

WILLIAM F. CLAIR

William F. Clair is a trial attorney who focuses his practice on maritime issues, hotels and resorts, restaurants, casinos, premises liability, insurance defense, construction litigation, and wrongful death claims. He has handled more than 50 trials/hearings and arbitrations in state, federal and family courts during his thirty year career. His experience in Federal Courts includes the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida, the District of New Jersey, the District of Texas, and the District of Colorado. His experience in State Court includes the Supreme Courts of New York, Kings, Queens, Bronx, Rockland, Westchester, Nassau, and Suffolk counties and the Circuit Courts for Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach and Family Court of Suffolk County.

Mr. Clair's experience has handled cases involving personal injury, wrongful death, Jones Act, hurricanes, infectious diseases, medical malpractice, Labor Law, commercial business disputes, EEOC claims, crew members, passengers, hospitality, sexual assaults, paternity and child support claims.

Mr. Clair has mediated cases involving passenger claims, crew member claims, premises liability claims, DOJ claims, and various personal injury claims.

Mr. Clair also has extensive mediation experience as an attorney attending and successfully resolving over 100 lawsuits. Settlements include the resolution of all 31 wrongful death claims involving the tragic sinking of the El Faro and many of the claims involving lost cargo.

Mr. Clair's experience as a restaurant owner in New York provides him with a unique perspective on commercial disputes and real world experience that informs his work as an attorney and mediator. He gained extensive trial experience as a civil county prosecutor in Suffolk County at the County Attorney's office. He also has experience in drafting legislation while he was Assistant Counsel to the Suffolk County Legislature.

PRACTICE AREAS

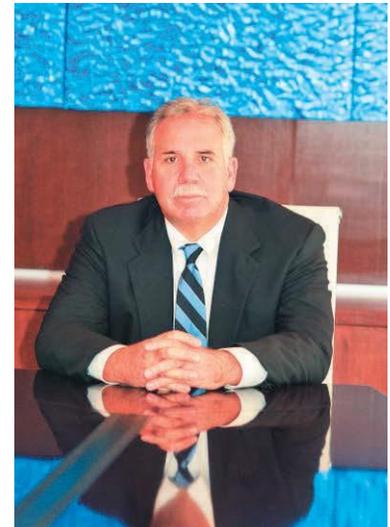
Admiralty and Maritime Claims
Insurance Defense
Casinos
Commercial Litigation
Property and Casualty
Complex Business Disputes
Personal Injury and Wrongful Death Defense
Hospitality Law Claims
Products Liability
Medical Malpractice Defense
Labor Law

EDUCATION

J.D., Fordham University School of Law
B.A., Florida Atlantic University

BAR ADMISSIONS

Florida
New York
Colorado



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COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida
U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida
U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York
U.S. District Court of Colorado
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
New York State Courts
Florida Circuit Courts

MEMBERSHIPS

Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM)
National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms (NAMWOLF)

NOTABLE VERDICTS AND EXPERIENCE

- Defense verdict in Federal Court in personal injury case involving severe and permanent injuries on cruise ship restaurant.
- Obtained complete defense verdict in a jury re-trial in Federal Court, Miami on a slip and fall case in a cruise ship restaurant
- Obtained complete dismissal of all claims on the eve of a jury trial in Circuit Court, Miami on a slip and fall on a gangway
- Summary judgment in Federal Court, New Jersey on a slip and fall on an open deck on a cruise ship
- Defense verdict in Federal Court, Miami in personal injury case involving a cruise ship restaurant
- Defense verdict in Federal Court, Miami on a re-trial of a slip and fall case in a cruise ship restaurant
- Defense verdict in Federal Court, New York on class action for personal injuries due to Hurricane Eduard
- Defense verdict in Federal Court, New York involving a passenger injured during Hurricane Felix
- Defense verdict in Federal Court, New York involving a passenger getting off a tender in Grand Cayman
- Defense verdict in Federal Court, New York of a crew member sexual assault on a passenger
- Defense verdict in Supreme Court, Rockland County on a passenger fall into a pool on a cruise ship
- Many damages trials for passengers who opted out of class action for Legionnaire's Disease on a cruise ship in Federal Court, New York
- Defense verdict in Supreme Court, Bronx County from a falling ceiling
- Defense verdict in Supreme Court, Queens County involving child hit while riding a bicycle
- Defense verdict in Supreme Court, Kings County involving defective stairs
- Successful arbitration in Broward County involving a breach of employment contract
- Successful arbitration in Miami-Dade County involving a crewmember
- Defense complete dismissal of all claims in Circuit Court, Miami on a slip and fall on a gangway
- Complete dismissal of all claims in Federal Court, Miami on a trip and fall in a passenger cabin on a cruise ship
- Complete dismissal of all claims in Federal Court, Miami on a passenger coffee burn on a cruise ship
- Complete dismissal in Federal Court, Miami on a trip and fall on an open deck
- Summary judgment in Federal Court, New York on a slip and fall on an open deck on a cruise ship
- Summary judgment in Federal Court, New York on a crew member assault on another crew member in a bar
- Summary judgment in Federal Court, New York on a class action for a claim of "sick ships"