



WaltzerWiygulGarside

LAW FIRM

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EVETTE UNGAR

ASSOCIATE

Evette E. Ungar is an attorney with Waltzer Wiygul Garside as an attorney in the firm's Gretna office. She practices primarily in the area of maritime personal injury litigation, BP mass tort litigation, and serious bodily injury automobile litigation. Evette is a third generation admiralty attorney and recently was the managing partner at Ungar & Byrne, a maritime personal injury firm, prior to joining Waltzer Wiygul Garside in 2015.

Evette's practice includes accidents involving significant personal injuries, mass tort claims, Jones Act injuries and other maritime personal injuries, including wrongful-death accidents. She also has been actively representing over 300 clients and nearly 1,000 related claims arising from the 2010 BP Oil Spill.

In 1999, Evette graduated, *cum laude*, with a degree in Public Communication from The American University in Washington, D.C. She was the first undergraduate student to work in the only student promotable civilian position in the U.S. Air Force. She worked for the Secretary of the Air Force, Public Affairs National Division in the Pentagon for two and a half years. Throughout her four years at The American University, Evette was a participant, then served as a Coordinator for one of the largest community service programs in the United States, the Freshman Service Experience, and coordinated the annual Homeless Food Run, an important part of the University's Service Experience. She played Division I tennis for American, and was a member of Chi Omega Fraternity.

In 2003, Evette graduated from Tulane Law School, where she served as the Chief Administrator of the Honor Board, was a member of the Tulane Law School American Inn of Court, tried and won her first lawsuit as a member of the Civil Litigation Clinic, and was published in the Tulane Arbitration Journal.

While in law school, Evette clerked for Judge Miriam Waltzer at the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and clerked at the Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office in the research and appeals division. Evette was sworn into the Louisiana Bar in 2004, and practiced maritime personal injury at Ungar & Byrne. She later

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“I'm proud to be a third-generation admiralty attorney helping those who have been injured or impacted on the job. Admiralty and Jones Act matters seem to simply flow through my family's system as an inherent part of how my family is defined. It is quite rewarding to be able to use my skills and competitive drive to help our clients achieve results through the judicial system.”



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served as an Assistant District Attorney in Jefferson Parish from 2005-2009.

In 2009, Evette rejoined Ungar & Byrne as the owner and manager of the practice where she began her career focus on offshore maritime accidents and injuries. This focus included Jones Act claims, maritime torts, jack-up rig and vessel injuries, pipeline injuries, automobile accidents, and mass torts. She was selected to serve as a member of the Plaintiff's Steering Committee for the BP Litigation and represented hundreds of commercial fisherman and businesses after the oil spill.

As a member of Waltzer Wiygul and Garside, Evette continues to apply her leadership skills, personal injury litigation experience, and apply her vast knowledge of the maritime industry to the best of her ability and to the benefit of the firm and their clients.

Education

- American University, Washington, D.C., 1999; B.A., cum laude, Public Communication
- Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, 2003; J.D., Honor Board, Chief Administrator

Membership and Affiliations

- Louisiana State Bar Association
- Louisiana Association of Justice, Member (Former Board of Governors)
- Tulane Law School American Inn of Court
- American Bar Association
- Hadassah Leadership Academy Graduate

Publications and Speeches

- "An Alternative Dispute Resolution Systems Design for the United States Coast Guard," Journal of American Arbitration (JAA), 2004 Vol. 3, No. 1, Ronald J. Bald and Evette E. Ungar

Representative Matters

2005-146 – Guilty verdict in Jefferson Parish Oyster Case

Two Plaquemines Parish men were found guilty of illegally taking oysters from unleased state water bottoms in Jefferson Parish on May 23. Terrence Shelley, 53, and Roger Ancar, 62, both of Belle Chasse were each ordered to pay a fine of \$400 plus court costs by Judge Roy M. Cascio of 2nd Parish Court. A third defendant, Timothy S. Kirk, 39, of Harvey, missed the trial date and Cascio issued a bench warrant of attachment for his arrest. The investigation began in December of 2002 when Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) Enforcement Division agents apprehended

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Shelley and two deckhands taking oysters from unleased state water bottoms near Bayou Dos Gris. Shelley claimed he held a legal lease on the water bottoms. Technicians from the LDWF Oyster Lease Survey Section plotted GPS coordinates that determined these water bottoms were owned by the State of Louisiana. Raymond Impastato from the LDWF Oyster Lease Survey Section and John Evans from the Office of State Lands both testified as expert witnesses that the area of the violation was owned by Louisiana and not under lease. Sgts. James Gregoire and Rachel Zechenelly, and Senior Agent Eddie Skena participated in the investigation. Assistant District Attorney Jeremy LaFleur with assistance from Assistant District Attorneys Loren MaGee and Evette Ungar from the office of Paul Connick, District Attorney for the 24th Judicial District in Jefferson Parish, tried the case.

Physical Injury Matter

May 14, 2014, 24th JDC returned a verdict in favor of Jeffrey Scorsone against GEICO for Physical Pain & Suffering and Mental Anguish \$250,000, Loss of enjoyment of Life (Past & Future) \$50,000, Medical Expenses past and future, \$300,000. Total Verdict: \$600,000. Case tried by Evette E. Ungar, Cheryl L. Wild, and Cristian Silva.

Pipeline Injury

Represented a client injured working on a pipeline. The case was settled favorably for our client for \$2,000,000.

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