1	IN THE SUPREME COUR	T OF THE UNITED STATES
2		X
3	NORFOLK SHIPBUILDING &	:
4	DRYDOCK CORPORATION,	:
5	Petitioner	:
6	v.	: No. 00-346
7	CELESTINE GARRIS,	:
8	ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE	:
9	ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER	:
10	GARRIS, DECEASED.	:
11		X
12		Washington, D.C.
13		Wednesday, April 18, 2001
14	The above-entitled	matter came on for oral
15	argument before the Supreme	Court of the United States as
16	11:05 a.m.	
17	APPEARANCES:	
18	JAMES T. FERRINI, ESQ., Chic	ago, Illinois; on behalf of
19	the Petitioner.	
20	PATRICK H. O'DONNELL, ESQ.,	Norfolk, Virginia; on behalf
21	of Respondent.	
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1	involved negligence, the negligence was negligence in the
2	operation of a vessel, either with it navigating or the
3	manner in which it was operated, but nothing like our case
4	where we have a local enterprise that was operating a
5	crane that was located on a pier over a
6	QUESTION: But it was that case did
7	recognize, didn't it, a claim for negligence under general
8	maritime law?
9	MR. FERRINI: Your Honor, I believe it did, but
LO	again, that was a case of a visitor on a vessel, and the
L1	captain of the vessel had an obligation to make sure that
L2	the stairway was in good condition, etcetera, but there
L3	you're dealing with a concept which I think to be very
L4	akin to that in Moragne. What we're dealing with there is
L5	a concept of the manner in which a vessel is operated, a
L6	vessel is maintained for the safety of people on it, and
L7	that is the kind of concept which requires uniform
L8	treatment.
L9	QUESTION: But Moragne dealt with by its
20	terms at any rate with unseaworthiness, and the
21	question you've presented here is whether Moragne is a
22	basis for also extending that doctrine to negligence as
23	well as unseaworthiness, and yet in Kermarec it seems that
24	we've already recognized a general maritime claim for
25	negligence You feel this is different?

1	MR. FERRINI: Your Honor, I think what we have
2	to do is look at the concept of uniformity in the context
3	of Article 3, Section 2 in the Federalist Papers, and
4	think in terms of why is it that this particular body of
5	law, as of all bodies of law there are this substantive
6	body of admiralty is given to this Court and to Congress,
7	and the purpose is so that the nation speaks with one
8	voice under circumstances where there can be an impact on
9	our relationship with our partners in trade.
10	QUESTION: Well, Mr. Ferrini, the question which
11	we granted certiorari, I thought, was whether a general
12	maritime law cause of action for wrongful death in
13	negligence exists or should exist. In other words,
14	whether Moragne should extend to wrongful death action
15	based on negligence, and I didn't have you raised below
16	the question of even if it does even if the answer is
17	yes, it should, it shouldn't apply here because these are
18	all land-based actors. I mean, I would have thought that
19	would be a logical defense to raise, but I don't see that
20	as part of the question.
21	MR. FERRINI: The way they are
22	QUESTION: Suppose I say yes, Moragne extends to
23	wrongful death based on negligence, but does it extend to
24	totally land-based action like this? You didn't raise
25	that apparently.

1	MR. FERRINI: Your fourth circuit, Your Honor,
2	quite frankly, the focus of the court and the parties was
3	upon what does Moragne create rather than should it create
4	an exception.
5	QUESTION: Well, answer my question. Suppose I
6	say yes, Moragne, sure it extends to that. We've been
7	saying that all along in dicta, at least. Suppose I say
8	yes. Is that open then to make your argument that
9	whatever Moragne extends to, it doesn't apply to totally
10	land-based actors like these? Is that open?
11	MR. FERRINI: I think it's certainly open, Your
12	Honor, because when we when you made your decision in
13	Moragne, the idea was not just is there a general cause of
14	action for all circumstances for wrongful death? No, the
15	focus was on unseaworthiness and on maritime duties.
16	And by the same token, if you're going to here
17	decide if there is a wrongful death action created under
18	the Moragne rationale, if that much of Moragne is even
19	left existent, certainly I think this Court has the
20	jurisdiction to determine under what circumstances, and
21	just as
22	QUESTION: I just didn't think you raised that
23	here. I mean and we ended up with this very limited
24	question about whether Moragne, to the extend it applies
25	at all, extends to wrongful death actions based on
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- 1 negligence. But these other questions I didn't think were
- 2 presented to us.
- MR. FERRINI: Your Honor, with all due respect,
- 4 I view our question as having been raised as whether there
- 5 is a wrongful death cause of action under the
- 6 circumstances with which the Court is presented.
- 7 QUESTION: But you're arguing -- the limitation,
- 8 it seems to me -- death wouldn't matter. It would be just
- 9 as land-locked if it had been mere injury, and that's the
- 10 question I'd like you to answer under the law as you see
- 11 it. Suppose Mr. Garris had not been killed, he'd just
- been badly injured. Would he have an action under Federal
- 13 maritime law for negligence?
- 14 MR. FERRINI: If he were on the vessel at the
- time, as he was, yes, he would.
- 16 QUESTION: This very case. Don't change a
- 17 thing.
- 18 MR. FERRINI: He would. He would.
- 19 QUESTION: He would? So, then you can't -- then
- you're not making a distinction based on land-locked
- versus something else; you're making a distinction based
- on death versus injury.
- 23 MR. FERRINI: In that respect I am, Your Honor,
- 24 because this Court has created a general maritime body of
- law dealing with injury. There is no two ways about that.

