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# **DOUGLAS R. BURNETT** Partner dburnett@ssd.com

### News • Awards & Distinctions • Events • Publications

Douglas R. Burnett's practice focuses on maritime, energy and telecommunications industries, and litigation and arbitration. His clients include major telecommunications companies with international cables; major energy, logistics and shipping companies with disputes involving transportation, commodity contracts and admiralty claims involving petroleum products, LNG and LPG, deep water ports and ocean terminals. He has successfully arbitrated and mediated cases before the International Chamber of Commerce, American Arbitration Association, Society of Maritime Arbitrators and North American Export Grain Association. Mr. Burnett has been listed in The Best Lawyers in America for his maritime practice and is rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell.

As adviser to the International Cable Protection Committee, which represents nearly 100 companies from 42 countries that own or operate the global submarine telecommunications cable networks, he counsels members on their rights and responsibilities under international law, associated treaties and national legislation.

In 2007 he provided expert testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on accession to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the ratification of the 1984 Agreement regarding Part XI of the Convention. Mr. Burnett was a guest lecturer at the Convention at the Rhodes Academy of Ocean Law and Policy for the 2006 and 2007 sessions.

Mr. Burnett is a member of several professional organizations including The Maritime Law Association of the United States, where he currently serves as chair of the Committee on International Law of the Sea, a position he also held from 1996 to 2000; New York County Lawyers Association, where he chaired its Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee from 2003 to 2007; Instituto Iberoamericano de Derecho Maritimo; and the American Bar Association. He is also a member of the IEEE and Marine Technology Society.

Mr. Burnett served in the Brazilian Navy as an exchange officer and an operations officer with the Military Sealift Command of the US Navy. He also served as commanding officer of several units

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Also See...

Practices Litigation

International **Dispute Resolution** & Non-US Litigation

Industries Maritime Energy & Utilities Communications

### Education

University of Denver, J.D., 1980 United States Naval Academy, B.S., 1972

## Admissions

New York, 1982 New Jersey, 1981 Colorado

## Languages

English Portuguese Spanish

involving maritime logistics.

### Published Articles and Books

- "Cable Route Surveys are not Marine Scientific Research," author, Submarine Telecoms Forum, Issue no. 43, March 2009.
- "Repair of International Cables Under UNCLOS, "Subtelforum Issue no. 37, March 2008.
- "Security of International Submarine Cable Infrastructure Time to Rethink?," co-author, *LegalChallenges in Maritime Security*, 2008.
- "Submarine Cables Move To Center On United States Accession To The United Nations Law of the Sea Convention," *Submarine Telecoms Forum, Issue 35*, November 2007.
- "Douglas Burnett Testifies Before Senate Foreign Relations Committee," October 2007.
- "Comparison between ShellTime4 and ShellLNG Time 1," February 2007.
- "The Importance of UNCLOS to the U.S. Cable Industry," *Telecommunications*, Newsletter - First Quarter 2006.
- "The Law of Maritime Security Chapter," co-author, Vessel Security Officer, Cornell Maritime Press, May 2006.
- "Underwater Infrastructure Protection, Risk Mitigation, and Pro-active Prosecution," March 2006.
- "International Law Considerations for Owners and Operators of Cabled Buoy Observatories," *IEEE Journal of Oceanic Engineering*, *Vol. 31, No. 1*, January 2006.
- "Submarine Cable Infrastructure Defense Against Terrorists," Sea Technology, July 2005.
- "New Developments on Out-of-Service Submarine Cables," *Telecommunications*, Newsletter - 1st Quarter 2005.
- "A Draft International Convention for Mutual Repair and Restoration of Multiple Faults in Submarine Cables," *IEEE OES Homeland Security Workshop*, December 2004.
- "The Legal Status of Out-of-Service Submarine Cables," 137 Journal of Maritime Studies 22, June 2004.
- "High Density Underwater Fiber Optic Systems Security," Oceans 2002, Biloxi, Miss, September 2002.
- "Minimizing Risk in Multinational Energy Projects Using an Integrated Legal Team," *Petroleo & Gas*, March 2002.
- "A Brief History of Reported Vetting Disputes-Understanding the Past Points to a Safe Haven," XIV ICMA New York, October 2001.
- "Cable Crossing Mediation Service," *ICPC EC meeting*, October 2000.
- "Indemnity Provisions of Articles 4 and 7 of the 1884 Cable Convention," UCPC Plenary Dubai, March 1999.
- "International Protection of Submarine Cables, A Partnership of Cable Owners and National Governments," *ICPC Plenary Orlando,* April 1998.
- "Legal Cable Protection in the Next Century," *ICPC Plenary* Sydney, April 1993.
- "International Legal Issues in Submarine Cable Protection," Suboptic Paris, February 1993.
- "Amazon Patrol," U.S. Naval Institute, December 1978.