"Who am I? Why am I here?" ~ Admiral James Stockdale

- John W. Taylor
- General Counsel for the Missouri Petroleum Storage Tank Insurance Fund (PSTIF)
- Subrogation: Show-Me the Money!!



The Three Disclaimers:

While I am a lawyer, I am not <u>YOUR</u> lawyer.

All opinions are my own, <u>NOT</u> PSTIF's

Laws vary. Consult local counsel.

What is Subrogation?

Subrogation = Substitution

Sources of subrogation rights:



Equity



Contract

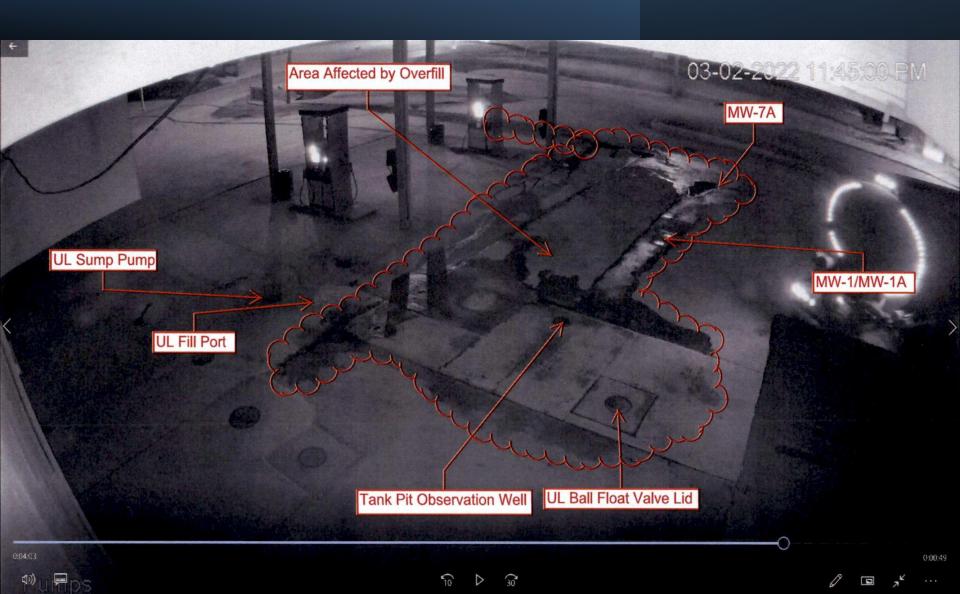


Statute (e.g., 25 Pa. Code § 977.40)



Section 977.40(a) – 'The Fund, after any payment, shall be subrogated to all of the rights of recovery...'

EXAMPLE: FOODMART



Foodmart's Damages

DAMAGES

• Environmental consultant...... \$ 15,288.37

HOW PAID FOR?

- Foodmart's Deductible (OOP)(\$10,000.00)
- Reimbursed by PSTIF..... (\$ 5,288.37)
- Total Paid.....(\$15,288.37)

COSTS RECOVERED FROM TRANSPORTER

- Transporter's Insurance
 Company......\$15,288.37
- *Allocated as follows:
 - o to PSTIF.....\$ 5,288.37
 - o to Foodmart.....\$10,000.00

Refreshing Foodmart's Coverage Limit

PSTIF Coverage Limits

\$1 million per occurrence / \$2 million aggregate

Policy Limits -	\$1	,000,000
Deductible -	\$	10,000
Available from PSTIF	\$	990,000
Foodmart Used	(\$	5,288)
Remaining Available from PSTIF	\$	984,712
+ PSTIF Recovered from		
Transporter	\$	5,288
Available from PSTIF	\$	990,000

EXAMPLE: PETE'S



Pete's Damages:

DAMAGES

• Environmental Consultant	. \$1	8,056.40
• Laboratory testing expenses	. \$	587.50
• Dispenser Repair	\$	6,613.18
• Lost Fuel	\$	929.70
• Total Damages	\$2	6,186.78

HOW PAID FOR?

• Pete's Deductible (OOP)

Tete 3 Deductible (OOI J	(71	.0,000.00)
Pete's Other OOP (PSTIF ineligible)	.(\$	7,542.88)
PSTIF Reimbursed	(\$	8,643.90)

(\$10,000,00)

• Total Paid.....(\$26,186.78)

COSTS RECOVERED FROM DRIVER

- Driver's Auto Liability Insurer.....\$25,000.00
- * Allocated as follows:

o to PSTIF\$	8,250.00
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o to Pete's.....\$16,750.00

WHY subrogate?

Reduce Moral Hazard: Liable party should bear costs Higher costs to
Liable Party →
Change behavior
→ Fewer
releases = better
environment

More \$\$\$\$ for cleanups = More cleanups performed

Customer satisfaction: return deductible, recover uninsured losses

HOW to subrogate?





PRACTICAL MATTERS

LEGAL MATTERS



Practical matters:



EVALUATION OF LOSS



PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE



DOCUMENT, DOCUMENT



NOTICE TO POTENTIALLY LIABLE PARTIES



EXPERTS



ASTM E2733 – STANDARD GUIDE



DEMAND LETTER(S)



FILING SUIT



Legal matters:

Proper parties to a subrogation claim?

Comparative Fault/Negligence – Pure or Modified?

Waivers of Subrogation?

Economic loss only or damage to other property?

Statutes of Limitations/Repose?

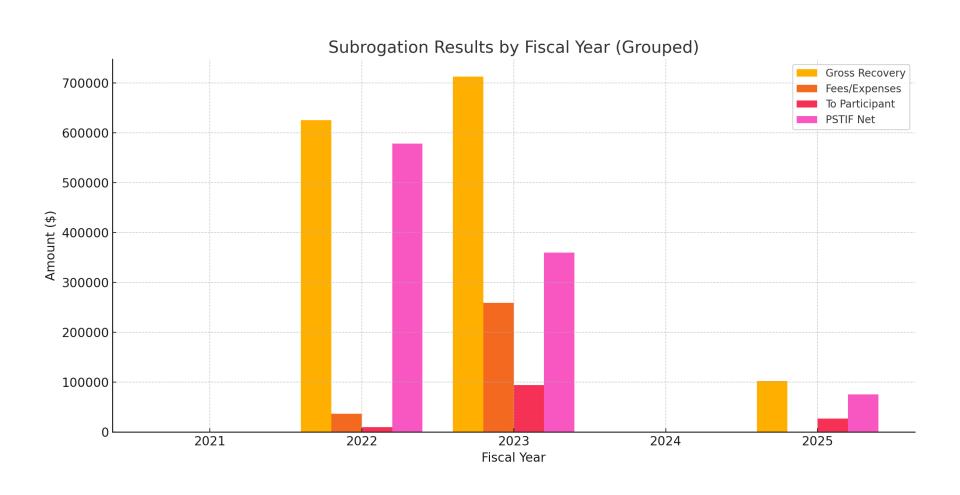
Made Whole Doctrine?

Spoliation of Evidence?

Joint Representation and Allocation Agreements?

Alternative to Subrogation?

Juice Worth the Squeeze?



Questions?

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