UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

FELONY

BILL OF INFORMATION FOR
CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT WIRE FRAUD

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	*	CRIMINAL DOCKET NO.
v.	*	SECTION:
TRACEY A. DANIELS	*	VIOLATION: 18 U.S.C. § 371

* * *

The United States Attorney charges that:

COUNT 1

A. AT ALL TIMES MATERIAL HEREIN:

1. The defendant, **TRACEY A. DANIELS**, was a resident of New Orleans, Louisiana.

2. British Petroleum (BP) was a company whose activities of which included oil exploration and production in the United States and elsewhere and whose subsidiaries included BP Exploration and Production, Inc. (BP Exploration).

3. On or about April 20, 2010, an explosion and fire occurred on the Deepwater Horizon, an oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico

that had been drilling an exploration well. The resulting oil spill, with which BP was associated, caused oil pollution across the Gulf of Mexico.

4. From in or about May 2010 through on or about August 23, 2010, BP operated a process for submission directly to BP and resolution by BP of claims of individuals and businesses for costs, damages, and other losses incurred as a result of the oil discharges due to the Deepwater Horizon incident.

5. In or about June 2010, BP established the Gulf Coast Claims Facility (GCCF) for the purpose of administering, mediating, and settling certain claims of individuals and businesses for costs, damages, and other losses incurred as a result of the Deepwater Horizon incident. The GCCF was administered by Kenneth R. Feinberg, a fund administrator responsible for decisions relating to the administration and processing of claims by the GCCF. On or about August 23, 2010, the GCCF began receiving and processing such claims, and BP ceased receiving and processing claims of individuals and businesses for costs, damages, and other losses incurred as a result of the oil discharges due to the Deepwater Horizon incident.

6. On August 6, 2010, BP Exploration established the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Trust, an irrevocable common law trust formed under Delaware law, to receive and to distribute funds that BP Exploration promised to provide for the payment of certain types

of claims, costs, and expenses, including, but not limited to, those resolved by the GCCF.

B. **THE CONSPIRACY:**

Beginning in or about October 2010 and continuing until in or about November 2010, in the Eastern District of Louisiana, and elsewhere, the defendant, **TRACEY A. DANIELS**, and others known and unknown to the United States Attorney, knowingly and willfully combined, conspired and agreed to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud the GCCF and to obtain money by means of false and fraudulent representations, by transmitting and causing to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate commerce, from Louisiana to Ohio, any writings, signs, signals, pictures and sounds for the purpose of executing said scheme and artifice, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

C. **OVERT ACTS:**

In furtherance of the conspiracy, beginning in or about October 2010, and continuing until in or about November 2010, the defendant, **TRACEY A. DANIELS,** assisted by her co-conspirator, completed a claim form with false representations, created false and fraudulent documentation to support the claim forms, and wired all of the aforementioned documents from a location in the Eastern District of Louisiana to the GCCF's office in Dublin, Ohio. The representations in the claim forms included false representations that **TRACEY A. DANIELS** worked at a hotel. The false documentation included earnings statements falsely purporting to be from the

hotel. Based on these false representations, on or about October 27, 2010, the GCCF paid **TRACEY A. DANIELS** approximately $33,450.00; all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

1. The allegations of Count 1 of the Bill of Information are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth fully herein for the purpose of alleging forfeiture to the United States of America pursuant to the provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 371, 1343, and 981(a)(1)(C), made applicable through Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

2. As a result of the offense alleged in Count 1, the defendant, **TRACEY A. DANIELS**, shall forfeit to the United States pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) made applicable through Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), any and all property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343, including but not limited to:

a. $32,100.00 in United States Currency and all interest and proceeds traceable thereto.

b. The government specifically provides notice of its intents to seek a personal money judgment against the defendant in the amount of the fraudulently-obtained proceeds.

3. If any of the property subject to forfeiture, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;

b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third person;

c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;

d. has been substantially diminished in value; or

e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty;

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p) to seek forfeiture or any other property of said defendant up to the value of the above forfeitable property.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C), made applicable through Title, 21, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

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New Orleans, Louisiana
February 28, 2013