



## Join A Network of Specialists: Become Board Certified In Admiralty & Maritime Law

The Florida Bar's certification program is consistently recognized as a national leader among other state programs.

**There are 4,569 board certified lawyers in Florida, but only 57 of them are board certified in admiralty & maritime law.**

*Board certified lawyers are legal experts dedicated to professional excellence.*

### Admiralty & Maritime Law/Board Certification Facts You Might Not Know:

- Alexander Hamilton was a maritime lawyer in downtown New York City.
- John Adams represented John Hancock in an admiralty case before the Revolution and was offered a position on the Special Court of Vice Admiralty in Boston.
- Oliver Wendell Holmes was an admiralty lawyer before he ascended to the Supreme Court.
- Certification may enhance the stature of your law firm and can result in lower malpractice insurance rates. Florida Lawyers Mutual Insurance Co. offers a 10 percent discount to board certified lawyers.
- In Florida, only board certified lawyers may refer to themselves as "experts," or "specialists" or use the letters "B.C.S." for Board Certified Specialist.
- By becoming board certified, you join an existing network – and a directory of lawyers at [FloridaBar.org/certification](http://FloridaBar.org/certification) – of specialists who frequently refer others to specialists in their fields of practice.
- Certification provides an objective measure that a potential client can rely upon when selecting a lawyer. The Florida Bar maintains a current list of board certified admiralty & maritime law attorneys online at [FloridaBar.org/certification](http://FloridaBar.org/certification).

The minimum standards for board certification in admiralty & maritime law include at least five years of the actual practice of law immediately preceding application, of which at least 35 percent has been spent in active participation in admiralty & maritime law. You must demonstrate completion of at least 50 hours of approved continuing legal education credits in admiralty & maritime law within three years immediately preceding the date of application. In addition, you will be evaluated as to character, ethics, and reputation for professionalism and required to pass a written examination.

If you're considering board certification in admiralty & maritime law, applications must be filed by **August 31, 2013** for the March 2014 exam. Standards, policies and applications are available online at [FloridaBar.org/certification](http://FloridaBar.org/certification) or contact Lisa Morgan at (850) 561-5690 or via email at [lmorgan@flabar.org](mailto:lmorgan@flabar.org).