

Shipping Law

by Davies and Dickey (1990)

The Law Book Company Ltd.; Hard Cover; \$79.50

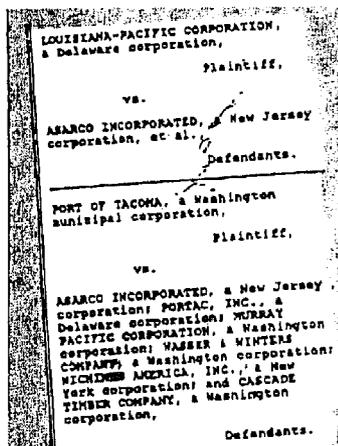
This work has the distinction of being the first comprehensive publication on Australian maritime law. For both the unfamiliar and the expert the work is a most useful source of reference and discussion of principle.

The authors have successfully condensed into seventeen well indexed chapters with clear and logical sub-headings the Australian legislation and case law that impacts on the world of shipping. Appropriate use has been made of relevant English precedent and it has the quality hallmarks necessary to become an essential tool for the maritime practitioner. It is fair to say that the book has achieved the useful object of permitting any reader to glean the necessary comprehension of things maritime to venture into and enjoy this stimulating area of practice.

It is tempting to highlight some of the many areas that have been so assiduously reduced to a meaningful and digestible form however it would not do justice to the depth of achievement that the authors have reached in this work on Australian shipping law: suffice to say that there is a lucid discussion of exciting topics including the nature, distinction and priorities of true maritime liens and the statutory liens, as well as the principles relating to ships' mortgages, voyage and time charter parties, bills of lading, collisions, limitation of liability, general average, salvage and wrecks. No doubt the continuing expansion of Australian case law and continuing legislative activity such as the (Cmlth) *Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Act 1989* and the (Cmlth) *Carriage of Goods by Sea Bill 1990* with the intended introduction of the amended Hague Rules and then the Hamburg Rules, will plainly call for further editions. □ A.W. Street

Get Me to the Church on Time, Your Honour

Jeffrey W. Leppo, a 35-year-old Seattle lawyer, was preparing to argue a civil case in May when he learned that the trial date had been postponed until Oct. 1 - the day after he was to return from his honeymoon.



Here are excerpts from his motion and the judge's order.

Desperate to salvage his wedding plans, Mr. Leppo filed a motion with the trial judge in Federal District Court in Tacoma, Washington requesting that the trial be further postponed, until Oct. 8.

I. Introduction

Jeffrey W. Leppo ("Counsel") respectfully requests that this Court reconsider its decision to amend the trial date of this litigation to Oct. 1, 1990. Counsel requests that the trial begin one week later on Oct. 8, 1990.

II. Marital Facts

Counsel bases this motion upon the following uncontroverted facts:

It has taken Counsel over 34 years to find someone whom he loves and who loves him.

Counsel became engaged on Jan. 31, 1990, at a time when this matter was set for trial beginning May 21, 1990.

Scheduling for a wedding, especially one involving the concurrence of two out-of-town families and the Roman Catholic Church, requires considerable advance planning.

Counsel's honeymoon was scheduled for Sept. 11 through Sept. 30, 1990. On very solid information and belief, Counsel believes his betrothed will feel very irritated, ignored [and] offended if the honeymoon must be cancelled, delayed or cut short. Counsel further believes such feelings would be justified.

Counsel is loath to begin what he very sincerely hopes and intends to be his one and only marriage by offending his bride-to-be, in-laws, associated friends and the Roman Catholic Church.

III. Prayer for Relief

The merits of this motion are founded upon common notions of respect, fairness and compassion. Accordingly, they speak for themselves. Nevertheless, one point bears further brief discussion.

After completing four months of marriage preparation classes approved by the parish priest of Counsel's betrothed, Counsel has been informed that his proposed marriage is now blessed and sacred to the Roman Catholic Church. Counsel is not exactly sure what this means, but is convinced after experiencing the prescribed preparation that the Roman Catholic Church has little sense of humour about such matters. Counsel seriously suspects that it would be a Mortal Sin (in secular terms, a "Big Mistake") to disappoint the Roman Catholic Church at this point in time.

Accordingly, Counsel respectfully offers the eternal gratitude of himself, his heirs, his assigns and his issue (if any there be), in return for the Court's compassion. Counsel warrants that this eternal gratitude will be far more valuable a gift should he be so fortunate as to spend his days on Earth in the state of Marital Bliss and the Everlasting in a state of heavenly repose.

DATED this 29th day of May, 1990
Jeffrey W. Leppo
Counsel of Record for Plaintiff
Port of Tacoma

ORDER

In this court's 20 years of judicial experience, counsel's motion for reconsideration is unprecedented in its creativity and urgency. In a spirit of cooperation with Mr. Leppo's efforts to avoid eternal damnation and to please (and appease) his intended, their families and friends, as well as the Roman Catholic Church, it is hereby

ORDERED that the Port of Tacoma's Motion for Reconsideration of Second-Amended Trial Date is GRANTED and the trial date of this case is hereby continued to October 9, 1990.

DATED this 31st day of May, 1990

By Robert J. Bryan, United States District Judge □