

### **Jones Act Restrictions Waived Through September 14, 2017**

In the wake of Hurricane Harvey and in pre-emption of Hurricane Irma, the Department of Homeland Security on Friday issued a 7-day waiver of the Jones Act restrictions on coastwise trade. The Jones Act states that only U.S.-flagged vessels may transport merchandise and persons between two coastwise points in the United States (which includes certain overseas territories such as Puerto Rico). Under the temporary waiver, foreign flag vessels may be used to transport refined petroleum products from areas such as New York Harbor down to Florida. Note that the waiver only applies at this time with respect to the movement of refined petroleum products and only for a 7-day period beginning on September 8, 2017. Should the waiver need to be extended, the Department of Homeland Security will issue such waiver prior to the expiration of the current waiver.

[https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/17\\_0908\\_AS1\\_Jones-Act-Waiver.pdf](https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/17_0908_AS1_Jones-Act-Waiver.pdf)