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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

IN RE: OIL SPILL) MDL NO. 2179
BY THE OIL RIG)
"DEEPWATER HORIZON" IN) SECTION "J"
THE GULF OF MEXICO, ON)
APRIL 20, 2010) JUDGE BARBIER
) MAG. JUDGE SHUSHAN

VOLUME 1

Deposition of Yancy Jacob Keplinger,
taken at the Pan-American Building, 601 Poydras
Street, 11th Floor, New Orleans, Louisiana,
70130, on the 12th day of September, 2011.

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1 APPEARANCES

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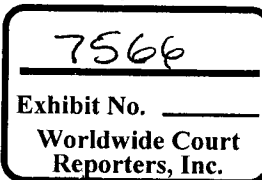
10 APPEARING FOR THE WITNESS YANCY JACOB KEPLINGER:

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13 ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Peter Jennings, Videographer



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1 MS. GLAZER: Okay. I think -- I
2 don't have any more questions. I will cede my
3 time to the first highest bidder.
4 MR. HAYCRAFT: (Indicating.)
5 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 1:16
6 a.m. We're going off the record.
7 MR. HAYCRAFT: Eleven --
8 MS. GLAZER: I think it's 11:16.
9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: You're right.
10 It's 11:16 a.m. We're going off the
11 record. Ending Tape 3.
12 (Recess from 11:16 a.m. to 11:21 a.m.)
13 MR. HAYCRAFT: I'm ready.
14 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Just give me one
15 second.
16 The time is 11:21 a.m. We're back on the
17 record, beginning Tape 4.
18 EXAMINATION
19 QUESTIONS BY MR. HAYCRAFT:
20 Q. Hello, Mr. Keplinger. My name is Don
21 Haycraft. I represent BP.
22 If at any time I ask you a question you
23 don't fully understand it, will you tell me that
24 you don't understand it?
25 A. Sure.

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1 Q. All right. Let's talk about who is in
2 charge. Who is the person in charge on DEEPWATER
3 HORIZON back in April 2010? Explain to me who
4 was in charge of the DEEPWATER HORIZON.
5 A. Well, when we're not connected to the
6 drill floor, the Captain is in charge. And when
7 we are connected, the OIM is in charge.
8 Q. Okay. Fair to say from your experience
9 on DEEPWATER HORIZON is the OIM is in charge of
10 certain things, and the Captain is in charge
11 of -- of certain things?
12 A. Right.
13 Q. And as the Senior DPO, do you understand
14 that when the DEEPWATER HORIZON is on DP, that it
15 is a vessel making way?
16 A. That has -- we have been confirmed by the
17 Coast Guard that we are underway, but not making
18 way.
19 Q. Right. So the -- the dynamic positioning
20 is holding the rig in place, but it is underway
21 according to the Coast Guard?
22 A. Correct.
23 Q. For the events of that evening, do you
24 recall hearing Chris Pleasant ask Captain Curt if
25 he, Chris Pleasant, wanted -- if -- if the

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1 Captain wanted, he, Chris Pleasant, to push the
2 EDS button?
3 A. Yes.
4 Q. And you -- you actually heard that?
5 A. Yes, I was -- I actually heard that.
6 Q. Right. Chris Pleasant was also on the
7 Bridge?
8 A. Yes. He came up maybe a minute after
9 Steve Bertone showed up.
10 Q. That was after the first explosion?
11 A. No. That was after the blackout.
12 Q. Okay. So after the second explosion?
13 A. After -- yeah.
14 Q. So Chris Pleasant, a Subsea Engineer,
15 appeared on the Bridge after the second
16 explosion?
17 A. Yes.
18 Q. And at that -- at some point after that,
19 he asked Captain Curt if he should push the EDS
20 button?
21 A. Yes.
22 Q. In fact, did he ask Captain Curt that
23 three times?
24 A. Yes. Seconds apart.
25 Q. He waited -- that is, Chris waited a -- a

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1 few seconds between each repeat of, "Should I
2 push the EDS?"
3 A. Correct.
4 Q. Did the Captain respond at any point?
5 A. The third -- the third one, he -- third
6 time he asked, he said, "Yes."
7 Q. Who did you understand to be in charge at
8 that point in time?
9 A. At that point in time, the Captain was in
10 charge.
11 Q. How did you know that?
12 A. Emergency situations.
13 Q. How did you know what an emergency
14 situation was on the DEEPWATER HORIZON?
15 A. Well, the fire would be an emergency
16 situation.
17 Q. Okay. What's -- let's turn to Tab 27 in
18 your binder, which we'll mark as the next
19 numbered exhibit, 5032.
20 (Exhibit No. 5032 marked.)
21 Q. (By Mr. Haycraft) Okay. Put that sticker
22 on there. That will be your first practice.
23 A. (Complying.)
24 Q. Okay. That Exhibit 5032, do you see
25 that's a typed, several-page interview form?