- 1 But the result would be different because that -- the fact
- 2 that the state law does not give the same remedy that that
- 3 general body of law gives is not an objective of
- 4 uniformity.
- 5 QUESTION: But all of your -- your discussion
- 6 about state domain versus admiralty, maritime -- it seems
- 7 to fall apart when one recognizes that it can be the very
- 8 same accident. It's maritime if he's merely injured, but
- 9 no maritime responsibility if he's killed. And that seems
- to be a hard line to explain to anyone, at least who's not
- 11 a lawyer.
- 12 MR. FERRINI: Well, maritime law has been
- described as one of the most complex areas, and it
- 14 certainly is a patchwork, and that is the historical
- 15 consequence of the way things developed.
- 16 QUESTION: But you were giving something beyond
- 17 historical patchwork -- you were giving some kind of
- 18 rationale distinction between land-locked, sea duty,
- 19 Federal/state -- and I could accept all that were it not
- 20 for that the distinction is only death versus injury.
- 21 MR. FERRINI: Well, I respectfully submit that
- 22 to create a monistic single area of law covering both
- 23 death and injury, the first thing this Court would have to
- 24 do is overrule the Tungus. It would have to overrule --
- 25 QUESTION: Why? Tungus just said you can take

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1	the state wrongful death claim. Doesn't well, let's
2	take Yamaha, where we, this Court recognized that you
3	could have a claim under the state wrongful death act. It
4	took that position even on the assumption and it was
5	only an assumption in that case that you could also
6	have a claim under Moragne.
7	MR. FERRINI: Yes, this Court did not decide,
8	however. In footnote 7 we said this Court said we are
9	not deciding that there is such a cause of action, but I
10	take it a step further. What this Court, I believe, was
11	assuming was the existence of a cause of action against
12	the manufacturer of a vessel, because that is what a jet
13	ski has been determined to be. And it comes back to my
14	same concept of what is the purpose of uniformity? And I
15	don't think the purpose of uniformity is that all remedies
16	be the same in all circumstances, because that's exactly
17	what Your Honor said was not the objective of uniformity
18	in the Yamaha case.
19	QUESTION: But that was a case where you could
20	have both State and Federal remedies if there was a
21	Federal remedy, and we said if there was a Federal remedy,
22	that wouldn't preclude also having a state remedy.
23	MR. FERRINI: I think it is very I think what

MR. FERRINI: I think it is very -- I think what Your Honor is driving at is the possibility of concurrent existence of a Federal cause of action and a state cause

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1	of action.
2	QUESTION: Yes.
3	MR. FERRINI: And I point out I hasten to
4	point out that is the one thing my opponent has not
5	raised or urged, and why is that? Because I do not
6	believe that that is consistent with uniformity. If
7	uniformity the purpose of uniformity is going to be
8	that there is some semblance of reliability in knowing
9	what cause of action is going to exist, once you create a
10	dual system, then everything is up in the air your
11	insurance questions, your rates, everything is up in the
12	air, because we don't know in any individual death what
13	law the plaintiff is going to invoke.
14	QUESTION: So then your answer must be in the
15	case of injury it's only maritime law it's only Federal
16	law, not state law.
17	MR. FERRINI: I think that that is in the
18	case of injury, absolutely. I agree with that. There is
19	this existing body of law, and I don't think, however that
20	that that the fact that that is a solitary body of law
21	is a matter of uniformity.

QUESTION: But regardless of whether it's a
matter of uniformity or not, if the Federal maritime law
covers it in the case of injury, what is the justification
for a separate regime in the case of death?

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1	MR. FERRINI: Well, just
2	QUESTION: I mean, I think you I think maybe
3	I misunderstood your answer to several questions, but
4	going back to the Chief Justice's question about Kermarec,
5	I understood you to assume that yes, there is a general
6	maritime cause of action for negligence.
7	MR. FERRINI: Yes.
8	QUESTION: And I understood you to have said
9	later on in the argument that if this individual had
10	merely been injured but had not been killed, that that
11	cause of action would apply. And if that's the case, the
12	question for us I think is why should we have a separate
13	regime when the negligence is efficient enough to cause
14	his death?
15	MR. FERRINI: First, I would like to correct an
16	answer I gave earlier to the Chief Justice. I forgot I
17	believe Kermarec was an injury case and not a death case,
18	a totally different situation.
19	QUESTION: It was an injury case, and I think
20	what we're driving at is why should it be a different
21	situation?
22	MR. FERRINI: Again, it comes back to what this
23	Court sees as the purpose of uniformity.
24	QUESTION: Well, before we get to uniformity,
25	what about irrationality? If we're going to recognize the
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1	cause of action for the injured, why are we not going to
2	recognize the cause of action when death ensues?
3	MR. FERRINI: Because this Court never has,
4	death was something that was always left to the states.
5	QUESTION: Well, I know. If we had, we wouldn't
6	have this case. The question is, why shouldn't we?
7	MR. FERRINI: Then I would ask
8	QUESTION: What is the rational basis for
9	distinguishing the one from the other?
10	MR. FERRINI: To me, Your Honor, because that
11	would be result-oriented. You're going the other way then
12	in a situation where the State law is more favorable
13	QUESTION: Why is it result-oriented to have
14	symmetry in the law?
15	QUESTION: Well, isn't your answer historical?
16	MR. FERRINI: It's historical, and it's a
17	departure from the objective with which this Court is
18	granted the power of uniformity.
19	QUESTION: Well, is the Court is the Court
20	wrong under uniformity to have Federal admiralty law with
21	reference to injuries?
22	MR. FERRINI: I think, to be quite frank, that
23	things developed beyond a clear view of what the mission
24	of the Court was.

QUESTION: You don't agree with Moragne,

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- 1 basically. I mean, if -- if you're saying what you're
- 2 saying here about uniformity, you probably don't agree
- 3 with Moragne.
- 4 MR. FERRINI: Not at all, Your Honor. I do
- 5 agree with Moragne.
- 6 QUESTION: You do agree with Moragne? Well, I
- 7 really can't say why, having decided Moragne, we want to
- 8 draw the line between -- if indeed we didn't already cross
- 9 that bridge in Moragne -- I don't know why we would want
- 10 to draw a distinction between injury and death.
- 11 MR. FERRINI: Because this Court has recognized
- 12 time and time again that you must treat everybody the
- 13 same, no matter where they are on the sea. And when
- 14 you're dealing with unseaworthiness, that vessel had
- better be operational regardless of whether it's in
- 16 territorial waters or in the Sea of Japan or next door,
- 17 because everybody has -- let's put it this way, I think
- 18 uniformity -- the concept of uniformity is very similar to
- 19 the concept of the diversity of citizenship, which the
- 20 purpose of which is fair treatment of foreigners.
- 21 And regardless if you're dealing with a seaman
- 22 who gets in, in Italy and he comes over here and he's
- injured over here, he has to be treated the same. But
- when you're dealing in a case like this with a harbor
- worker, and you're dealing with local businesses like my

- 1 client that's named after Norfolk, and it's in the --
- there would have been no, talk about abnormalities or,
- 3 there would be no recovery. We wouldn't even be here if
- 4 this particular crane had struck him while he was doing
- 5 preparatory work on the dock. Never -- not -- there is no
- 6 such thing as perfect symmetry; you'll never reach that
- 7 because --
- 8 QUESTION: Then we should go back and overrule
- 9 Kermarec.
- 10 MR. FERRINI: Not at all, Your Honor. I think
- 11 that's too far developed to do that. I think that there,
- 12 the --
- 13 QUESTION: In other words it's wrong, but --
- MR. FERRINI: -- general maritime --
- 15 QUESTION: -- it's clearly established?
- 16 MR. FERRINI: Clearly established. And I think
- 17 that's the purpose of the Talbot case my opponent relies
- 18 on. He says, well --
- 19 QUESTION: You said -- before you go on to
- 20 Talbot, you said that symmetry and treating like
- 21 situations alike -- this survivor, this mother -- what was
- the recovery that she got? She got a worker's
- 23 compensation recovery?
- MR. FERRINI: Yes.
- 25 QUESTION: And that was what?

