



## MTBE Litigation Timeline

- **1979** MTBE first added to some of the U.S. gasoline supply
- 1980 First documented case of MTBE contamination in Rockaway, NJ; Oil industry learns of unique MTBE risk to environment
- mid Internal documents reveal that oil **1980's** industry engineers discover MTBE contamination risks and counsel companies against its use
- late EPA estimates 35% of underground gas 1980's storage tanks leak
  - 1986 Maine DEP scientists publish research on MTBE contamination risks
  - 1990 Clean Air Act passed by Congress requires non-specific oxygenates added to gasoline in Reformulated Gas States
  - 1995 Scott Summy files first MTBE contamination case representing Wilmington, NC residents against Conoco
  - 1997 Summy and legal team win favorable verdict for clients and successfully resolve first MTBE lawsuit

- 1998 Summy files water contamination suit on behalf of Communities for a Better Environment (California) and uncovers documents showing corporate knowledge of MTBE risks for the 1980s, which become basis for future product liability claims.
- 2000 City of Santa Monica forced to import 30% of drinking water following MTBE contamination of wells; hires Summy and Baron & Budd in suit against oil companies
- 2002 Baron & Budd reaches significant settlement on behalf of the City of Santa Monica
  - South Tahoe settles with major oil refiners and MTBE manufacturers
- 2003 Amendment to Energy Bill absolving oil companies of liability in MTBE claims is defeated in U.S. Senate by one vote
- 2005 Second oil industry attempt to get MTBE liability immunity from congress is also defeated.
- 2008 Baron & Budd's Scott Summy, as colead counsel for 153 plaintiffs from 17 states, reaches historic partial settlement with oil industry, including substantial monetary recovery as well as 30-year well protection plan





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