

Our Mission

When Brent Coon & Associates took on the case against British Petroleum regarding the Texas City Plant explosion, our goal was not just to recuperate losses for the families of those who were injured or killed in the accident. It was our mission to also ensure accidents like this did not happen in the future. Our attorneys worked tirelessly to get the thousands of documents showing BP's negligence released to the public. As a part of the settlement, all documents were released to the public and consolidated by BCA to serve as an example of the catastrophes that can occur when corporations ignore standard safety procedures.

To further assist in ensuring the safety of industrial workers, Brent Coon also authored the "Remember The 15" Bill, in honor of those 15 BP employees who lost their life due to the explosion. The bill is aimed at developing and implementing administrative rules which will help ensure that employers provide a safe and healthful work environment for all of their employees. Additionally, the bill will make petroleum and chemical refineries safer by:

1. Banning trailers and other temporary buildings from the site;
2. Ending the use of open air release systems, such as blow-down drums;
3. Giving state regulatory agencies direct involvement in inspections of petrochemical plants in Texas; and
4. Ensuring proper training for all personnel on the workplace, by requiring meaningful competency testing and certification for everyone on the site.

In addition, a total of \$30 million was to be donated to Texas A&M University Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center, University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Truman G. Blocker Adult Burn Unit, and the College of the Mainland, in Texas City, in the memory of the 15 victims. BP would also match up to \$2 million each for any donations made in the ensuing six months to Texas A&M, UTMB or College of the Mainland, a potential \$6 million in additional donations. Mr. Coon and Eva Rowe, the daughter of James and Linda Rowe, who were killed in the explosion, both donated \$100,000 to kick off the matching funds program.

Also, a \$1 million donation was made to Eva's parents' favorite charity, the Cancer Center at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. And a \$1 million donation was made to the Hornbeck, Louisiana school system in the memory of Mrs. Rowe. Mrs. Rowe was a teacher in the Head Start education program in the Hornbeck school system.