

# Mark Freeman

## Member

An experienced litigator, Mark Freeman focuses his practice on admiralty, maritime, and commercial litigation.

### EXPERIENCE

- Defended US-flagged vessel owner operator in acute toxic exposure claim where the Fifth Circuit established the time of event rule for traumatic event/latent manifestation bodily injury.
- Defended inland marine transportation company in a claim by its charterer alleging breach of the charter over a multi-year period.
- Represented shipyards in personal injury, regulatory and commercial disputes.
- Defended offshore drilling contractor in wrongful death claim involving a motor vehicle accident that was eventually decided by the Texas Supreme Court.
- Defended tug and barge flotilla following collision with a pleasure craft resulting in the sinking of the pleasure boat with loss of four lives.
- Defended offshore drilling contractor in offshore fire and explosion event resulting in the death of a worker and burns to several others.
- Defended and prosecuted numerous foreign-flagged vessel interests in collisions or allisions with fixed structures.
- Successfully defended inland boat and barge owner/operator in industry-wide litigation involving classification of seamen and the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.
- Defense of Jones Act claims in various state and federal courts.
- Represented holders of maritime liens in actions to arrest various vessels.
- Defended operator of foreign-flagged tankship that was involved in a collision with an inland unit tow resulting in one of the largest spills of crude oil in recent Texas history which generated the largest number of *pro se* claimants (approximately 17,000) in a single, non-consolidated federal case.

### Practices, Industries & Services

Admiralty & Maritime  
Energy & Utilities

### Honors

- Named among Best Lawyers in America - Admiralty and Maritime Law by Best Lawyers (2021)



### Offices

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### Education

J.D., Southern Methodist University,  
Dedman School of Law, Dallas,  
Texas, 1980

B.S., University of Tulsa, Tulsa,  
Oklahoma, 1976

### State Bar Licenses

Texas

### Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court  
U.S. District Ct., E.D. of Texas  
U.S. District Ct., S.D. of Texas  
U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit