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LEGAL OPINION

Bareboat charter-party

In a bareboat charter-party, the owner merely charters the hull to the charterer with the charterer undertaking to man her, provide bunkers and in general prepare her for the voyage.

The bareboat charterer is also commercially exploiting the vessel. This can be done either directly, or through further sub-charter-parties. We can have a structure where an owner charters the vessel bareboat (or by demise) to a bareboat charterer, the latter sub-charters her under a time charter and the time charterer further sub-charters the ship under voyage charter (where it can of course further carry shipments on bill of lading terms).

The owner under a bareboat charter-party does not interfere with the vessel. In case the charterer does not pay the hire, he may withdraw the vessel.

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