

## **Arsenault Named Co-chair of Gulf Coast Oil Spill Litigation Group**

Attorney Richard J. Arsenault, founder of Alexandria, LA-based Neblett, Beard & Arsenault, has been selected by the American Association for Justice (AAJ) to serve as Co-chair of the newly created Gulf Coast Oil Spill Litigation Group.

The AAJ, the world's largest trial bar association, strives to promote a fair and effective justice system and supports the work of attorneys in their efforts to ensure that any person who is injured by the misconduct or negligence of others can obtain justice in America's courtrooms.

The Gulf Coast Oil Spill Litigation Group will focus on the legal actions and claims for personal injury, environmental and other damages arising out of the Deepwater Horizon explosion, fire and subsequent oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

Arsenault, a veteran of complex litigation, has filed multiple class action lawsuits in several Gulf States against BP, Transocean, Halliburton and other parties in wake of the massive oil rig explosion and spill.

As Co-chair of the Gulf Oil Spill Litigation group, Arsenault will lead educational programs and provide litigation support to attorneys who represent victims of the Deepwater Horizon disaster. The Litigation Group will hold its first meeting at the AAJ Annual Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia this July.

In addition to his leadership position in the AAJ's Gulf Oil Spill Litigation Group, Richard J. Arsenault also serves as Chair of the Louisiana State Bar Association's Section on Insurance, Negligence, Workers' Compensation and Admiralty, and he has chaired the Louisiana State Bar's Admiralty Symposium since its inception over 17 years ago. He is also past Chair of the AAJ's Admiralty Section.

Recently, Arsenault was tapped by the Louisiana State Bar Association and HarrisMartin Publishing to Chair two Gulf Coast Oil Spill Symposiums in New Orleans. He will also present a Gulf Oil Spill Continuing Legal Education program at the Louisiana State Bar Association's annual conference later this month.

Arsenault has represented victims of offshore and maritime disasters for nearly thirty years, and has been recognized for his contributions to maritime law as both a litigator and published author. Arsenault has been selected for inclusion in the 2010 Best Lawyers of America, Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers, American Trial Lawyer's Association's Top 100 Trial Lawyers, Louisiana Super Lawyers, Best of the United States and currently holds an AV Rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest rating available. His legal knowledge and expertise have been featured by international media including the National Law Journal, Associated Press, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, CBS, Business Week, NPR, the London Times and BBC.