1	MR. FERRINI: I am told I have no authority
2	on this, and I don't believe it's in the record I am
3	told what she got was the funeral expenses, which is what
4	Congress decided she should get since there was no
5	dependency.
6	QUESTION: That was up to three thousand
7	dollars?
8	MR. FERRINI: I have no idea, Your Honor.
9	QUESTION: And yet if her son had survived,
10	there would have been a large recovery, and you say that
11	that was okay, to have negligence under maritime law. Why
12	isn't there a gross inequality in those two situations?
13	MR. FERRINI: Because I think what Your Honor is
14	looking at is the particular jurisdiction. If this had
15	happened in New York Harbor where the law is different,
16	there would be a substantial recovery. But the fourth
17	circuit got it wrong when the fourth circuit said that
18	it's happenstance that the man was killed in Norfolk
19	Harbor rather than New York Harbor. He was in Norfolk
20	Harbor because that's where he lived and that's where he
21	worked, and that's where he died. And the state should be
22	able to provide for their interest in deciding the
23	familial issues of wrongful death, who should recover, and
24	how much they should recover. It should be able to decide
25	that what a statutory employer will get as a quid pro quo
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1	for giving the benefits.
2	And I would point out there is a very little
3	difference between the LHWCA and the Virginia wrongful
4	death statute. Both of them have the concept of a
5	statutory employer. Both of them have the concept that
6	that statutory employer is immune from common law or
7	statutory actions. The only difference is that in
8	Virginia they guarantee the money will be there by saying
9	if you hire somebody to do the job, you have to go out and
10	get insurance to make sure that comp benefit is there,
11	where the Federal statute says you only have to go out and
12	get that insurance if the person you've hired hasn't
13	fulfilled his responsibility. And that's kind of an iffy
14	thing, because he can show you a certificate of insurance
15	and it turns out to be that there's no coverage for one
16	reason or another.
17	All I'm saying is that this is a very limited
18	exception a very limited case where this man's
19	descendants or his widow his mother will have no
20	recovery, but it's not the ordinary case. And I don't
21	think the law can change based upon the happenstance that
22	we don't like the result for this particular plaintiff

QUESTION: I think the question is whether it's,

because in the next case you're going to be very happy

with the results for the particular plaintiff.

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- 1 the line between injury and death is a valid one.
- 2 MR. FERRINI: Well, I think it is, because you
- 3 are then dealing with familial issues which the State has
- 4 a strong interest in. Who should recover in the event of
- 5 death? What should their relationship be to the decedent?
- 6 What should be the degree of dependency, if any? These
- 7 have always been left to the State.
- 8 QUESTION: Why couldn't you pick that -- why
- 9 couldn't you pick up that part from State law?
- 10 MR. FERRINI: Well, that's kind of a pick-and-
- 11 choose thing, Your Honor. I think that the law has to be
- 12 consistent -- either you apply State law or you don't.
- 13 QUESTION: Doesn't Federal law do that in other
- instances, not have an independent Federal law of who will
- be the survivors in the case of a Federal tort?
- 16 MR. FERRINI: I can't comment on the full area,
- 17 but certainly the Tungus case said you take state law --
- 18 if you're taking state law, you take state law as it is
- 19 with the all the parts of it.
- QUESTION: Yes, but I wasn't asking you, the
- 21 state law in Tungus was the liability as well as who picks
- 22 it up. But now where -- you seem to be suggesting that if
- you had Federal law, you would also have to invent who the
- 24 survivors are for purposes of wrongful death, and I'm
- suggesting that there is no reason why you couldn't pick

1	that up from state law.
2	MR. FERRINI: I don't see that as consistent
3	with uniformity but again, Your Honor, what I think the
4	Court is doing is proposing to fashion a remedy to benefit
5	an individual in very limited circumstances where the
6	bottom line is that the state application of state law,
7	consistent with this Court's majority concurring and
8	dissenting opinions in American Dredging, has no impact on
9	commerce. I think we're losing sight of the objective in
10	order to fashion a remedy. I think that I would suggest
11	that
12	QUESTION: Again, if you're going to talk about
13	impact on commerce, there really can't be any difference
14	between injury and death, so I think once you concede that
15	the injury would be covered by Federal law, you can't make
16	an argument about the Commerce Clause that wouldn't apply
17	to both.
18	MR. FERRINI: I do not believe that everything
19	this Court has developed in the way of substantive law for
20	injury is necessarily something that is required for
21	uniformity in the sense of the constitutional basis of it,
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this Court has developed in the way of substantive law for injury is necessarily something that is required for uniformity in the sense of the constitutional basis of it, but rather a symmetry. And that's just the way things developed, but let me point out in Pope & Talbot, my opponent points out that in that particular case, look, they refused to apply the state contributory rule because

