



Pacific Maritime
LAWYERS & CONSULTANTS



Pacific Maritime Lawyers

Lawyers and Consultants

Capability Statement



VALUES AND COMMITMENTS

Pacific Maritime Lawyers is a specialist legal practice providing professional legal and commercial solutions to the maritime industry. The legal advice provided by Pacific Maritime Lawyers is enhanced by the extensive maritime knowledge gained through merchant marine and navy service. Pacific Maritime Lawyers delivers legal services throughout Australia.

Pacific Maritime Lawyers is owned and operated by Maritime Law professionals with backgrounds as Master Mariners and in defence force service. Pacific Maritime Lawyers and Consultants have postgraduate audit, business, and legal qualifications. Pacific Maritime Lawyers are not only qualified lawyers, but in addition, hold Class 1 marine certificates of competency.

Pacific Maritime Lawyers has supplied a wide range of legal and consulting services to domestic and international private and publicly listed corporations, as well as Government organisations.

LEGAL SOLUTIONS

Pacific Maritime Lawyers is a specialist maritime law practice registered in accordance with the requirements of the Queensland Law Society.

Pacific Maritime Lawyers provides legal advice and litigation services with specific experience in commercial maritime law, marine insurance law, employment law and regulatory compliance.

Pacific Maritime Lawyers are qualified legal professionals with a breadth of legal, business, and maritime knowledge. This knowledge and skill has been utilized in Australian Government regulatory bodies, international shipping and insurance companies.

BUSINESS CONSULTING

Pacific Maritime Lawyers have professional expertise with commercial and business solutions. Pacific Maritime Lawyers provides a unique mix of practical knowledge, formal education, government experience and techno-economic acumen. Pacific Maritime Lawyers business consulting will assist your organization to manage risk and position your business for success.

Pacific Maritime Lawyers has extensive experience in ship inspections, project development, project and asset management, maritime incident investigation, audits, risk assessments, commercial negotiations and business management.

Marine Insurance Law

Marine insurance is a specialist area, with its own legal regime and language. Pacific Maritime Lawyers can assist navigating the complexities of this area, for all facets of marine insurance, including:

- Marine cargo claims
- Hull and machinery damage
- Protection and indemnity club liability claims issues
- Environmental insurance issues

Commercial Maritime Law

Pacific Maritime Lawyers can provide assistance for a range of maritime commercial matters, including:

- Specific legal advice if you are starting, buying or selling a marine business
- Maritime transactions, including purchase, sale and leasing of vessels and other maritime assets
- Marine legislative compliance checks and audits of existing marine businesses
- Registration and ownership of vessels, including share-holdings and appropriate ownership structures
- Advice in regard to marine business structures including partnerships, trusts and corporations
- Partnership and joint venture agreements for marine projects
- Advice on charter parties and other maritime contracts
- Guarantees and security documents for the maritime industry
- Bankruptcy and debt collection
- Employment law including employment contracts, employee rights, unfair dismissal and confidentiality agreements
- Advice on legislative requirements, including specialist marine areas such as seaworthiness, safe operation obligations, registration of vessels and appropriate licensing.
- Corporate and commercial litigation in Court and alternative dispute resolution

Marine Services

- LNG, LPG, Chemical, Crude, Product, Towage, Bulk Ship and Barge inspections for Banks, Charterers, Insurers, Port Authorities, Flag State Authorities and Shipping Companies
- LNG, LPG, Chemical and Petroleum Cargo loading and discharge Master and Surveyors
- Oil Major Vetting, Port and Flag State AMSA inspections/liaison
- Ship dry dock specification generation and attendance
- Incident Investigation and Root Cause Analysis
- ISM Compliance, audit and drafting of Safety Management Systems
- NSCV Part E compliance, audit and drafting of Safety Management Systems
- Risk assessments and control audits
- Salvage and Maritime Incident Project Management
- Wharf and Terminal condition and damage inspections
- Ship Simulations for the development of approach channels, swing basin and terminal location
- Port and terminal design and project development

Government Services

- Legislation Review for State Governments and Agencies
- Procurement and tender review
- VTS Management and Project implementation
- Oil pollution prevention, response and cost recovery.

