# SARA GILLINGHAM AUKNER

Over 30 years' experience of commercial shipping and international transport operations worldwide:

- $\checkmark$  Resolving disputes with shipowners, charterers, traders & insurers
- ✓ Considerable operational know-how
- ✓ Understands trade/corporate finance, derivative/physical trading, insolvency/cross-border issues

# **Qualifications:**

- Aspiring Full Member of the London Maritime Arbitrators' Association (LMAA), Panel Member of Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (SCMA) and Emirates Maritime Arbitration Centre (EMAC)
  - $\circ \quad \ \ \text{Accredited Mediator}$
  - Member of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCIArb) and London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)
  - $\circ$  Representative (Norway), BIMCO Documentary Committee 2012-2018
  - Non-Executive Director of The Strike & Marine Delay Club 2015-2018
- Lecturer at Norwegian Shipping Academy (BI Norwegian Business School), 2002 and 2003
- English Solicitor since 1991
- o B.Sc. Economics & International Relations from L.S.E., incl. Public International Law

# Areas of Expertise:

Shipping Activities & Vessel Operations	<ul> <li>Bills of Lading, Electronic BLs, WayBills, and other contracts of carriage</li> <li>Chartering In and Out: Bareboat, period and time charter trip CPs, Voyage CPs and COAs (short, long and industrial)</li> <li>Laytime and demurrage, speed and performance, bunkering and other operational issues</li> <li>Joint ventures and industrial contracts</li> <li>Freight management services</li> <li>Pool agreements, slot agreements, containerized and liner trades</li> <li>Shipbuilding, ship finance, ship sale and purchase</li> <li>Shipmanagement and shipowning</li> <li>Casualty or "wet" work: collision, allision, grounding and other damage to hull, particular average and general average, towage and tugs, ship repair, pollution</li> </ul>	
Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution	Court proceedings in every continent including substantive proceedings, enforcement issues, attachment/seizure of assets, exercise and protection of third party rights, and cross-border insolvency Arbitration in particular in London, New York, Oslo, Singapore and Hong Kong Mediation in particular in London, New York and Oslo Negotiation of alternative commercial solutions	
Insurance	P&I/FDD, H&M, loss of hire/earnings or physical loss, war risks, strike and delay, counterpart default, business interruption, tailor made and off-market placements for personal and corporate security	
Trade Finance	Trade finance, letters of credit and factoring Derivative trading and hedging, use of FFAs, Options, OTC and exchange-traded products, ISDAs and Master Agreements, settlement issues	
Corporate Finance	$_{\odot}$ IPOs, bond issue, private placement, M&A, de-mergers/disposal of business, due diligence	
Corporate Governance	<ul> <li>Corporate structure, shareholder agreements, partnership agreements, disposal/acquisition of shares</li> </ul>	
Commercial Contracts	Management services Service agreements (IT, Intellectual Property Rights, licensing, SLAs, data protection) Brand protection (trade marks) Leasing (maritime and commercial property) Construction (shipbuilding and commercial property)	
Compliance	• Regulatory, compliance, sanctions and anti-corruption issues	

# **Career to date:**

#### 2018- Independent Arbitrator and Mediator

- o Over 100 arbitration appointments in London, of which about half have gone beyond appointment.
- Appointed as sole arbitrator (17), on panels and as Chair (4), good experience of writing awards (11).
- Hands-on experience of mediating shipping and insurance disputes.

## 2016-2018 Consultant and Legal Advisor

- Clients in New York, Oslo, Singapore and UK, in shipping, commercial property and a technology start-up.
- Executive and non-executive directorships in commercial property and marine insurance.

### 2005-2016 - Western Bulk - General Counsel

- Provided diverse legal services worldwide, analysed business-critical risks, managed exposure to risk.
- Created and led diverse teams to manage legal risks, contracts, claims and disputes in many different jurisdictions.
- Developed and supervised legal risk management, including business-critical risks such as insurance (also tailormade off-market cover), contract management and counterpart risk (due diligence; charterparty clauses; trade finance; provision of guarantees, security and collateral; cross-border insolvency); regulatory, compliance, and anticorruption issues.
- Enabled business development, creation of long-term industrial projects, joint ventures, and new corporate divisions.
- Conducted restructuring: separation of Shipowning through liquidation, sale of Chartering division, without arrest/attachment of assets, ensuring survival of core business.
- Accomplished corporate finance transactions: joint ventures, M&A, IPO, de-merger, bond issue, due diligence.
- Facilitated derivative and financial trading: use of freight futures and hedging, financial instruments, ISDAs and Master Agreements, direct counterpart (OTC) and exchange-cleared products, and counterpart risk issues.

#### 1997-2004 - Skuld P&I Club - Senior Lawyer

- Legal advice on all shipping & insurance matters (FDD and P&I) to charterers and shipowners; litigation and alternative dispute resolution of disputes on behalf of Members; delivered seminars and workshops, including Skuld School; publishing articles on law and regulatory topics for Skuld.
- Also Knowledge Management Officer: developed database, systems and procedures for distributing legal information and sharing knowledge on a worldwide basis, including claims handling processes and formation of special interest groups. Collaborated on website development, expedited electronic storage, retrieval and distribution of information.

#### 1994-1996 - Advokatfirmaet Evensen & Co - English Solicitor, Norsk Advokatfullmektig

• English lawyer advising on shipping & insurance, offshore, ship-building & ship finance, joint ventures, negotiation & drafting of commercial contracts, and litigation. Seconded to Legal/FDD Dept. at Skuld (Feb - May 1995).

#### 1989-1994 - Ince & Co - Trainee Solicitor and Solicitor

 Advised on English law on a worldwide basis to international clients: contractual drafting, legal advice and litigation in court and arbitration of insurance, reinsurance and shipping disputes (carriage of goods, charterparties and international trade), company/commercial, intellectual property, joint ventures, M&A, ship sale and purchase, ship finance, EU competition law. Seconded to Advokatfirma Evensen & Co (Sept – Oct 1993).

## **Education:**

1989	Solicitors' Professional Examination - Honours	Chester College of Law, England
1988	Common Professional Examination - Merit	Chester College of Law, England
	(Equivalent to 3-year law degree in 1 year)	
1986	B.Sc. Economics & International Relations - 2:1 Honours	London School of Economics (L.S.E.)

Languages: Fluent Norwegian and English, understands Danish and Swedish, French and Spanish (previously fluent).

## **Contact details:**

Mobile:	+47 916 59 667
UK Mobile:	07957 390 770
Email:	sara@gillingham-aukner.com
Website:	www.gillingham-aukner.com
Address:	Wedel Jarlsbergsvei 10b, 1358 Jar, Norway