

Elle Stuart

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Elle Stuart is a partner in the firm's Public Policy and Law practice group where she focuses her practice on maritime and transportation policy and regulatory issues. Elle works with a variety of clients and associations to develop strategies to address federal legislative and regulatory issues, including outreach to government agencies and Congressional offices, and advises on the impact of new laws and regulations.

She has substantive experience in advising clients on statutes and regulations related to the US maritime sector, including cabotage laws, US Customs and Border Protection rulemakings, and Federal Maritime Commission regulations. She also advocates before the US Congress and various federal agencies for a wide variety of clients, including ship owners and operators, equipment providers, and trade associations that support the domestic maritime industry.

Elle is currently a member of the Propeller Club of the Port of Washington DC and WISTA USA (Women's International Shipping & Trading Association). Prior to joining the firm, Elle spent time interning with the Coast Guard's Office of the Judge Advocate General in the Civil Litigation department and the Environmental Division of the North Carolina Department of Justice.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Elle is currently a member of the Propeller Club of the Port of Washington D.C. and WISTA USA (Women's International Shipping & Trading Association).

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States*
  - Leading Associate for Shipping: Litigation and Regulation, 2023-2026
  - Recommended Lawyer for Government Relations, 2024
- Recognized by *Law360* as a Rising Star for Transportation, 2024

EDUCATION

- J.D., Duke University School of Law, 2017 *(Journal of Comparative & International Law, Senior Executive Editor)*
- B.A., Stanford University, 2014

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of District of Columbia

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 24 March 2026 , Foreign Vessels Operating Under the Jones Act Waiver Should Consider What Other US Laws May Apply
- 25 February 2026, White House Releases Plan to "Restore America's Maritime Dominance"
- 9 October 2025, The Essential Guide to the Jones Act
- 2 August 2024, July 2024 Accolades
- 5 September 2023, EPA Draws Near to Issuing New Regulations on Commercial Vessel Incidental Discharges
- 3 May 2023, SASH (Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment) Reporting in the Maritime Industry Key Issues for All US Flag Commercial Vessel Owners and Operators
- 5 January 2023, FY23 Defense Authorization Bill Makes Changes to Address "Novel and Problematic" Jones Act Waivers
- 16 September 2022, Federal Maritime Commission Seeking Comment on New Rulemaking Regarding Prohibition Against Ocean Common Carrier Refusal to Negotiate on Vessel Space Accommodations
- 8 March 2022, DOT Releases Policy Recommendations Targeting Supply Chain Disruption
- 27 October 2021, Hydrogen Rising: Hydrogen and the Maritime Sector, Part 2: Policy and Legislative Issues
- 14 July 2021, Spotlight on the International Maritime Sector as the Biden Administration Looks to Address Competition Activities
- 19 April 2021, Coast Guard Subcommittee Talks Decarbonization
- 13 April 2021, Congress Set to Discuss Maritime Decarbonization
- 5 March 2021, What a Clean Future Means For Maritime
- 22 July 2020, Chairman DeFazio Introduces Emergency Relief Legislation for the Maritime Industry
- 6 July 2020, Maritime Industry Prepares For Busy Legislative Stretch

- 11 May 2020, COVID-19: Updates on the FMC's Detention and Demurrage Final Rule
- 29 April 2020, COVID-19: Vessel Entry into U.S. Ports in the Age of a Pandemic
- 2 April 2020, COVID-19: Supply Chain Impacts
- 27 March 2020, COVID-19: Historic Coronavirus Relief Package Enacted
- 26 March 2020, COVID-19: Impacts to Transportation & Logistics
- 23 March 2020, COVID-19: Impacts to Transportation & Logistics
- 12 July 2019, Declining to Overrule a Long-Standing Agency Deference Doctrine, the Supreme Court Nonetheless Cautions That its Limitations Provide a Meaningful Check on Federal Agencies' Power to Regulate Business Activities
- 29 November 2018, Congress Passes Coast Guard Authorization Bill with Historic Overhaul of Vessel Discharges Standards and Other Measures
- 8 November 2018, Sea-zing the Day: Preparing for Maritime Issues in the 116th Congress
- 7 February 2018, The Eerie Similarities Between The Gulf Spill In 2010 And Hurricane Maria In Puerto Rico 7 Years Later: How the Facts About the Jones Act Got Thrown Overboard

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "Biden Competition Order May Shift Ocean Carriers' Course," *Law360*, 20 July 2021

NEWS & EVENTS

- 10 June 2026, K&L Gates Receives More Than 200 Firm, Individual Recommendations in *The Legal 500 United States* 2026 Edition
- 5 May 2026, K&L Gates Advises American Maritime Partnership on Defense of Jones Act Constitutional Challenge
- 6 January 2026, K&L Gates Names More Than 25 New Partners Across Firm
- 13 June 2025, K&L Gates Receives 200 Firm, Individual Recommendations in *The Legal 500 United States* 2025 Edition
- 12 June 2024, K&L Gates Receives More Than 225 Firm, Individual Recommendations in *The Legal 500 United States* 2024 Edition
- 7 June 2023, The Legal 500 Recognizes K&L Gates Practices, Lawyers in 2023 United States Edition

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Public Policy and Law

- International Trade, Investment Controls, and National Security
- Maritime Compliance
- Maritime Regulatory

INDUSTRIES

- Energy
- Hydrogen
- Maritime
- Transportation and Logistics
- Transportation Infrastructure