Legal Services

- LNG, LPG, Chemical, Crude, Product, Towage, Bulk Ship and Barge inspections for Banks, Charterers, Insurers, Port Authorities, Flag State Authorities and Shipping Companies
- LNG, LPG, Chemical and Petroleum Cargo loading and discharge Master and Surveyors
- Coastal trading regime advice to government and shipowners
- Salvage and the intervention convention in the great barrier reef
- Competition law and exclusive towage licence arrangements
- Established a marine based joint venture between corporate owners
- Advised owners in relation to ship repair contracts, both domestically and overseas
- Advised a statutory agency in relation to legislative reform
- Successfully defended regulatory action against domestic commercial vessels
- Successfully defended regulatory action under Queensland marine safety laws
- P&I Club work, including wreck removal
- Maritime Law, Expert Witness and Regulatory Compliance

Cargo Services

- Cargo and port operation superintendence and independent representation
- Cargo operations management and loading-master attendance
- Assistance with scoping, feasibility, due diligence and procedure development for proposed new start up cargo port operation projects
- Assistance with selection of new and audit or performance monitoring of existing cargo and marine service providers
- Pre-advisory, risk profiling and protective attendance for vessels needing to meet cargo hold cleanliness requirements for grain and other commodities, accredited grain surveyors
- Pre-fixture suitability analysis, pre-vetting, terminal compatibility and assistance post fixture commercial operations
- Incident investigation, safety management compliance and risk based safety procedure development

Energy Services

- Facilities Operations: FLNG/FPSO ship cargo transfer operations
- Port and terminal design and project development
- The management of development and construction of Process Engineering for FPSO's, Land and Floating LNG Facilities^[L]_[SEP]
- The management of development of process engineering for Land and Offshore/Floating LNG re-gas facilities (FSRU)
- The management of Naval Architecture, Mooring, Interface Engineering

John Kavanagh

Principal Solicitor, Master Mariner, Maritime Auditor



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Captain John Kavanagh is a Legal Practitioner, Master Mariner and Maritime Auditor. In recent years, John has focused on maritime law, auditing and consultancy.

John has nearly 30 years' experience in the maritime industry, and has worked as a Master on some of the largest marine projects in Australia. His recent project experience includes the Wheatstone LNG project in WA and the Ichthys LNG project in Darwin. John's earlier seagoing career was with BHP Transport, where he served for 10 years as a deck officer on bulk carriers, oil tankers, LNG tankers and chemical tankers.

Since moving ashore, John has held roles in the Corporate and Government sector. Prior to starting his own legal practice, John was a senior executive at Maritime Safety Queensland, and honed his skills as a litigator at McCullough Robertson Lawyers.

John has broad experience, having worked in a range of senior executive roles at Maritime Safety Queensland (the Queensland State Government Regulator), including Executive Director Maritime Services, Regional Harbour Master (Gladstone) and Vessel Traffic Services Manager in Brisbane.

John is a prize winner in several areas, including seamanship, shipping casualty response, legal services and regulatory compliance. With broad experience in a wide range of operational, legal and management roles, John has a well-rounded, mature and informed approach to the maritime industry and can be relied upon to deliver quality advice and practical solutions.

In addition to his Master Unlimited certificate of competency (AMSA), John holds a Diploma of Applied Science (Nautical Science) from the Australian Maritime College, a Bachelor of Laws (IIA Hons) from Deakin University and an unrestricted Principal's Practising Certificate as a legal practitioner in Queensland. John is also admitted as a legal practitioner to the High Court of Australia. John is certified by the International Register of Certificated Auditors as a Maritime Safety Management System Auditor.

John is an active member of the Royal Australian Navy Reserve.



Dr. Anthony Marinac

Legal Practitioner, Defence Specialist, Accredited Mediator

SOLICITOR / ADVOCATE

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Dr Anthony Marinac has a wealth of experience in administrative law, environmental law, and contract law, developed over more than twenty years in both public and private practice.

As a senior public administrator in Canberra in the late 1990s, Anthony worked for the Industry department on environmental issues, bringing an industry-focused perspective to legislation such as the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. He then spent years in Parliament House in Canberra as a key adviser to the Senate, working as Principal Research Officer and Committee Secretary for various Senate Committees, before becoming the Director of Research in the Senate. In that role he was a parliamentary draftsman, writing legislative amendments on their way through the Senate.

