

Coast Guard to Issue Citizenship Notice on Nov. 3

Following up on our alert of July 13, 2011, entitled "Coast Guard to Issue Notice Regarding Coastwise Citizenship for Public Companies," the Coast Guard will publish a <u>Notice</u> in the November 3, 2011, Federal Register seeking comments and information on the methods used by publicly-traded companies to determine compliance with the citizenship laws for vessels operating in the coastwise and fisheries trades. The Coast Guard has stated that it is soliciting information "for the benefit of the Coast Guard but also for the mutual benefit of industry," and has said that it will not retaliate against commenters that "question or complain about citizenship requirements or any policy or action of the Coast Guard." Comments are due in early February 2012.

The maritime attorneys at Thompson Coburn have years of experience in advising public companies on these laws and regularly counsel clients on methodologies for determining their citizenship status. If you are in need of assistance with a maritime issue you may contact your Thompson Coburn attorney, or one of the maritime attorneys listed below.

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