

JOHN H. THOMAS

Florida International University School of Hospitality and Tourism Management:

Visiting Assistant Professor; Hospitality Industry Law, Travel Law and Gaming Law

Education:

J.D. - University of Miami School of Law, 1978

A.B. - Dartmouth College, 1971

Professional:

Admitted to The Florida Bar, 1978

Admitted to U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, 1979

Admitted to the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, 1979

Admitted to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeal, 1981

Admitted to the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeal, 1981

Admitted to the U.S. Court of International Trade, 1985

Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Admiralty and Maritime Law, 1996

Honors:

The Marine Council Outstanding Person, 1993

GMMA Marine Industry Hall of Fame, 1987

The Marine Council Outstanding Member, 1985

Memberships:

Former President and Founder of the Miami Maritime Arbitration Council

Former Director and Vice-President of The Marine Council

Former Director and Treasurer of the MAST Academy Advisory Board

Member of the Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute

Former Board Member of the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve Policy Advisory Committee

Chair of The Florida Bar Admiralty Law Committee

Member of The Florida Bar Environmental and Land Use Section

Work Experience:

From 1978 until the present, John Thomas has been a maritime law practitioner in Miami, Florida. He has provided counsel and litigation services for individuals and companies engaged in maritime activities and businesses, such as yachts, cruise ships, cargo vessels, charters, sales, towing, salvage, surveyors, marinas, boatyards and the insurers and financial institutions which service them. Both transactional and litigation issues are within his expertise.

Publications and Lectures:

Co-author, with Andrew W. Anderson, of the chapter on ASalvage,@ *Maritime Law and Practice*, 4th Edition (2004) published by The Florida Bar

"Current Legal Problems" - Florida International University Marina Operations Seminar, 1984

"Legal Issues in Everyday Marina Operations" - Florida Sea Grant Marina Conference, 1985

"When and How to Use Arbitration in Resolving Marine Industry Disputes" - The Marine Council Industry Symposium, 1987

AMaritime Arbitration Law and Procedures" - Florida Bar Admiralty Law Committee, 1987

"Legal Aspects of Boat Titling and Registration" - The Marine Council Stolen Boat Symposium, 1987

"Legal Aspects of Maritime Salvage" - C-Port Seminar, 1989

"Marina Liability - Fighting Fires on the Dock and in the Courtroom" - Florida Sea Grant Marina Conference, 1989

"Requirements of Format, Particular Language, Home Port, etc." - The Marine Council Yacht Documentation Symposium, 1989

AMaritime Arbitration@ - Florida Bar Admiralty Law Committee, 1991

ATowing and Salvage Law for Recreational Boats@ - The Marine Council Seminar, 1993

"New Federal Charter Law" - The Marine Council Charter Boat Law Seminar, 1993
 APassenger Vessel Safety Act of 1993" - Florida Charter Brokers Association Charter Boat Law Seminar, 1993
 AGambling on the High Seas" - Florida Bar Admiralty Law Committee Seminar; Cruising in the 1990's: A Guide to Cruise Ship Las and Litigation, 1994
 "Marinas, Boatyards & Dealers - Risks and Responsibilities" - The Marine Council Seminar, Liability Issues for Boat Manufacturers, Dealers and Boatyards, 1994
 ATrouble on Oiled Waters - Small to Medium Sized Oil Spills@ - The Marine Council Seminar, 1994
 "Recreational Boating Topics" - Florida Bar Admiralty Law Committee Seminar, Recreational Boating and Environmental Considerations in Admiralty Matters, 1995
 ADuties, Responsibilities and Liabilities to Owners, Brokers, Boatyards and Others@ - The Marine Council Marine Surveyors Seminar, 1995
 AHurricane Evacuation Law for Marinas in Florida@ - Florida Sea Grant Marina and Boating Issues Conference, 1995
 APersonal Watercraft Legal Issues@ - The Marine Council Seminar, 1995
 ARecreational Diving Law Issues@ - The Marine Council Recreational Diving Law Seminar, 1996
 AWho Else Can We Blame? Potentially Liable Third Parties: Stevedores, Truckers, U.S. Customs, Warehousemen, Freight Forwarders, Acts of God@ - The Marine Council Seminar, Tales from the Hold: Marine Cargo Law Seminar, 1996
 ACharter Issues: Foreign Vessels, Registry and Documentation Questions, Tax Questions, New Legislation@ - The Marine Council and FYBA Seminar, Yacht Sales and the Law, 1996
 ALegal Aspects of Boat Shows and Marine Associations@ - National Marine Trades Council, 1997
 ALegal Issues for Marine Surveyors@ - The Marine Council, Marine Surveyor Law, 1997
 AYacht Charter Issues@ - The Marine Council and FYBA Seminar, Yacht Sales and the Law II, 1997
 AManagement Issues for International Yacht Charters@ - The Marine Council and FYBA Seminar, Yacht Sales and the Law III, 1998
 AYacht Charters and Sail Training Legal Issues@ - American Sailing Association Seminar, 1998
 ADiscussion on International Issues@ - The Marine Council and FYBA Seminar, Yacht Sales and the Law IV, 1999
 ASalvage Law Issues@ - The Florida Bar Admiralty Law Committee, 2000
 ACharter Issues@ - The Marine Council and FYBA Seminar, Yacht Sales and the Law V, 2000
 ASalvage and the Surveyor@ - The Marine Council Seminar, Marine Surveyors, 2001
 ACharter Law Issues@ - The Florida Bar Admiralty Law Committee, 2001
 AInternational Charter Law Issues@ - The Marine Council and FYBA Seminar, Yacht Sales and the Law VI, 2001
 AJoint Ownership, Time Sharing, Charters@ - The Marine Council Seminar, Charter Yachts and the Law, 2002
 AInteresting Moments in Yacht Charter Parties@ - The Florida Bar Admiralty Law Committee, 2005
 ASalvage Rights and Wrongs@ - The Florida Bar Admiralty Law Committee Seminar, Admiralty Law 2006,
 2006
 ASalvage Law for Surveyors@ - Florida Marine Industries Association and Florida Sea Grant Seminar, Marine Surveyors and the Law, 2006
 AArbitration of Maritime Claims and Judicial Review@ - The Florida Bar Admiralty Law Committee, 2008