

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**In re: Oil Spill by the Oil Rig
“Deepwater Horizon” in the Gulf
of Mexico, on April 20, 2010**

MDL NO. 2179

SECTION J

Applies to: *All Cases*

**JUDGE BARBIER
MAGISTRATE JUDGE SHUSHAN**

ORDER

[Regarding Deadline for Answers, Cross-Claims and Third-Party Complaints]

Pretrial Order No. 11 (Case Management Order no. 1) (Rec. Doc. 569) provides that answers, cross-claims and third-party complaints by Fed. R. Civ. P. 14(c) defendants in the Limitation Action (CA 10-2177) and/or defendants in the Bundle A Cases¹ are to be filed by March 18, 2011. The Transocean parties filed their Rule 14(c) third-party complaint on February 18, 2011 (Rec. Doc. 1320) as required by PTO no. 11.

Some parties have sought clarification regarding the filing of cross-claims. Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 13(g), cross-claims are permissive. 6 Wright, Miller and Kane, Federal Practice and Procedure §1431 at 276 (2010). Notwithstanding the permissive nature of cross-claims, it is necessary that all claims for the February 27, 2012 trial of liability, limitation and exoneration and fault allocation be presented in a timely manner.

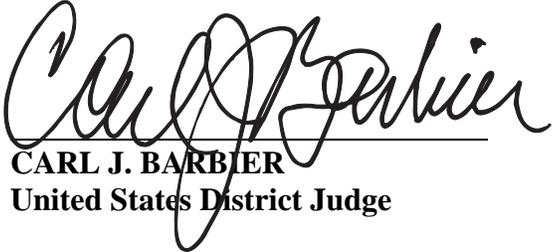
Accordingly, the deadline for the filing of cross-claims for consideration in the February 27, 2012 trial is **Thursday, May 20, 2011**.

Because of the need to bring all parties before the Court, the deadline for filing answers and third-party complaints for Rule 14(c) defendants in the Limitation Action and defendants in pending Bundle A cases will be extended to **Friday, March 25, 2011**.

¹ Bundle A includes all personal injury and wrongful death claims resulting directly from the events of April 20, 2010. Rec. Doc. 569 at 2.

The deadline for filing answers and third-party complaints for defendants in Bundle A cases filed between the entry of this order and through April 20, 2011 shall be **Thursday, May 20, 2011**.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 15th day of March, 2011.



CARL J. BARBIER
United States District Judge