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1	there was a Federal rule of comparative negligence. Why?
2	That wasn't this Court didn't say that that
3	was because of uniformity concerns; the Court did so
4	saying, look, we have considered we've already created
5	a body of law. In that existing body of law we created
6	certain rights, and those rights now exist. And if a
7	right exists by virtue of a Congressional action or by a
8	decision of this Court, a state can't take it away.
9	So that body of law is not representative as a
10	whole of a need for uniformity in all aspects of law. I
11	respectfully submit that what I'm offering this Court is a
12	predictability, that we look as Professor Fore suggests to
13	our national interests that we look as this Court
14	suggested in American Dredging to the impairment of
15	commerce or to the Kamen court where the Court of Appeals
16	of New York looked to whether state law had
17	extraterritorial effect, and if it didn't have that kind
18	of effect, then there was no need for pre-emption. There
19	was no uniformity concern.
20	QUESTION: It just seems to me that the language
21	in Moragne itself points in the direction of extending
22	liability to negligence if it can be characterized as a
23	violation of a maritime duty. But where our Court has
24	never really spoken to the question is whether that kind
25	of liability extends beyond the owners of the vessels to
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1	people who are land-based, and I think that's where there
2	is more of a question, although it certainly wasn't raised
3	here very clearly.
4	If it were a vessel owner who was the defendant
5	here, would you take the same position that you're taking
6	today?
7	MR. FERRINI: My position is if it's a vessel
8	owner, I can perfectly understand adoption or creation of
9	a cause of action for the sake of uniformity. I would
10	point out to Your Honor that my opponent's main argument I
11	view as saying this Court in Moragne talked of maritime
12	duties. What is a maritime duty? If a man comes on a
13	vessel and pulls a gun on another man, he's violated
14	duties but not maritime duties. Negligence as an abstract
15	concept is not a maritime duty.
16	The maritime duty I submit has to do with the
17	manner in which the vessel is operated, and this Court has
18	never said anything to the contrary. I point out that
19	Kermarec and Leathers, the two cases that are said to
20	refer to negligence as a maritime duty or a breach of a
21	maritime duty, they dealt with vessel liability. Or the
22	East River case which is stated by my opponent to refer to
23	products liability as a breach of a maritime duty. That
24	was that the product there was the main propulsion unit
25	for the vessel. We keep coming back to the same thing.

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1	So that you treat people the same no matter where they are
2	on the sea.
3	QUESTION: Mr. Ferrini, you're trying to make
4	now something special about ships and their navigation,
5	and in part that's true, but let's just take your a
6	slip and fall on a deck on a banana peel. That could have
7	well happened on the sidewalk, but it happened to happen
8	on the ship. There's nothing about that conduct of
9	leaving the banana peel that's maritime, or do you see
10	something that
11	MR. FERRINI: Well, I don't I don't purport
12	to give you an answer for every case that will arise in
13	the future, but I think that if that banana peel was
14	dropped by a crew member, you could have a breach of a
15	maritime duty, but if it was dropped by another visitor
16	and the crew had no chance to clean it up, that that's
17	negligence but that is not a breach of a maritime duty.
18	I think you keep, I keep coming back to the
19	concept of what is it that we're trying to achieve? And
20	what we're trying to achieve is a uniform treatment of
21	foreigners much like the diversity concept.
22	QUESTION: Mr. Ferrini, can I ask you just what
23	your response is to one of the arguments made in the
24	concurring opinion below, namely that it would not have
25	been necessary to overrule Harrisburg unless it was

- decided to recognize a cause of action for negligence.
- 2 MR. FERRINI: I think Harrisburg had to be
- 3 overruled in order to recognize that it was the
- 4 Harrisburg's --
- 5 QUESTION: But that was just a negligence case.
- 6 MR. FERRINI: I'm sorry?
- 7 QUESTION: Wasn't the Harrisburg just a
- 8 negligence case?
- 9 MR. FERRINI: Negligent vessel.
- 10 QUESTION: Yes, but it was negligence as opposed
- 11 to seaworthiness.
- MR. FERRINI: That's right. But it, again it
- dealt with a negligent vessel, it did not deal with
- 14 general negligence, and the rule was nothing survives.
- 15 After death, no personal action survives. So that had to
- 16 be overruled or it was impossible for Moragne to exist.
- 17 QUESTION: Well, it could have been
- 18 distinguished.
- MR. FERRINI: But Moragne --
- 20 QUESTION: It could have been distinguished as
- Judge Hall pointed out by saying that that's limited to,
- 22 this is not a negligence case, therefore the Harrisburg is
- 23 not squarely on point.
- MR. FERRINI: Not if the Court wanted to do as
- it did and broadly state we're talking about

1	unseaworthiness and breach of maritime duties, because the
2	breach of maritime duty was at issue in the Harrisburg,
3	since it was vessel liability. I would like to reserve
4	whatever I have left.
5	QUESTION: Very well, Mr. Ferrini.
6	MR. FERRINI: Thank you.
7	QUESTION: Mr. O'Donnell, we'll hear from you.
8	ORAL ARGUMENT OF PATRICK H. O'DONNELL
9	ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT
10	MR. O'DONNELL: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it
11	please the Court:
12	I would like to first address one of the points
13	that Mr. Ferrini just raised, and that Justice O'Connor
14	asked about, and that was whether this new sub-species of
15	maritime negligence law which has been dubbed vessel
16	negligence was raised below. In fact it was not; it was
17	raised for the first time in the reply brief, and we
18	believe there are a number of reasons not to, for this
19	Court to adopt yet another difficult distinction within
20	the very complex law of maritime law.
21	QUESTION: Is this the same thing that Justice
22	O'Connor inquired of your opponent about there being all
23	land-based actors here?
24	MR. O'DONNELL: Well
25	QUESTION: Are those two different things, or is

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1	it basically a rephrasing of the same thing?
2	MR. O'DONNELL: Well, we would not contend we
3	would not agree with the characterization that it is
4	true that Mr. Garris did not live aboard the ship.
5	QUESTION: He was a longshoreman, wasn't he?
6	MR. O'DONNELL: He was a ship repair worker.
7	QUESTION: A ship repair worker who did not live
8	on the ship.
9	MR. O'DONNELL: That is correct. And but the
10	argument
11	QUESTION: And the employer was a land-based
12	contractor who did work on ships at dock to repair them.
13	MR. O'DONNELL: Yes, Justice O'Connor. He
14	QUESTION: Yes. Not a vessel owner.
15	MR. O'DONNELL: No.
16	QUESTION: No.
17	MR. O'DONNELL: The defendant was a
18	subcontractor to Norshipco that was hired to sandblast the
19	hulls inside the vessel, and Mr. Garris was asked to
20	assist in that effort. And in doing so, he was asked to
21	climb up to some scaffolding whereupon he was knocked off,
22	fell, and died aboard the ship. But the argument that it
23	was mere happenstance that he died aboard the ship I think
24	ignores the very reason he was aboard the ship. It wasn't
25	as in Kermarec. Kermarec, they had a social visitor
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- 1 aboard the ship. Mr. Ferrini acknowledges that's maritime
- 2 in nature. It's hard to imagine a more maritime activity
- 3 than what Mr. Garris himself was engaged in.
- 4 QUESTION: But Kermarec, Kermarec sued the
- 5 vessel owner.
- 6 MR. O'DONNELL: Yes, sir.
- 7 QUESTION: And here you did not sue the vessel
- 8 owner.
- 9 MR. O'DONNELL: No. We did not have a -- we did
- 10 not believe we had a negligence claim against the vessel
- owner, as the enterprise was being controlled by
- 12 Norshipco.
- 13 QUESTION: So the case is therefore distinct in,
- 14 factually anyway, from Kermarec.
- MR. O'DONNELL: It is. I would say it is very
- 16 close, however, to the Robins Dry Dock case in which the
- 17 lawsuit there was not against the shipowner but against
- the shipyard, and that was also a negligence case and
- 19 achieved the same result. In other words, there the court
- 20 refused to apply the State law in deference to the Federal
- 21 law in general maritime, and it did so, we contend, out of
- 22 uniformity concerns.
- 23 QUESTION: And Kermarec -- negligence under
- 24 Federal admiralty law was not discussed, I take it,
- 25 because there was apparently parallel to the state