In 2007 Anthony joined the Royal Australian Air Force, undertaking six years of full time service in Air Force Headquarters, but also serving on operational bases where he developed his signature style of providing simple, understandable, no-nonsense legal advice. During his service he was also seconded to the Navy for a period of six months, where he served on boarding parties with the Patrol Boat Group in Operation Resolute, going to sea on HMAS Pirie and HMAS Larrakia. Anthony remains a member of the RAAF Reserve.

From 2013 until 2018, Anthony taught law at CQUniversity Australia, where he won a number of awards based on his capacity to take complex legal concepts and to simplify them, making them easily understandable – a skill he uses every day at Pacific Maritime Lawyers. He maintains a personal YouTube legal education channel which has been viewed nearly 250,000 times.

Also during 2013-2015, Anthony served part time as Counsel Assisting in Queensland's Office of the State Coroner, undertaking a number of high profile and influential inquests. From 2015 until 2018, Anthony was called to the bar as Counsel. During this period he argued matters in Queensland's Magistrates Court, District Court and Supreme Court, as well as in the Federal Circuit Court. Finally, Anthony is a Nationally Accredited Mediator.

Anthony heads up Pacific Maritime Lawyers' presence in the important Port City of Gladstone in Central Queensland, part of our firm's ongoing commitment to this vital hub of Queensland maritime activity.

Claire Strodder

Lawyer



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Claire Strodder is a graduate of the University of Hull and College of Law in England where she studied a Bachelor of Laws and Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice. Claire then worked as a graduate Litigation Executive at a National English law firm where she specialised in personal injury law and gained experience in claims management. Claire relocated from England to Australia in 2013.

Since relocating to Australia, Claire has studied a Diploma of Law at the University of Sydney and Practical Legal Training at the College of Law. Claire has completed her supervised legal training in-house and was admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales in May 2019.

Prior to joining Pacific Maritime Lawyers, Claire has worked at a National law firm gaining experience in the Corporate and Commercial team. Claire has also been an integral part of a small in-house Legal team at an Australian water distributor-retailer firstly, as a graduate and then as Legal Counsel. Claire has provided generalist legal advice with practical solutions to in-house clients on a diverse range of legal matters that are present in an in-house environment, including property, regulatory, commercial and intellectual property.

Outside of her career, Claire has also volunteered as a Company Secretary at a Queensland not-for-profit organisation, which has given her exposure and expertise in Board and governance practice.

Claire joined Pacific Maritime Lawyers in August 2019 as Lawyer.

Claire is also a member of the Queensland Law Society and the Women Lawyers Association of Queensland.



Ryan Norval

Consultant Lawyer

Lawyer

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Ryan has extensive international experience in the maritime and legal arena. During conscription, Ryan spent two years in the South African Navy whilst serving on several vessels. Prior to devoting his time to law, Ryan worked in the upstream offshore oil and gas industry throughout the globe for thirteen years and qualified as a Ballast Control Operator, a Barge Master and Offshore Installation Manager.

Ryan completed his four-year Bachelor of Law with several academic awards and went on to complete his Master of Law with a focus on medical law, advanced contract law and torts. In 2005 Ryan was called to the bar in South Africa where he held private chambers until 2015 when he emigrated to Australia. He still holds right of appearance in the High Court of South Africa and remains a member of the National Bar Association of South Africa on which he served in the executive as national secretary for two years.

After arriving in Australia, Ryan worked as the national compliance, risk and governance officer for an after-hours doctor service, located in Queensland. During this time Ryan completed his further studies for admission in Queensland as a solicitor where he is a member of the Queensland Law Society.

Ryan has pertinent experience in a wide range of operational, legal and management roles and can deliver industry relevant, informed and practical solutions to those challenges that seem to be unique to shipping and maritime clients. Ryan also spent time as an operations manager for a ship-repair company in Cape Town and has first-hand experience in this field under challenging conditions at the repair quay and dry dock.

Outside of the legal framework Ryan enjoys his time with his family and playing golf, sailing or sitting down for a strategizing game of chess.

Contact Information

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