



## *Jimmy Carter Library & Museum* News Release

441 Freedom Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30307-1498  
404-865-7100

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**Contact: Tony Clark, 404-865-7109**

[Tony.Clark@NARA.gov](mailto:Tony.Clark@NARA.gov)

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### **Carter Library Director to Head Oil Spill Research**

#### *Jay Hakes to Take Temporary Assignment*

**Atlanta, GA.** – Jay Hakes, the Director of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library, has been named Research Director for President Obama’s National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling. Hakes will work on analysis of the role of offshore exploration and development and the potential for restoring the coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

“The oil spill has created a great dilemma for our country,” Hakes said. “I look forward to working with the commission to find ways to prevent this from happening again.”

The seven member Oil Spill Commission is co-chaired by former two-term Florida Governor and former U.S. Senator Bob Graham and former Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency William K. Reilly. The commission has been given six months to examine the oil spill and make a report to the President. Once the work of the commission is completed, Hakes will return to his position at the Carter Presidential Library. Carter Library Deputy Director David Stanhope will be acting director in the interim.

“Jay is a key member of the National Archives’ Presidential Library system,” said Archivist of the United States David Ferriero. “While I will miss Jay’s advice and counsel during the time he is away, I am proud that the Presidential Libraries have people of his caliber, who can step up and help the country during difficult situations such as this.”

Hakes has an extensive background in energy matters, including head of the Energy Information Administration during the Clinton Administration; the Director of the Governor’s Energy Office in Florida, and assistant to Secretary of Interior Cecil Andrus during the Carter Administration.

Hakes is also author of the highly praised book “A Declaration of Energy Independence,” which traces U.S. energy policy over six decades and outlines seven viable strategies to reduce oil imports. Former President Jimmy Carter said “Both a careful scholar and a realistic veteran of state and federal government, Hakes has written an important book that provides workable solutions to our nation’s energy problems.”

Formerly a professor of political science at the University of New Orleans, Hakes holds a Ph.D. from Duke University. He was named director of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library in 2000 and over the past three years has overseen the complete renovation of the Carter Presidential Museum. Earlier this month, the \$10 million redesign project has won two major national awards for its innovative use of technology. It’s extensive use of family-friendly interactive displays and exhibits, state-of-the-art museum lighting have made it a model for museums around the world.