

# Icon Litigation Group

Confidential Attorney-Client Communication

July 16, 2004



## Client Newsletter



### CLAIMS OFFICE OPENS MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2004

Over the past five (5) years, each of us has had moments when we doubted this day would ever come, but we are thrilled to report that the Claims Office will open on Monday, August 2, 2004. The last day we will accept claims there is Friday, September 10, 2004. The purpose of this newsletter is to give you important information regarding how to make a claim.

Even though you may have completed Client Questionnaires and provided us with information about your losses before or during the trial, that information was for general litigation purposes only. **You cannot rely on the information you previously gave us as your claim.** You **MUST** complete and sign, and have a notarized **Proof of Claim Form** filed to make a claim. To assert a claim you must go to the Claims Office.

### CLAIMS OFFICE ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER

Our Claims Office is located at **839 W. Landry Street in Opelousas**. It will be staffed with an attorney, notary and several paralegals Monday through Friday. Appointments will be scheduled from 8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The toll-free telephone number for the Claims Office is **1-866-942-3634**.

You will be interviewed according to appointment times so you must call ahead to schedule an appointment. The appointments should last approximately 60 minutes. Please do not come to the office without a prearranged appointment time. If you just “drop in”, you may have a very lengthy wait before you can meet with one of our paralegals. The length of the interview will depend on the type of claim you make and the completeness of your documentation.

At the scheduled appointment time, you will work one-on-one with a paralegal to complete and sign the Claim Form that will be submitted to the Special Master. A Notary Public will be there to notarize your signature. The purpose of the Claim Form is to provide the Special Master with any and all relevant information concerning your losses due to ICON. From the information he receives from all Claim Forms, he will make a determination on how the settlement money will be distributed. It is critical to have all information and documentation on hand for your appointment. As we hope that each class member will only have to make one visit to the Claims Office to complete the Claim Form, we ask that you come fully prepared to discuss your losses and bring all backup documentation to prove the losses.

### DOCUMENTS TO BRING

The Special Master requires that each class member bring, at a minimum, the following documents or information:

1. The Social Security Number or Federal Tax ID Number for any person or business making a claim. Any amounts awarded will be reported to the IRS.
2. If the person or business making a claim has declared bankruptcy, the name, address and phone number of the bankruptcy trustee.
3. Income tax returns for the person or business claiming crawfish losses from 1995 through 2003.

4. Farm Service Agency (FSA) field map **for each field for each year** on which a loss is claimed.
5. If a field was tested for the presence of ICON or its metabolites, a copy of the testing results.
6. Historical information on the number of acres farmed from 1995 through 1998.
7. Historical information on the number of pounds per acre of crawfish harvested for 1995 through 1998.
8. **For each year and for each field** for which there is a claim for loss of crawfish due to ICON, crawfish production records, crawfish sales records, lease for the acreage, receipts for equipment, baits, traps, other crawfish expenses, etc.
9. If a landowner has a sharecropping arrangement on fields claiming a loss of crawfish due to ICON, a landowner must bring title to the crawfish acres, lease with crawfish farmers, amount of money actually collected on affected acreage, expected rental amount on affected acreage, and all evidence of financial arrangements with a crawfish farmer.
10. Any other documentation or any other type of loss claimed caused by ICON.

If you bring all the material requested to your scheduled meeting time, we hope that your claim will be completed at that meeting. Should you not have all your documentation, you will be asked to gather that information and make another appointment.

If no documentation exists for any of the above items, it obviously can't be brought to the Claims Office. The lack of documentation may play a role in the determination of the value of a claim. It is impossible for us to know to what extent, if any, the lack of paperwork to back up a claim will be for the Special Master. We suggest you make every effort to bring everything described above for your appointment.

You may begin to schedule your appointment now by calling 1-866-942-3634.

There will be ample parking for your convenience at the claims office.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any one of us.

List of Class Counsel:

Patrick C. Morrow/John Morrow.....	800-356-6776	Gano D. Lemoine/Vance R. Andrus .....	800-725-5000
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