



Dear Author,

Thank you for your interest in publishing with the *Journal of Maritime Law and Commerce* (JMLC). Please see below for our submission guide:

Guidelines

- i. We suggest an Abstract with a maximum length of 250 words. Reference citations and abbreviations should be avoided in the Abstract.
- ii. Tables and figures should be accompanied by a legend. A common image format for figures (e.g., pdf, eps, gif, tif, jpg) should be used. The initial submission can have figures and text in one file rather than separate files if desired.
- iii. For publication, the JMLC uses American English and Blue Book format without the use of specialized fonts (Italics and Large and Small Capitals) in the footnotes. However, the JMLC will accept submissions in American or British English and with citations in Blue Book format.
- iv. While the JMLC will make every effort to check the format and accuracy of every cite, authors are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their authorities.
- v. Acknowledgements and details of funding sources should be included at the end of the text.
- vi. Authors should refer to their funding organizations to acknowledge their support.
- vii. Authors should define non-standard abbreviations at the first occurrence and number figures and tables consecutively.
- viii. The word count should be between 5,000-15,000 words.
- ix. Papers should be submitted in an editable format, preferably Word, and figures should be submitted as separate, high-resolution, files.

Ethics

Authors should observe high standards with respect to publication ethics. Plagiarism, including duplicate publication of the authors' own work without proper citation and misappropriation of the work are unacceptable practices.

Formatting Preferences

- I. One space after a period
- II. Indent all paragraphs one half-inch
- III. Capitalize headings and subheading and titles apart from prepositions, articles, and conjunctions
- IV. Use curly or “smart” quotes and apostrophes rather than straight ones
- V. Use double quotation marks to begin a quote and single quotation marks for quotes-inside-quotes
- VI. All quotes of 50 words or more should block quoted, which means they should be justified, single-spaced, indented on both sides, and without opening or closing quotation marks
- VII. All initialisms and acronyms should first appear in the main text as the full title with the initialism or acronym that will be used in the main text thereafter in parentheses. Please be consistent about first identifying the full title and then solely using the initialism or acronym thereafter.
 - **The Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”)** headquarters is in Washington, D.C, and the **FBI** motto is “Fidelity, Bravery, Integrity.”

Formal Preferences

- I. Avoid stacking consecutive dependent clauses
 - Examples of stacked clauses:
 - **In 2001, following the coordinated terrorist attacks on the United States,** the U.S. government improved its security architecture.
 - Prefer a straighter syntax:
 - **Following the coordinated terrorist attacks on the United States in 2001,** the U.S. government improved its security architecture.
- II. Prefer full sentences before colons. If you have a fragment prior to a colon, try adding the words “the following” to create an independent clause.
- III. Avoid unidentified pronouns or demonstrative pronouns at the beginning of sentences (e.g., This is because...). Add a noun to locate the identify of “this”

- IV. Make sure pronouns have identifiable antecedents
- V. Avoid long sentences (more than 2.5–3 lines) and minimize internal punctuation
- VI. Use proper parallel structure, especially for lists of three or more