UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA



IN RE:

PROPULSID

MDL NO. 1355

PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION:

SECTION: L

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL CASES

JUDGE FALLON

MAG. WELLS ROBY

JOINT REPORT NO. 31 OF PLAINTIFFS' AND DEFENDANTS' LIAISON COUNSEL

Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel (PLC) and Defendants' Liaison Counsel (DLC) jointly submit this Report No. 31.

I. <u>Update of Rolling Document Production and Electronic Document Production</u>

DLC has advised that there is no further scheduled document production. PLC continues to discuss this with the Plaintiffs' Discovery Team and will be discussing this further with DLC.

On May 19, 2004, DLC provided PLC with a draft of a Joint Motion and Order regarding the suspension of electronic preservation, as required by Pre-Trial Order No. 10. PLC reviewed the draft and on June 9, 2004 sent DLC a letter raising several issues. DLC is preparing a response. The parties will be prepared to discuss this further at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

II. <u>State Liaison Counsel</u> (Minute Entry, November 16, 2000)

The State Liaison Committee will report to the Court regarding the efforts of the Committee at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

III. Patient Profile Form and Authorization

As of June 17, 2004 defendants have received 3,132 PPFs, 837 are overdue, and 17 will

become due in thirty days.

DLC has agreed to PLC's request that motions to dismiss for failure to provide a PPF be halted during the period in which claimants may opt in to the MDL 1355 settlement.

IV. Service List of Attorneys

The parties will present the Court with the most current Master List of all Counsel, which will contain, where available, e-mail addresses.

V. <u>Motion on Class Certification.</u>

The PLC has not yet filed the revised Motion for Class Certification. The parties will be prepared to discuss this further at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status.

VI. Plaintiffs' and Defendants' Respective Requests for Production of Documents

On May 20, 2004, the parties submitted the group of documents that were subject to PLC's 803(6) challenge, along with each parties' comments as to the same, to the Court. On May 28, 2004, the Court issued its ruling and concluded that whether or not the documents are admissible as business records is properly determined by the trial court, not the MDL transferee court, thus the Court declined to rule on the documents. This issue may be removed from the Joint Report.

On May 3, 2004, the parties submitted a Joint Motion for the Entry of Pre-Trial Order No. 20, which provides for the use of electronic data preserved by Janssen Pharmaceutica's sales force. On May 10, 2004, the Court entered such Order. This issue may be removed from the Joint Report.

VII. Trust Account

Since last month's Status Conference, on May 18, 2004 and May 24, 2004, Defendants made deposits of settlement funds into the Court's Registry.

VIII. Mediation

No additional mediations have taken place since the last month's Status Conference. The parties will be prepared to discuss this further at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

IX. Trial Schedule

On June 10, 2004 DLC furnished PLC with an updated list of state court trials scheduled this year.

X. Pharmacy Indemnity Agreements

DLC continues to produce copies of all MDL pharmacy indemnity agreements which Defendants have executed to PLC. DLC will continue to furnish such agreements, if any, as they are executed.

XI. MDL Mediation and Resolution Program

The parties are finalizing the Claims Form and Enrollment Forms to be uploaded to the Court's website and anticipate they will have them finalized by the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference. The parties have selected Deutsche Bank to hold the money from the Settlement and Administrative Funds. The parties have obtained several quotes for office space and are communicating regarding the lease of such space. The parties have conducted several interviews, and more are scheduled, for the Administrator position who will assist Special Master, Pat Juneau, in administering the Program.

In addition, the parties have identified the list of proposed medical panel members. Defendants have objected to one of the PSC's nominees. The PSC is reviewing Defendants' list and will advise Defendants of any objection.

The parties will be prepared to discuss these issues further at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

XII. Global Application of Daubert

The parties have had no further discussions regarding this matter and the matter is on hold pending the outcome of the MDL's Settlement Program.

XIII. Motions to Withdraw as Counsel of Record

The parties are in receipt of a Motion to Withdraw as Counsel of Record, filed by plaintiff's counsel, Carl McAfee, in the matter of *Thelma Johnson v. Johnson & Johnson, et al*, #00-3495. PLC has no position on such Motions. As with other Motions to Withdraw, Defendants request that the Court reserve its ruling on such Motion pending the outcome of the MDL's Settlement Program.

XIV. <u>Stipulation and Pre-Trial Order Providing for the Use at Trial of Depositions</u> in State or Federal Courts

The parties have discussed and exchanged comments regarding a Stipulation concerning the use of depositions in MDL matters. The parties will be prepared to discuss this further at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

XV. CIS NED-32 Deposition

The 30(B)(6) deposition regarding the final version of CIS NED-32 has been canceled, without prejudice, to be rescheduled at a later date.