1	negligence law which was adequate? Is that the way you
2	read Kermarec?
3	MR. O'DONNELL: I read Kermarec as suggesting
4	that the law was different; in fact, that there was a
5	contributory negligence law under the State statute in
6	that under maritime law, comparative negligence would
7	apply. And also Kermarec had another issue in that
8	QUESTION: Well, I thought Kermarec was an
9	unseaworthiness case, and that this Court did not address
10	whether there was a Federal admiralty cause of action
11	based on negligence. Am I wrong about that?
12	MR. O'DONNELL: I think that's Moragne, Your
13	Honor. Kermarec actually dealt with negligence precisely.
14	QUESTION: Well, there was negligence under New
15	Jersey law
16	QUESTION: New York.
17	QUESTION: Well, I'll read it again. You
18	what was the holding of Kermarec
19	MR. O'DONNELL: Kermarec
20	QUESTION: with reference Kermarec with
21	reference to Federal admiralty law of negligence in a
22	wrongful death case.
23	MR. O'DONNELL: That in Kermarec the law

regarding comparative negligence would be the rule rather

than state contrib -- contributory negligence rule, and

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1 also that the State rules regarding different duti	s owed
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- 2 to invitees, licensees and the other classifications would
- 3 not apply in maritime law because maritime law had
- 4 rejected those types of distinctions in favor of a uniform
- 5 reasonable care under the circumstances test. So that in
- 6 that case I would disagree. I would think that Kermarec
- 7 can be read and should be read as a vindication of
- 8 maritime uniformity principles in almost all respects.
- 9 It does involve an injury; it is distinguishable
- 10 only because it's an injury case, but I would submit that
- 11 that distinction is not a distinction that the Court
- 12 should maintain.
- 13 QUESTION: And the Court, as I understand in
- 14 Kermarec, the Court there said that because the guy was a
- visitor, there was no duty of seaworthiness owed to him.
- 16 MR. O'DONNELL: Correct. There would be no duty
- 17 of seaworthiness owed to a --
- 18 QUESTION: Casual visitor.
- 19 MR. O'DONNELL: -- Social visitor is what the
- 20 Court described him as. The injury/death distinction as
- Justice Stevens correctly points out is historical, but it
- 22 is historical only because it derived out of the
- 23 Harrisburg. Prior to the Harrisburg, and if the
- 24 Harrisburg itself records those prior decisions, and there
- are some that say there is no wrongful death, but on

- 1 balance the clear majority of the opinions that the
- 2 Harrisburg reviews finds a negligence-based maritime cause
- of action for wrongful death, and we would submit that
- 4 once the Harrisburg was overturned in Moragne, the entire
- 5 historical underpinnings of that distinction, which we
- 6 submit was not a good distinction to begin with, but even
- 7 the historical basis for it was a ruse, and so now that
- 8 distinction is floating in air. There is no historical or
- 9 logical --
- 10 QUESTION: But we have -- we have talked in
- 11 terms of general maritime duties, I guess, which could
- include negligence, a duty not to be negligent.
- MR. O'DONNELL: Absolutely, and the Court --
- 14 QUESTION: But I'm not sure that it extends to
- 15 all land-based actors.
- MR. O'DONNELL: Well, I -- I would agree. I
- don't think it may extend to all land-based actors but, in
- 18 this instance, Mr. Garris was involved in a very
- 19 fundamental aspect of maritime activity, and that is the
- 20 repairing of vessels -- the unseaworthy --
- 21 QUESTION: And that was the case in Robins too,
- 22 wasn't it?
- MR. O'DONNELL: Yes.
- 24 QUESTION: You cited Robins a moment ago. Is
- 25 there any -- is there any -- with respect to the concept

1	of land-based, is there any distinction between Robins and
2	this?
3	MR. O'DONNELL: I would submit not. He was
4	involved in the same activity, and he was injured in that
5	activity, and the Court recognized he had a general
6	maritime cause of action for negligence. So we do rely on
7	Robins, and the only distinction I can find in that is
8	that it was an injury versus a death case.
9	QUESTION: Well, why isn't that something that
10	the Court should now respect, even if it made no sense but
11	it was it emerges from the English common law, that
12	there was no common law action for wrongful death, and now
13	we have DOHSA and we have the possibility of picking up
14	State wrongful death acts for watery deaths.
15	Why couldn't one say, even if it made no sense,
16	this distinction between surviving injury and death? Now
17	the field is so occupied by statutes State wrongful
18	death statutes, DOHSA for death on the high seas that
19	the Court ought to stay out of it and leave it all to
20	legislation.
21	MR. O'DONNELL: I think what exists under a view
22	that Moragne does not extend to negligence-based wrongful
23	death is a gap in the Federal remedy scheme in which the
24	maritime duty to not negligently kill someone has no

corresponding Federal maritime remedy unless Moragne is

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1	interpreted	as	extending	such	а	remedy.
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- 2 QUESTION: Well, when you say gap, that just
- 3 means a situation unfavorable to the plaintiff in your
- 4 view, I take it.
- 5 MR. O'DONNELL: Well, it's a gap in that the
- 6 Federal law does not permit it, but in this instance and
- 7 in other instances, what it will mean is that State law,
- 8 State law which incorporate principles which are directly
- 9 contrary to Federal maritime principles would govern, and
- 10 they would deny the remedy, and we would submit that in
- 11 that instance --
- 12 QUESTION: Well, you say they're directly
- 13 contrary. What do you mean by that?
- 14 MR. O'DONNELL: Well, for instance in Virginia,
- the Virginia statutory employer statute says that in these
- 16 circumstances, Norshipco would be immune from suit whereas
- 17 the Federal statutory employer statute would reach the
- 18 exact opposite result. In addition, you have the State of
- 19 Virginia having a contributory negligence bar --
- 20 QUESTION: So the State of Virginia law grants
- 21 more immunity to employers -- what, subcontractors -- than
- the Federal law does? Because certainly a longshoreman
- 23 can't sue his employer under the Federal --
- MR. O'DONNELL: That's correct. And he was not
- employed by Norshipco; he was employed by a subcontractor.

