



Robert P. O'Brien

Of Counsel

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Robert P. O'Brien has over four decades of experience focused upon the defense of claims in commercial litigation, including defending maritime claims, inland marine claims, non-maritime trucking industry claims, as well as claims involving commercial contract disputes.

As Chairman of the firm's Litigation Department, Robert's practice is focused upon the defense of claims in commercial litigation. He has had extensive experience in defending maritime claims (including cargo damage, collision, personal injury, and death), inland marine claims, non-maritime trucking industry claims (including cargo damage, personal injury, death and coverage issues), claims involving warehousemen, freight forwarders, transportation brokers and terminal operators, as well as claims involving commercial contract disputes.

Robert has served on the firm's Management Committee. He is a member of the American Bar Association, the Maryland State Bar Association, the Baltimore City Bar Association, the Defense Research Institute and the DRI Trucking Law Committee. Robert has been a proctor member of the Maritime Law Association of the United States since 1981 and he is currently a member of the MLA's Maritime Torts and Casualties Committee. Robert has also served as an Assistant Editor of American Maritime Cases since 1981.

Robert was recognized by Maryland Super Lawyers as a top attorney in Transportation, Maritime and Admiralty Law from 2008-2010, and 2012-present. He has also been peer-selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® in areas of Admiralty & Maritime Law since 2010.

Bar Admissions

Maryland

Education

J.D., *with Honors*, University of Maryland School of Law, 1977

- Notes and Comments Editor, Maryland Law Review, 1975-1977

B.A. in Philosophy, The John Hopkins University, 1973

Related Practice Areas

Business & Commercial

Construction Defects

Insurance

Insurance Defense

Litigation

Professional Liability

Serious Bodily Injury/Wrongful Death

Associations

- American Bar Association
- Maryland State Bar Association
- Baltimore City Bar Association
- Defense Research Institute DRI Trucking Law Committee
- proctor member of the Maritime Law Association of the United States
- MLA's Maritime Torts and Casualties Committee
- Assistant Editor of American Maritime Cases

Accolades

- *Maryland Super Lawyers*, Transportation, Maritime and Admiralty Law from 2008-2010, and 2012-present
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Admiralty & Maritime Law since 2010

Insights

- *Admiralty Jurisdiction Over Pleasure Craft Torts*, 36 Maryland Review
- *Admiralty-Division of Property Damage*, 35 Maryland Review

News & Insights

- Niles, Barton & Wilmer, LLP is proud to have 6 lawyers awarded in the 2026 editions of The Best Lawyers in America® and the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America.
- 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America® and the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America™
- Niles, Barton & Wilmer, LLP is proud to have 7 lawyers listed in the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America® and one lawyer recognized in the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America™.
- Niles Barton Attorneys Recognized by Maryland Super Lawyers 2022

- Twelve Niles Barton Attorneys Recognized by Maryland Super Lawyers 2020
- Niles Barton Named to 2020 Best Law Firms List by U.S. News and Best Lawyers
- Craig Roswell, Matthew Kimball and Robert O'Brien Recognized by Best Lawyers in America© 2020