FILED

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA Tampa Division

2007 MAY 31 AH 10: 41

MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA TAMPA, FLORIDA

ODYSSEY MARINE EXPLORATION, INC.

Plaintiff,

**CIVIL ACTION** 

VS.

Case No.: 8:07-CIV-614-T-24MAP

The UNIDENTIFIED, SHIPWRECKED VESSEL, its apparel, tackle, appurtenances and cargo located within center point coordinates: (to be provided to the Court under seal) in rem,

Defendant(s)		

## Verified Claim Of The Kingdom Of Spain

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to Supplemental Admiralty Rule C(6), the Odyssey Marine Exploration, Inc. by its undersigned counsel with express reservation of all rights of sovereign immunity, submits this claim with respect to the vessel(s) and/or contents, artifacts, appurtenances and/or cargo that are or may become the subject of this proceeding.

As stated in the attached Notice, published by the United States Department of State in the <u>Federal Register</u> on February 5, 2004, the Kingdom of Spain has not abandoned its ownership and other rights in sunken vessels of the Kingdom of Spain, in vessels sunk while in the service of the Kingdom of Spain, and in cargo or other property of the Kingdom of Spain on or in sunken vessels. All sovereign and other rights in such vessels, cargo, artifacts or other contents have been reserved.

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As further stated in the attached Notice, the Kingdom of Spain has not consented to and

does not authorize or permit salvage of such vessels or property without express authorization by

an authorized representative of the Kingdom of Spain.

By this Verified Claim, the Kingdom of Spain affirms and restates its sovereign and other

rights in its vessels and cargo, the non-abandonment of such property and its refusal of salvage

as to any and all such vessels and property by Claimant Odyssey Marine Exploration that are or

may be the subject of this proceeding and in which the Kingdom of Spain has an interest. The

Kingdom of Spain further affirms and restates that arrest, recovery or other unauthorized

disturbance or recovery by Odyssey Marine Exploration of property of the Kingdom of Spain is

not authorized and the Kingdom of Spain reserves all rights and remedies arising from such

activities.

Nothing herein constitutes or may be construed as any waiver or limitation upon the

sovereign immunity of the Kingdom of Spain and its property.

James A. Goold, Esq.

Covington & Burling LLP

1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20004

Dated: 30 May 2007

Counsel to the Kingdom of Spain

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email: jgoold@cov.com

District of Columbia Bar #430315

## Verification

I, Jorge Sobredo, am the Chief of the Cultural Office of the Embassy of Spain to the United States of America.

I have read the foregoing claim and know the contents thereof and declare under penalty of perjury that the same is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Signed this **20** day of May, 2007, in Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Jorge Sobredo

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I caused the attached Verified Claim to be served up on the attorney of record for Plaintiff, Allan von Spiegelfeld, by facsimile and Express Mail delivery to:

Allen von Spiegelfeld Fowler White Boggs Banker P.A. 501 East Kennedy Blvd., Suite 1700 Tampa, FL 33602

Dated: 30 May 2007

James A) Goold, Esq. Covington & Burling LLP 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004

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