

BP Oil Spill Legal Network Files Class Action Lawsuit on Behalf of Louisiana Commercial Fishermen and Charter Boat Operators

The BP Oil Spill Legal Network announces that Louisiana commercial fishermen and operators of charter boats have filed a class action on behalf of all Louisiana commercial fishermen and charter boat operators who have suffered economic losses caused by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Plaquemine, La. ([PRWEB](http://www.prweb.com)) May 5, 2010 -- The BP Oil Spill Legal Network announces that Louisiana commercial fishermen and operators of charter boats have filed a class action on behalf of all Louisiana commercial fishermen and charter boat operators who have suffered economic losses caused by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Defendants named in the complaint include BP, PLC, and BP America, Inc., which owned the oil well, Transocean Offshore Deepwater Drilling, Inc., which leased the oil rig to BP, Halliburton Energy Services, Inc., which was engaged in cementing operations at the well, and Cameron International Corporation, which supplied the blowout preventer valves for the Deepwater Horizon oil rig that failed to activate.

"While the effects of the spill remain unknown, the worst effects of the spill have yet to be felt," stated Chris Coffin of Pendley, Baudin & Coffin LLP in Plaquemine. "It is clear, however, that commercial fishermen will suffer huge losses in income due to the closures of their fisheries and the long-term environmental impact. The economic impact does not stop there. The livelihoods of all persons whose businesses rely on the natural resources of the Gulf Coast are also at risk."

The complaint, entitled Dugas et al. v. BP, PLC, et al., was filed on Monday, May 3, 2010, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, Civil Action No. 2:10-cv-01322. A copy of the complaint is available at <http://www.bpoilspilllegalnetwork.com>.

About the BP Oil Spill Legal Network:

The BP Oil Spill Legal Network is a national coalition of lawyers with the experience necessary to assist you in recovering the losses you have or will suffer from the April 20, 2010 BP spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

Our firms have the experience, skills and resources that will be required to successfully serve the victims of this environmental disaster. The members of the Network include:

- Chris Seeger of Seeger & Weiss (New York, New York), one of the nation's most accomplished lawyers in the area of mass torts and well-known for his lead role in the Vioxx settlement;
- Gary E. Mason of Mason LLP (Washington, D.C.), who represented thousands of Alaskans in the Exxon Valdez litigation;
- Daniel K. Bryson of Lewis & Roberts (Raleigh, NC), a North Carolina trial lawyer with a national reputation for his work on mass torts and complex litigation;
- Chris Coffin of Pendley, Baudin & Coffin LLP (Plaquemine, Louisiana), who has years of experience litigating complex cases involving environmental contamination, product liability, toxic torts and consumer fraud in many national lawsuits representing thousands of individuals;
- Stephen Mullins of Luckey & Mullins (Ocean Springs, Mississippi), President of The Mississippi Association for Justice and who has served as counsel in many of largest chemical and water contamination cases in Mississippi and neighboring states including the Baker-Florida School System Isocyanates cases, Abney v. Morton

International (the largest groundwater contamination case in Mississippi history), asbestos and silica;

- Joel Rhine of Lea, Rhine & Rosbrugh, PLLC (Wilmington, N.C.), a North Carolina trial lawyer who has represented thousands of owners and companies in complex civil litigation involving defects in structures, insurance issues and environmental contamination; and
- K. Edward Sexton, II of Gentle, Turner, Sexton (Birmingham, Alabama), an experienced Alabama trial lawyer well-known for his representation of Alabama plaintiffs.

According to recent news reports, this oil spill, and the inability of BP to contain the spill, has resulted in and will continue to cause significant damage to properties, fisheries, and natural resources located along the coast of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. The BP Oil Spill Legal Network is fully prepared to pursue your claims for economic loss and seek prompt recovery from BP, other responsible parties, and if necessary, the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund established by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 ("OPA").

Persons and entities which may have a claim for damages include:

1. Fishermen, oyster harvesters, shrimpers, or a businesses involved in the processing and packaging for the fishing industry;
2. Owners, crew members or employees of charter and private boats, condominiums, restaurants, marinas and docks;
3. Persons in the tourism industry;
4. Owners of private property, including landlords; and
5. Local city, county, parrish, or other political subdivisions.

Our attorneys and paralegals will be working with each of our clients individually to prepare their claims for filing with BP, with the Oil Spill Liability Fund, or, as may be necessary, in the United States District Court.

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