1	But under Federal law, unless Norshipco actually paid the
2	benefits, they do not receive statutory
3	QUESTION: Okay, so you have two different
4	systems, and you know, if you're out at sea there's no
5	doubt the maritime law. But why when you've got a
6	situation that's all land-based actors, why shouldn't the
7	State system prevail?
8	MR. O'DONNELL: Well, we would submit that first
9	of all there's a presumption that where Federal maritime
10	jurisdiction exists, Federal maritime law ought to apply.
11	We would also submit that in this very instance, the
12	Robins case would hold that maritime law ought to apply.
13	We would also say that the need for uniformity in the
14	administration of maritime law counsels in favor of
15	applying the Federal standards.
16	QUESTION: Well, but you get to a point,
17	certainly, where you have to pick up some parts of the
18	various state regimes.
19	MR. O'DONNELL: Well, if this Court recognizes a
20	Moragne negligence-based wrongful death action, I'm not
21	sure that's entirely true. I think what would happen in
22	those instances and what we are asking for is just that

-- we are not, as Mr. Ferrini suggested, arguing that all

State law should be preempted within State territorial

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waters.

1	QUESTION: Well, if you're going to get a
2	wrongful death cause of action, you're going to have to
3	turn to State law to decide who the beneficiaries are, are
4	you not?
5	MR. O'DONNELL: Well, perhaps with regard to
6	to simply deciding the beneficiaries, but not the
7	liability.
8	QUESTION: Well, then, you say simply deciding.
9	You couldn't proceed without some scheme for deciding who
10	the beneficiaries are, could you?
11	MR. O'DONNELL: Not in ultimately giving out the
12	remedies. That's true. But the fundamental liability
13	standards, we submit, must be governed by Federal maritime
14	law to preserve uniformity, and for that reason we think
15	that applying the State standard would get the Court
16	right, and the lower courts, right back into the Tungus
17	mess, whereas the Court is, the lower courts now have to
18	analyze every aspect of the State law in order to
19	determine which it would apply.
20	I know, the Tungus would say you apply
21	everything at whole, but on remand in the Yamaha case, the
22	third circuit said we're not going toI don't think they
23	overruled the Tungus, but they suggested another course of
24	activity was to apply the Federal liability standards, and
25	that same course was filed in the Amtrak

1	QUESTION: But that's the the question we
2	were given in Yamaha was does the State wrongful death act
3	apply? There was nothing about there wasn't a claim
4	before us under Federal maritime law. The question was
5	whether you could apply the State wrongful death act. I
6	take it what you're telling us is that Mr. Ferrini was
7	right when he said if you prevail, that there is a Federal
8	maritime law claim for wrongful death, then there is no
9	longer the claim that this Court thought was a viable one
LO	in Yamaha, that is, a wholly State-based wrongful death
L1	claim.
L2	MR. O'DONNELL: We are that is not our fight,
L3	Your Honor. We are asking for the Moragne we are not
L4	saying that if you adopt the Moragne, you necessarily
L5	preempt state
L6	QUESTION: What I am asking you is a precedent
L7	out there you are urging that we hold for you? It would
L8	be, I think, quite inexplicable if we didn't say where
L9	Yamaha stands in light of the holding in your favor if we
20	were to rule for you.
21	MR. O'DONNELL: We don't think a ruling
22	recognizing a Moragne negligence-based cause of action
23	would infringe on Yamaha. Yamaha
24	QUESTION: Well, Mr. O'Donnell, didn't Robins,
25	which you rely on, go on to say that if it is a maritime
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1	suit	here,	then	it	could	not	be	enlarged	or	impaired	by	Ţ

- 2 State statute or State law? It indicated that was it.
- 3 Then you just look to the maritime.
- 4 MR. O'DONNELL: Yes, Your Honor. The maritime
- 5 action itself -- what I thought I was being asked by
- 6 Justice Ginsburg was whether or not that precluded the
- 7 application of State wrongful death statutes. I would
- 8 submit that --
- 9 QUESTION: In addition to.
- 10 MR. O'DONNELL: In addition to. The Court in
- 11 Yamaha used the term seafarer to describe those
- individuals who may not have access to State wrongful
- 13 death statutes. It's unclear from my reading of Yamaha
- 14 just who is and who isn't a seafarer.
- 15 QUESTION: So you want to give them both, in
- other words. What do you think about Mr. Ferrini's
- 17 argument, as I understand it, going back to the question
- 18 that you were discussing with the Chief Justice?
- 19 His point I think, if I understood it, is that
- 20 look, I agree -- imagining he's making this argument -- I
- 21 agree with you if a seaman is involved, you need a uniform
- 22 admiralty law. If the seaworthiness of the vessel is
- 23 involved, you need a uniform admiralty law. If a sea owner
- 24 is involved, you need a uniform admiralty law. But in the
- absence of those things, the word uniformity has no

- 1 reason.
- 2 And, moreover, here we're talking about a local
- 3 person in a harbor, local circumstances, and so local law
- 4 should prevail. And when you come back and say, well,
- 5 isn't that equally true of injury, he says yes. But even
- if we've decided the opposite in respect to injury, let's
- 7 not make matters worse. And here he would say -- I guess,
- 8 or I thought I heard him say -- that this particular
- 9 wrongful death statute is more local yet, because it is
- not the injured person's personal statute. It belongs to
- 11 the survivors. They're the ones who are suing, and they
- 12 are local people, and that's unlike a personal injury
- 13 action.
- 14 And, indeed, you in fact have to pick up State law
- 15 anyway, I've heard, in order to find out who those
- 16 survivors are who are going to be able to sue. So he says
- 17 this is even more local than the injury action and,
- 18 besides, don't make matters worse.
- 19 Now, I'm trying to paraphrase; I don't know if
- 20 I've got it right, but if -- I'm trying to make it as
- 21 strong as I can in my mind. Now I want to hear your
- 22 response.
- MR. O'DONNELL: Well, my response comes back to
- 24 the activity that he was involved in, and it not being a
- 25 purely local --

