



Mark Ruge

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Mark Ruge is a lawyer in the public policy and law practice group at the global law firm K&L Gates, one of the largest policy groups in the United States. He focuses his practice on the federal government, representing clients on policy matters before Congress, administrative issues before the federal agencies/departments, and, occasionally, regulatory disputes in the federal courts. He is involved in a broad range of maritime issues and issues related to the Great Lakes states. In 2018, he was inducted into the Great Lakes Marine Hall of Fame, the first attorney ever chosen.

A veteran of more than a decade as a staffer on Capitol Hill, Mark serves as counsel to the American Maritime Partnership, the largest coalition in the history of the U.S. maritime industry, and represents numerous other transportation clients on federal policy issues. In addition, he represents and has represented a broad range of other companies, associations, higher education institutions and other entities on federal legislative tax, healthcare, commerce, appropriations, and other issues.

Mark also counsels clients on issues before the federal agencies and departments. He has successfully helped litigate cases under the Administrative Procedure Act, which mandates rational decision-making by federal agencies. Mark has participated successfully in numerous agency administrative appeals and rulemakings. He is a principal author of "The Essential Guide to the Jones Act, A Roadmap to Compliance with America's Foundational Maritime Law."

Before joining the firm, he worked on Congressional staffs, including positions as chief of staff to Rep. Bob Davis (R-MI) and as deputy staff director (minority) of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, where he specialized in Michigan and Great Lakes issues. Mark is a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center and Northern Michigan University. He received an Executive Certificate in Leadership and Management from the University of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business.

He served as the Parish Council president at St. Luke Catholic Church in McLean (VA) for nearly 20 years; chairman of the Board of Directors of the Father McKenna Center; co-chairman and founder of the Food From the Bar legal community food drive that has raised more than 5 million meals for the Capital Area Food Bank in Washington, D.C.; the national board chairman for the Ignatian Volunteer Corps; and as the Fathers' Club president at Gonzaga College High School in Washington, D.C.

Mark is a part owner of the Green Bay Packers.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Mark has been nationally ranked by *Chambers USA*, a leading guide to the legal profession, as one of the top lawyers in the United States, every year since 2012. He has also been selected to Super Lawyers in the area of Government Relations.

EDUCATION

- Certificate, University of Notre Dame, 2008 *Mendoza College of Business, Leadership and Management*
- J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 1992
- B.A., Northern Michigan University, 1980 (*with highest honors*)

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of District of Columbia

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 5 September 2023, EPA Draws Near to Issuing New Regulations on Commercial Vessel Incidental Discharges
- 5 January 2023, FY23 Defense Authorization Bill Makes Changes to Address "Novel and Problematic" Jones Act Waivers
- 14 June 2021, Shipping Emissions Remain a Focus of Reintroduced House Bill
- 26 May 2021, A U.S. Perspective on Shipping Decarbonization
- May 2021, May 2021 Accolades
- April 2021, April 2021 Accolades
- 19 April 2021, Coast Guard Subcommittee Talks Decarbonization
- 13 April 2021, Congress Set to Discuss Maritime Decarbonization
- 5 March 2021, What a Clean Future Means For Maritime
- 14 January 2021, Predicting the Biden Administration's Impact on the U.S. Maritime Industry
- 20 November 2020, How Long Until Biden Nominates The MARAD Administrator?
- 26 October 2020, House Climate Bill Takes Aim At Shipping Emissions
- 1 October 2020, Things to Watch: Congressional Funding for the U.S. Coast Guard

- 8 September 2020, Five Things the Maritime Industry Should Know as the 116th Congress Concludes
- 22 July 2020, Chairman DeFazio Introduces Emergency Relief Legislation for the Maritime Industry
- 6 July 2020, Maritime Industry Prepares For Busy Legislative Stretch
- 3 April 2020, COVID-19: The Continuing Impacts of COVID-19 on Transportation & Logistics
- 26 March 2020, COVID-19: Impacts to Transportation & Logistics
- 23 March 2020, COVID-19: Impacts to Transportation & Logistics
- 5 March 2020, DOT Announces \$225 Million in Port Grant Opportunities
- 5 February 2020, DOT Announces Funding Opportunity for Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects
- 23 January 2020, Industry Predictions for 2020 From the Maritime Professionals at K&L Gates
- 8 January 2020, The Can-Do Congress?
- 29 November 2018, Congress Passes Coast Guard Authorization Bill with Historic Overhaul of Vessel Discharges Standards and Other Measures
- 7 February 2018, The Eerie Similarities Between The Gulf Spill In 2010 And Hurricane Maria In Puerto Rico 7 Years Later: How the Facts About the Jones Act Got Thrown Overboard
- 3 August 2017, Senate Confirms Adm. Buzby to Head U.S. Maritime Administration
- 25 January 2017, Timing for New MARAD Administrator
- 2 November 2016, EPA Announces Timeline for VGP 3.0

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "Federal Spending Means Big Money for Great Lakes Shipping," Great Lakes/Seaway Review, July-September 2021
- "Offshore Energy Report 26," *The Maritime Executive*, March/April 2018
- Co-author, "Facts Still Matter: How Social Media and Even Mainstream Publications Got It Wrong on the Jones Act and Puerto Rico," *The Maritime Executive*, November/December 2017

NEWS & EVENTS

- 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
- 1 June 2022, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2022 *Chambers USA* Guide

- 21 May 2021, K&L Gates Policy and Regulatory Practice, Lawyers Ranked Among Leaders in 2021 Chambers USA Guide
- 23 April 2020, K&L Gates, Lawyers Recognized in 2020 Chambers USA 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

MEDIA MENTIONS

- Mentioned, "Emails Reveal the U.S. Maritime Administration's 2019 Efforts to Derail a Long-Term Jones Act Waiver for LNG," *Cato Institute*, 24 October 2022

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Public Policy and Law
- Maritime
- Maritime Regulatory
- Maritime Transactions and Finance