

Shareholder | Newport, RI | Providence, RI | Boston, MA | New York, NY

Joshua S. Parks

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Overview

Josh is a tireless advocate who has broad experience assisting clients reach favorable outcomes inside the courtroom, boardroom, and before government agencies. He has a diverse practice across a range of industries and services, including the marine trades, land use and zoning/permitting, complex trust and estate litigation, and business and commercial litigation. Josh provides efficient, timely and creative representation from inception of a client's need for counsel – be it pre-litigation investigation or business planning – up through and including trial, appeal, or signing. He practices before state and federal courts, arbitration panels, and myriad levels of government from local planning boards through administrative agencies.

A life-long sailor, Josh fuses his passion for the water with his profession as chair of the firm's maritime practice. He is a Proctor in Admiralty, a professional designation reserved for those with significant demonstrated experience in maritime law, and has represented vessel owners, charterers, shipyards and marinas, insurers, boat builders, and others requiring knowledgeable counsel in the marine space. Josh also has significant experience representing property owners, contractors, and other waterfront operators before the Coastal Resources Management Council regarding permitting and development matters.

Josh maintains strong ties to his community outside his professional obligations. He currently serves on the Harbor Commission in Portsmouth. He is a past president of Community Boating Center in Providence, and a member of the board of governors of the state's tall ship. He remains active in professional associations at both the local and national levels.

Prior to returning to his native Rhode Island, Josh worked for a maritime litigation boutique in the New York City region. He additionally interned for the Honorable Susan McGuirl of the Rhode Island Superior Court.

Experience

- Assisted in a wide variety of insurance defense matters involving claims for serious personal injuries and significant property damage.
- Assisted in the successful defense of a client before the Federal Maritime Commission, resulting in the dismissal of all claims and an award of attorneys' fees.
- Assisted in the representation of a vessel owner before an arbitration panel, resulting in a seven-figure demurrage recovery.

Credentials

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Practices

- Land Use
- Maritime Law
- Litigation

Education

- Tulane University Law School (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2012)
- Hobart College (B.A., *magna cum laude*, 2009)

Admissions

- Rhode Island
- Massachusetts
- New York
- U.S. District Court, District of Rhode Island
- U.S. District Court, Western District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

Honors

- Selected by his peers for inclusion in the 2026 & 2027 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America®* in the field of Commercial Litigation.
- Selected as Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, 2021 -2025 in the field of Commercial Litigation.
- Named a Rhode Island *Rising Star* by *Super Lawyers*, 2020 – 2023.
- Professional Excellence in the Law, Aviation Admiralty Maritime and Transportation, *Rhode Island Monthly*, 2025 – 2026.
- Managing Editor, Tulane Maritime Law Journal.

Professional Affiliations

- Proctor in Admiralty, Maritime Law Association of the United States.

In The Community

- President, Board of Directors, Community Boating Center
- Member, Board of Directors, Oliver Hazard Perry

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