1	QUESTION: No, no, it's absolutely on a ship.
2	It's definitely an activity on a ship, but so what? I
3	mean, what's the interest there? I mean, anything on a
4	ship then you win by definition, but his point is, you
5	see, that just being on a ship is not enough.
6	MR. O'DONNELL: Well, he used the example where
7	someone other than a ship a crew member drops the
8	banana peel, and that would not be a maritime matter.
9	Here Your Honor has mentioned unseaworthiness, and vessel
10	maintenance, vessel repair goes to the very heart of what
11	I
12	QUESTION: I was really looking for an answer in
13	terms of precedent, or in terms of what Justice Ginsburg
14	is talking about, or whether or not Moragne in fact did
15	involve did it? a question of personal injury for
16	negligence as applied to a longshoreman, or did it? I'm
17	really looking for an answer. Is he really asking us to
18	back up too far, or what is the precedent on it? Did
19	Moragne decide this question for a longshoreman as to
20	injury?
21	MR. O'DONNELL: We
22	QUESTION: Well, you say what you want to say. I
23	want to hear your answer.
24	MR. O'DONNELL: We contend that Moragne, when it
25	referenced maritime duties in the plural, it meant to

1	incorporate and encompass negligence-based wrongful death
2	actions. And we think
3	QUESTION: But that case itself involved an
4	unseaworthiness claim, not a negligence claim.
5	MR. O'DONNELL: Absolutely, Justice Ginsburg. It
6	dealt with an unseaworthiness claim. That is correct.
7	QUESTION: And a vessel owner.
8	MR. O'DONNELL: And a vessel owner.
9	QUESTION: Right.
10	MR. O'DONNELL: And I'll keep coming back to the
11	Robins Dry Dock where again that distinction was not made.
12	The vessel a special subcategory called vessel
13	negligence was not relied on.
14	QUESTION: Mr. O'Donnell, I hope that you will
15	complete the answer to my question which I think you
16	hadn't yet answered. I didn't think your answer was as
17	clear as the one Justice Breyer gave you which was

18 yeah, you have, your argument is now that we take away the 19 limitations that Moragne is just unseaworthiness; it 20 applies to negligence as well; then we have Yamaha which means that anyone in the situation of Mr. Garris or his 21 survivors has a choice between the state remedy or the 22 Federal remedy. It's not one or the other. That's what 23 24 Justice Breyer said was your answer, but I'm not sure it 25 was.

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1	MR. O'DONNELL: Well, I'm not arguing that if
2	you recognize a negligence-based Moragne cause of action,
3	you have swept the field of state wrongful death statutes.
4	That is not our position. Our position is the elements of
5	uniformity and to fill this the fact that there is a
6	Federal duty with no corresponding remedy, those issues
7	counsel in favor of recognizing a Moragne negligence
8	action, but it doesn't. We are not arguing here
9	preemption.
10	QUESTION: I know you're not arguing it, but
11	it's something I have to worry about. To be specific, I
12	would worry if in addition to all of Mr. Ferrini's
13	arguments, my deciding you are right in this case means
14	I've wiped out all the wrongful death actions belonging to
15	States that somebody who was injured on a ship might
16	otherwise have. I would worry about that. So I would
17	like you to either get rid of my worry or confirm my
18	worry.
19	MR. O'DONNELL: Well, I'm not sure where your
20	worry springs from.
21	QUESTION: It springs from that just maybe I
22	may not have understood it, but I thought what we were
23	talking about was the possibility that if you have a
24	Federal action in the area, you no longer can have the
25	State action. So maybe it's so far off you're just going
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1	to	dispose	of	my	worry	in	а	sentence,	so	do	it.
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- 2 MR. O'DONNELL: No, Your Honor. But the state
- law may continue to apply. What you've done by creating
- 4 the Moragne cause of action is you've gotten rid of that
- 5 problem that the lower courts had to deal with in which
- 6 they were trying to determine what aspects of State law
- 7 they could apply, and which were violative of Federal
- 8 maritime principles.
- 9 I think you've actually cleaned up a problem as
- opposed to creating a new one. I don't see the answer to
- 11 our request being incompatible with the continuation of
- 12 State wrongful death statutes in territorial waters.
- 13 QUESTION: What was the reason why there was no
- 14 State law avenue of recovery here? Because of the
- 15 Longshore Harbor Workers' Compensation Act being the
- 16 exclusive remedy by reason of Virginia law, or am I wrong
- 17 about that?
- 18 MR. O'DONNELL: No. Our state wrongful death
- 19 action would have been met with the application of the
- 20 Virginia statutory employer bar.
- 21 QUESTION: But did the statutory employer bar in
- turn depend on the Longshore Harbor Workers' Compensation
- 23 Act coverage, or some other --
- 24 MR. O'DONNELL: No, there are two separate
- 25 statutory employer bars -- the Virginia and then the

1	Longshoremen.
2	QUESTION: Yes.
3	MR. O'DONNELL: And if we and the Fourth
4	Circuit in Alumax decided that if you're bringing your
5	action under the State wrongful death statute, then the
6	State statutory employer bar applies, and you are and
7	we would have been out of court.
8	QUESTION: Why did the employer the state
9	employer bar apply in this case?
10	MR. O'DONNELL: Why would it apply in the
11	Federal case?
12	QUESTION: Yeah. Why was the employer entitled
13	to invoke the bar under Virginia law?
14	MR. O'DONNELL: Because that, unlike the
15	Longshoremen Harbor Worker bar, the Norshipco
16	there's no prohibition on Norshipco using that bar even
17	though it didn't actually pay any benefits. It says if
18	you're in the
19	QUESTION: Were the benefits paid under the
20	Longshore Act?
21	MR. O'DONNELL: Yes.
22	QUESTION: So there is, then, a Federal act
23	which basically ultimately is the reason for there being

