



LennoxPaton



Laura Harris

Senior Associate

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Overview

Laura is a senior associate in our Nassau office, working in the firm's Shipping and Corporate and Commercial Groups. She joined the firm in May 2003 and worked 8 years in our London office.

Laura provides advice to ship owning groups, international law firms and large syndicates of banks on a variety of shipping and ship finance transactions, including vessel registration, bareboat registration, vessel re-flagging, sale and purchase, incorporation of ship owning SPVs, re-financings, and ship mortgage registration.

She maintains a close working relationship with the Bahamas Maritime Authority in London, Nassau, New York and Hong Kong.

Laura also advises international corporate clients on a range of corporate and financial matters.

Examples of recent work

- Advised a leading bank on a \$894.375m financing for 34 Bahamian flagged vessels
- Advising a leading banking institution on a \$600m financing in relation to 19 Bahamian flagged vessels
- Advised a leading financial institution on a \$450m bond offering for 113 Bahamian flagged vessels
- Advising a syndicate of financial institutions on a £172m financing in relation to four Bahamian flagged vessels
- Advised a syndicate of financial institutions on a \$173.25m financing for six Bahamian flagged vessels
- Advised a leading financial institution on a \$100m common unit offering for 49 Bahamian flagged vessels
- Advised certain financial institutions on the financing of LNG newbuild vessels
- Advised a leading financial institution on a \$1.15bn and \$775m note issuance and \$500m \$350m and \$200m facilities in relation to Bahamian ship security
- Assisted a leading financial institution on a \$2bn and £500m secured lending transaction
- Advised a leading foreign firm and related parties on the registration and financing and local legislation applicable to a floating LNG structure
- Advised foreign lenders on foreign law mergers and Bahamian ship security
- Advised a leading financial institution on shipping, physical trading and environmental liability in The Bahamas
- Advised ship owners and foreign banking institutions generally on vessel registrations, bareboat registration, changes of ownership, re-flagging, ship mortgage registrations, discharges and transfers, and ship mortgage enforcement
- Assisted foreign clients generally on corporate matters and financing transactions involving the taking of local share security



Practice Areas

- Shipping
- Corporate & Commercial

Recommendations

Laura is a Recommended Lawyer in the The Legal 500 Caribbean, 2021.

Background & Qualifications

- Laura was called to the Bahamas Bar in 2002.
- Laura studied at McGill University in Montreal, Canada where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history in 1998. She went on to study at the University of Buckingham in the UK, where she received a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) in 2000 and various awards for best academic performance and commercial law. Laura also obtained a Master of Laws (LLM) in International and Commercial Law in 2001 and studied the Bar Vocational Course at BPP Law School in London in 2002.

Memberships & Professional Affiliations

- The Bahamas Bar Association

News & Articles

- 'Yacht Registry Introduced' published in the *International Law Office Offshore Newsletter* on January 20, 2011
- 'The Bahamas: A Paradise for Many Reasons' published in *Acquisition International* on April 15, 2015