

Emanuel L. Rouvelas

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Emanuel (Manny) Rouvelas engages in a wide-ranging law and lobby practice representing leading companies and trade associations in transportation, telecommunications, high technology, hospitality, and manufacturing. For five decades, he has traveled globally to more than forty countries advising clients and working with US administrations, Congresses, and American and foreign embassies and governments.

Manny opened the Washington, DC, office of Seattle's Preston firm in June 1973 and guided its growth to more than 140 people at the time of its merger into K&L Gates in 2007. He is a founder of both the Public Policy and Law and Maritime practice groups of the firm, each consistently ranked nationally as among the best, most effective, and highly regarded in the United States. Manny is personally ranked in both maritime law and in government affairs by *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Super Lawyers, and *The Legal 500*. For fifteen consecutive years he was named a “Top Lobbyist” by *The Hill* newspaper based on surveys of members of Congress and staff. *Chambers USA* ranked him in the top band of three lawyers nationally in Government Relations and in the top band of five lawyers in Transportation: Shipping/Maritime: Regulatory. In its 30th year anniversary edition, *Legal Times* newspaper recognized him as “one of the greatest Washington lawyers of the past 30 years,” a “legal visionary,” who helped turn Washington, DC's legal and lobbying community into an international powerhouse.

Prior to joining the firm, Manny was counsel to the US Senate Committee on Commerce and chief counsel to its Merchant Marine and Foreign Commerce Subcommittees, where he had lead staff responsibility for the enactment of thirty-two public laws. Included was major legislation relating to vessel construction and operation, oil spill prevention, vessel traffic systems, recreational boat safety, Coast Guard, Maritime Administration and Federal Maritime Commission programs.

Manny has served as an advisor to two US presidential transitions, a bipartisan Congressional caucus, an executive branch reorganization, several senators and congressmen, and many political campaigns. In 2016 he served on the Bipartisan Policy Center's working group, “Selecting a Vice President: Balancing Politics and Prudence.” An honors graduate of the University of Washington, Harvard Law School, and participant in the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School and the Program on Corporate Governance for Directors at Stanford Business School, Manny has long been committed to the importance of strong ethical governance in both the public and private sectors. He has taught, lectured, and counseled clients on governance

issues. He has twenty years of experience serving on the boards of directors of three US publicly traded companies and thirty years of service on the boards of directors of nonprofit charitable organizations, including the American Architectural Foundation, Greater Washington Board of Trade, National Hellenic Society, Smithsonian National Zoological Park and Conservation Biology Institute, and *Washington Monthly* magazine. He is a lifetime trustee, former vice-chair of the board, and visiting professor at the American College of Greece in Athens.

In 2020, he assisted and served as an advisor to the Connected DMV. The organization provides real world solutions for real regional impact in the District, Maryland, Virginia metropolitan area; delivering initiatives that can have the power to fundamentally reshape physical, digital, social and economic infrastructure in the region.

His numerous professional, industry, and public service awards include the American Hellenic Institute's Heritage and National Public Service Award, United Seamen's Service Admiral of the Ocean Sea Award, and the Association of Government Relations Professionals (AGRP) Career Achievement Award.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Washington, DC, 2027
  - Admiralty and Maritime Law
  - Government Relations Practice
- Recognized by *Chambers USA,* USA - Nationwide
  - Government Relations: Federal, 2023-2026
  - Transportation: Shipping/Maritime: Regulatory, 2009-2026
- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer for Government Relations, 2024-2025
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- Lifetime Achievement Award, Issued by The Containerization & Intermodal Institute (CII), December 2023

EDUCATION

- J.D., Harvard Law School, 1968 *(cum laude)*
- B.A., University of Washington, 1965 *(with honors)*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of District of Columbia
- Supreme Court of the United States

LANGUAGES

- Greek

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 9 October 2025, The Essential Guide to the Jones Act
- June 2021, 2020 Legal 500 U.S. Guide Accolades
- 2 December 2020, After the Election: What Can and Will Get Done?
- 12 August 2020, Biden Proposals - The Big Picture
- 29 April 2020, COVID-19: Vessel Entry into U.S. Ports in the Age of a Pandemic
- 23 January 2020, Industry Predictions for 2020 From the Maritime Professionals at K&L Gates

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "Serious clout: WA has one of the most powerful delegations in Congress," *The Seattle Times*, 6 January 2023
- "Offshore Energy Report 26," *The Maritime Executive*, March/April 2018
- "Pro Bono 2010: K&L Gates Turns on Water Works," *The AmLaw Daily*, 30 July 2010

NEWS & EVENTS

- 4 June 2026, K&L Gates Receives Nearly 235 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2026 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 5 June 2025, K&L Gates Receives More Than 240 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2025 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 12 June 2024, K&L Gates Receives More Than 225 Firm, Individual Recommendations in *The Legal 500 United States* 2024 Edition
- 6 June 2024, K&L Gates Receives More Than 200 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2024 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 7 June 2023, The Legal 500 Recognizes K&L Gates Practices, Lawyers in 2023 United States Edition
- 1 June 2023, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2023 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 8 June 2022, K&L Gates Practices and Lawyers Recognized in *The Legal 500 United States* 2022 Edition
- 1 June 2022, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2022 *Chambers USA* Guide

- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 24 June 2021, Legal 500 Recognizes K&L Gates Policy and Regulatory Practice Among Leaders in the 2021 United States Guide
- 21 May 2021, K&L Gates Policy and Regulatory Practice, Lawyers Ranked Among Leaders in 2021 Chambers USA Guide
- 19 August 2020, K&L Gates Mourns Passing of Longtime Of Counsel, Former U.S. Senator and Washington State Attorney General Slade Gorton
- 25 June 2020, K&L Gates Practices and Lawyers Recognized in 2020 Legal 500 United States Guide
- 23 April 2020, K&L Gates, Lawyers Recognized in 2020 Chambers USA Guide
- 6 June 2019, K&L Gates Earns Practice and Lawyer Recognitions in 2019 *Legal 500 United States* Guide
- 26 April 2019, Chambers USA 2019 Guide Ranks K&L Gates, Lawyers Among Leaders
- 23 June 2016, K&L Gates, Lawyers Recognized as Leaders in Chambers USA 2016 Guide
- 20 May 2015, Chambers USA 2015 Guide Recognizes K&L Gates, Lawyers as Industry Leaders

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- Mentioned, “CII to present Connie Award to Marino, CEO, CMC-ITI-CCS and Lifetime Achievement Award to Rouvelas, Partner, K&L Gates,” *AJOT.com (American Journal of Transportation)*, 26 September 2023
- Quoted, “K&L Gates Lobbying Partners On 50 Years Of Industry Change,” *Law360*, 29 June 2023
- Quoted, “Saudis, PGA add political muscle as Congress bears down (Excerpt)” *Politico.com*, 22 June 2023
- Author, "Serious clout: WA has one of the most powerful delegations in Congress," *The Seattle Times*, 6 January 2023

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Public Policy and Law
- Maritime Regulatory
- Maritime Transactions and Finance
- US Congressional Investigations

INDUSTRIES

- Energy

- Maritime
- Transportation and Logistics