Virginia State bar depends upon payment of premiums by the

no liability here. There is a Virginia State bar, but the

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- 1 subsidiary corporation under the Longshore Harbor Workers'
- 2 Compensation Act.
- MR. O'DONNELL: No. The Virginia act has no --
- 4 has no corresponding limit that limits it because you paid
- 5 the benefits.
- 6 QUESTION: But you paid the benefits under a
- 7 Federal act, or am I wrong?
- 8 MR. O'DONNELL: They were paid under a Federal
- 9 act.
- 10 QUESTION: All right. So ultimately it is a
- 11 Federal act that is the reason you have a bar.
- MR. O'DONNELL: No, because the Virginia bar
- 13 would apply whether or not he received funeral benefits
- 14 under the Federal act.
- 15 QUESTION: Well, I'll think about it. I still
- 16 think ultimately -- I'm trying to help you. I think that
- 17 ultimately there's -- it's, ultimately it's the existence
- of the Longshore Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, and the
- 19 benefits payments that were made by the subsidiary, that
- invokes the bar, or am I wrong about that?
- 21 MR. O'DONNELL: That would not -- that's -- I
- 22 believe that's irrelevant to the application of the state
- bar. It's only relevant to the application of the
- Longshoremen Harbor Worker Act Bar. In other words, if
- 25 you -- if you actually pay the benefits under the

- 1 Longshoremen bar, you receive the immunity. Under the
- 2 state there's no similar limitation.
- 3 QUESTION: Well, what is the State bar? Explain
- 4 it. What is the State law in Virginia?
- 5 MR. O'DONNELL: If you are the -- if you're in
- 6 the status of prime contractor and your subcontractor has
- 7 employees who are injured, you are considered their
- 8 statutory employer under Virginia law. It's much --
- 9 there's no exception to it as there is under --
- 10 QUESTION: And because your subsidiary paid
- 11 benefits under the -- and is covered by the Federal -- by
- 12 the Longshore Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, you are
- 13 entitled to invoke the State bar.
- MR. O'DONNELL: Where I'm having trouble,
- 15 Justice Kennedy, is that --
- 16 QUESTION: You may be having trouble because I'm
- 17 wrong, but I -- I don't know -- I don't know what it is
- 18 that the subsidiary employer did that it operated to allow
- 19 the parent to invoke the state bar, if it were not payment
- of Longshore Harbor Workers' Compensation benefits.
- 21 MR. O'DONNELL: What I'm -- what I'm
- 22 saying is that the payment -- let's assume there was no
- 23 payments made to anyone. Norshipco would still have in
- 24 the State wrongful death action -- they fall under the
- definition of statutory employer and would therefore be

1	able to claim that defense. The fact that they were paid
2	under the Federal statute doesn't affect that defense in
3	State law, in the state wrongful death action.
4	QUESTION: All right. Thank you.
5	QUESTION: Would you go back to Robins. You
6	pointed out in your argument a second ago that the Court
7	in Robins had made the remark that negligence in the
8	course of this kind of repair work is not a matter of
9	purely local concern, that it was properly maritime.
10	Has there been any litigation and sorry, and
11	what I further assume to be the case is that the cause of
12	action that Robins recognized if it were to have a
13	counterpart, it had a parallel in state law because Robins
14	didn't say it was a purely maritime issue. And so Robins,
15	as I understand it, left State law wherever it might be,
16	and I presume there would have been a State law negligence
17	action as well.
18	Two questions: Am I right in that assumption
19	that there was a State law negligence action parallel to
20	what we recognized in Robins? And if the answer is yes,
21	can you tell me whether there has been any litigation in
22	the ensuing sixty years, I guess, on the issue of whether
23	the state law action may continue to be recognized in the
24	light of the fact that there is also a Federal cause of

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25 action?

1	MR. O'DONNELL: Well, it's I would concede
2	it's a confusing area. I don't know if there is any case
3	that first of all, with regard to Robins, I don't read
4	Robins as preempting State wrongful death statutes
5	generally. There is language in there about where State
6	law contradicts some fundamental feature of admiralty law,
7	and so there is some of that. But I don't think the court
8	went on the court concluded the Federal maritime law
9	cause of action was to be the action because Federal
10	maritime jurisdiction existed.
11	QUESTION: Well, that was the only claim before
12	it, wasn't it, in Robins?
13	MR. O'DONNELL: Yes, yes.
14	QUESTION: Okay. So they said we recognize the
15	federal maritime claim. Now, is it clear that there was a
16	parallel State law claim, and there was some kind of a
17	State law claim for negligence which could also have been
18	brought on the same facts. Is that correct?
19	MR. O'DONNELL: Yes, and that's why the court
20	discussed the difference between the two laws.
21	QUESTION: All right. And any litigation
22	subsequent to that as to whether the state law claim
23	survives in whole or in part the recognition in Robins of
24	the maritime claim.
25	MR. O'DONNELL: Well, in the Amtrak train crash

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- 2 looks at the Federal -- the aspects and characteristics of
- 3 the state wrongful death statute and concludes that
- 4 because there's maritime jurisdiction, those rules cannot
- 5 apply because they're directly contrary --
- 6 QUESTION: Conflict case, then.
- 7 MR. O'DONNELL: Yeah, it's a conflict case.
- 8 QUESTION: Okay. In a non-conflict situation,
- 9 in other words, a kind of field preemption situation, you
- 10 know, in a common law context, any litigation on that?
- MR. O'DONNELL: I'm not aware of anything except
- 12 -- and as Justice Ginsburg points out, Yamaha did not
- 13 precisely deal with this issue of negligence, but in
- 14 Yamaha, I don't read any suggestion that the existence of
- the Moragne cause of action somehow -- the existence --
- 16 the Court seems to assume the existence of a negligence
- 17 Moragne-based cause of action, else there's nothing for -
- 18 -- there's nothing there to displace the state law to
- 19 begin with. So there's an implicit assumption in Yamaha
- 20 that it did.
- 21 QUESTION: The Yamaha said if, assuming there
- were a Federal claim, would that preclude a State claim,
- and the answer was no, it wouldn't. But that's why I was
- 24 surprised at your answer is that, well, maybe it would.
- MR. O'DONNELL: Well, I meant to only talk in

Τ.	terms of where you have these conflicts with the rederal
2	law that currently exists. My position is
3	QUESTION: Well, all right. There certainly
4	would be a claim in any state that was more generous than
5	Federal law that there was a conflict, so it looks like my
6	concern you win your case in this situation where the
7	laws
8	CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST: Thank you, Mr.
9	O'Donnell. The case is submitted.
10	(Whereupon, at 12:02 p.m., the case in the
11	above-entitled matter was submitted.)
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