg - Means of Access 1988

Reg - Medical Examination 1983 as amended

Reg - Medical Stores 1986 as amended

Reg - Official Log Books 1981 as amended

Reg - Protective Clothing and Equipment 1985

Reg - Provisions and Water 1989

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The Bahamas Ship Register

The Bahamas is the flag of choice for many of the world's finest fleets and is one of the world's largest ship registers with over 53 million gross tons of ships flying the Bahamas flag. It is also the world leader in cruise passenger ships. The Bahamas Register is world renowned and highly respected due to its reputation for quality and excellence.

The legislative and judicial framework of the Bahamas Register is comparable to the register of the United Kingdom and is therefore familiar to owners, lawyers bankers and other professionals involved in international shipping.

All types of vessels are welcomed to register however certain requirements, particularly the suitability and the age of a vessel, are considered before the vessel is permitted to fly the Bahamas Flag.

Once all requirements in relation to registration are completed, a permanent Certificate of Registry will be issued along with the following Bahamas certificates and documents:

- Provisional Certificate of Registry
- Radio Communication License
- Safe Manning Document
- Ship's Carving and Marking Note
- Oil Pollution CLC
- Bunker CLC
- Continuous Synopsis Record (CSR)
- LRIT Conformance Test Report (CTR)
- Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance (DMLC) – Part 1
- Set of Ship Statutory Publications

Ship Registration:

The Firm regularly advise clients who wish to have vessels registered under the Bahamian flag and advises as to any peculiarity or consequence of such registration.

Arrest of Vessels:

The Firm has arrested ships on behalf of claimants and other maritime lien holders, as well as attending to the disposition (privately or by Court Order) of the arrested vessels and the payout of adjudicated claimants.



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