XVI. Motion for Summary Judgment

PLC has delayed the filing with the court of a Motion for Summary Judgment regarding Johnson & Johnson's liability. The parties will be prepared to discuss this further at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

XVII. Motion to Dismiss for Failure to Exhaust Administrative Claims and Notice and Order to Substitute the United States as a Defendant - (Linda Hales, et al v. Johnson & Johnson, et al, #03-2419)

The Court ordered the U.S. to be substituted as a defendant and the Court granted the Motion

to Dismiss. This matter may be removed from the Agenda.

XVIII. Stipulation and Order Appointing Patrick Juneau as Special Master in Compliance with Rule 53

The parties are finalizing the Stipulation and Order providing for the appointment of Special Master, Patrick Juneau, in compliance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 53. On June 22, 2004, PLC forwarded to DLC comments regarding the proposed Stipulation and Order. PLC is awaiting a response. The parties will present the Stipulation and Order to the Court at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

NEW ITEMS

XIX. Walgreen Louisiana Company, Inc.'s Motion for Summary Judgment (Janet Beo v. Stephanie Newport, et al, #01-0600)

On May 5, 2004, Walgreen Louisiana Company, Inc. filed a Motion for Summary Judgment against Janssen Pharmaceutica Inc., Johnson & Johnson and Middlesex Assurance Company, Ltd. and claimed that it was entitled to an unqualified indemnity and a defense by Defendants. PLC has no position on this Motion. Defendants request that the Court reserve its ruling on such Motion pending the outcome of the MDL's Settlement Program.

If the Court chooses to hear the Motion, Defendants request that the Court re-set the hearing until next month's Status Conference so that Defendants may prepare their opposition.

The parties will be prepared to discuss this at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

XX. Motions for Summary Judgment as to Doctor Defendants, Stephen A. Tramill, M.D., and Paul Varela, M.D. (Robert R. Boykin v. Johnson & Johnson, #03-2541; Faye Aldridge v. Johnson & Johnson, #03-3501)

Doctor defendants, Stephen A. Tramill, M.D. and Paul Varela, M.D., filed Motions for Summary Judgment in the aforementioned cases as to their liability. PLC has no position on these Motions. Defendants request that the Court reserve its ruling on such Motions pending the outcome

of the MDL's Settlement Program.

If the Court chooses to hear the Motions, Defendants request that the Court re-set the hearing until next month's Status Conference so that Defendants may respond. The parties will be prepared to discuss this at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

XXI. Pre-Trial Order listing MDL Plaintiffs

DLC has submitted a draft Motion and Order to PLC that will identify the list of individuals whose cases are pending in the MDL for purposes of the MDL Mediation and Resolution Program.

PLC and DLC are communicating regarding this issue. The parties will be prepared to discuss the matter further at the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

A proposed Agenda for the June 25, 2004 Monthly Status Conference is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Joint Report No. 31 of Plaintiffs' and Defendants' Liaison Counsel was served on Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel by hand and e-mail and by e-service to all parties by uploading same to Verilaw, on this day of June, 2004.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

MDL NO. 1335

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PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

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JUDGE FALLON MAG. WELLS ROBY

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Monthly Status Conference June 25, 2004 - 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA

Current Matters:

- 1. Update of Rolling Document Production and Electronic Document Production
- 2. State Liaison Counsel
- 3. Patient Profile Form and Authorization
- 4. Service List of Attorneys
- 5. Motion on Class Certification
- 6. Plaintiffs' and Defendants' Respective Requests for Production of Documents
- 7. Trust Account
- 8. Mediation
- 9. Trial Schedule
- 10. Pharmacy Indemnity Agreements
- 11. MDL Mediation and Resolution Program

- 12. Global Application of Daubert
- 13. Motions to Withdraw as Counsel of Record
- 14. Stipulation and Pre-Trial Order Providing for the Use at Trial of Depositions in State or Federal Courts
- 15. CIS NED-32 Deposition
- 16. Motion for Summary Judgment
- 17. Motion to Dismiss for Failure to Exhaust Administrative Claims and Notice and Order to Substitute the United States as a Defendant (*Linda Hales, et al v. Johnson & Johnson, et al*, #03-2419)
- 18. Stipulation and Order Appointment Patrick Juneau as Special Master in Compliance with Rule 53
- 19. Walgreen's Motion for Summary Judgment
- 20. Aldridge and Cooley Motions for Summary Judgment as to Doctor Defendants
- 21. Pre-Trial Order Listing MDL Plaintiffs