

KATHY CASTOR
11TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND
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April 11, 2011

Governor Rick Scott
State of Florida, The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Re: April 20th Federal District Court Deadline to File Claims Against BP for Damages

Dear Governor Scott:

As the one year anniversary of the BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster approaches next week, state taxpayers need to be assured that BP will be held accountable for the damage done to Florida's economy and environment. April 20, 2011 is the date set by the federal district court as the deadline to file a claim against BP/Transocean. I have attached the notice in case you have not reviewed it previously. The State of Florida and other local governments have significant damages and the State must prepare its claim and file it as soon as possible. In fact, the State of Louisiana has already filed its claim and I urge you to move expeditiously to recoup Florida's damages.

Florida taxpayers and local governments have suffered damages for lost revenues and other expenses as a result of the BP oil disaster. Florida needs you to steadfastly fight for the sovereignty claims of the state. Florida taxpayers should not be left on the hook for one dime of BP's damage. While distinct from the claims of individuals and small businesses and the fines and penalties BP will pay under other causes of action, Florida's claim against BP must be presented and pursued doggedly. I urge you to take action quickly to protect Florida taxpayers.

I look forward to working with you on a complete economic and environmental recovery for Florida. The BP oil disaster has taken a major toll on our state and a full and robust recovery will require all of us working together on behalf of our great state. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me in Tampa at 813-871-2817 or Washington, D.C. at 202-225-3376.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathy Castor".

Kathy Castor
United States Representative
Florida District 11

Cc: Attorney General Pam Bondi

MDL 2179 United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana

To Obtain a Short Form Click [Here](#) or Call Toll Free 1-877-497-5926

To Protect Your Right to Recover Money

Damages Against Transocean,

The Filing Deadline is April 20, 2011.

A New Orleans federal court is overseeing litigation against companies involved in the oil spill and has approved the content of this notice. A trial will be held in February 2012. The trial will decide whether Transocean, the owner of the Deepwater Horizon rig, can limit what it pays claimants under Maritime law. To preserve your ability to recover money damages against Transocean and include your claim in this trial, the Court filing deadline is **April 20, 2011**.

If you had a personal injury, loss of earnings, property damage, business loss, or other economic loss from the oil spill you may be able to participate.

File a Simple Form to Preserve Your Rights

In order to preserve your right to recover against Transocean you need to file an answer and claim by April 20, 2011. The Court has simplified the process to file your claim against Transocean. The Court has approved a Direct Filing Short Form. You can get the Short Form by calling 1-877-497-5926, by clicking [here](#) or visiting the courts website listed below. Filing this Short Form may also join you in the master lawsuit that has been filed against BP and the other defendants. You are not required to use the Short Form. The deadline for claims against Transocean whether you use the Short Form or not is April 20, 2011.

There is No Filing Fee

There is no filing fee and a lawyer is not required to file the Short Form. However, if you would like advice regarding your legal rights or about filing this Short Form, you should contact a lawyer.

Filing with the Gulf Coast Claims Facility ("GCCF") is Not the Same as Filing in Court

The federal lawsuit is separate from the claims process in the GCCF. You may be able to participate in the federal lawsuit even if you already filed a claim with the GCCF. There may be other requirements you have to fulfill to proceed with a lawsuit against BP and the other defendants.

If you have question you should consult a lawyer. For more information, or to obtain a copy of the Short Form, visit www.laed.uscourts.gov/OilSpill/Forms/Forms.htm or call 1-877-497-5926.