

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. 32 OF PLAINTIFFS' AND DEFENDANTS' LIAISON COUNSEL

Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel (PLC) and Defendants' Liaison Counsel (DLC) jointly submit this Report No. 32.

I. Update of Rolling Document Production and Electronic Document Production

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. The PLC and DLC have communicated and discussed the draft of the Joint Motion and Order. On July 27, 2004, Ken Conour, Jeff Hewitt and Monique Garsaud, on behalf of Defendants, participated in a telephone

meet and confer with Leonard Davis, David Buchanan and Barbara Frederiksen to discuss the draft Joint Motion and Order. The parties have agreed to conduct additional meet and confers. The parties will be prepared to discuss this further at the August 6, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

II. State Liaison Counsel (Minute Entry, November 16, 2000)

The State Liaison Committee will report to the Court regarding the efforts of the Committee at the August 6, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

III. Patient Profile Form and Authorization

As of August 3, 2004, defendants have received 3131 PPFs, 857 are overdue, and 0 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. Motion on Class Certification.

The PLC has not yet filed the revised Motion for Class Certification. The parties will be prepared to discuss this further at the August 6, 2004 Monthly Status.

VI. Trust Account

Since last month's Status Conference, Defendants have made no deposits of settlement funds into the Court's Registry.

VII. 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 August 6, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

VIII. <u>Trial Schedule</u>

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

IX. 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.

X. MDL Mediation and Resolution Program

The parties finalized the Claims Form and Enrollment Forms and they have been uploaded to the Court's website. The parties have selected Daniel Clavier to assist in the accounting/administrative aspects of the MDL Mediation and Resolution Program. The parties are preparing a Joint Motion/Order for the appointment of Mr. Clavier as the Court Appointed Disbursing Agent.

Mr. Clavier has communicated with representatives of Deutsche Bank, Special Master Pat Juneau, as well as PLC and DLC to assist in securing a lease for office space, hiring personnel and other matters relating to the Program. The lease for an office space has been negotiated. Two (2) individuals have been made offers for administrative positions to assist Special Master Pat Juneau in administering the Program.

In addition, the parties have reviewed the lists of proposed medical panel members proposed by each side. Defendants have objected to one of the PSC's nominees. PLC has objected to Defendants' nominees. PLC and DLC have met and conferred and will be prepared to discuss this further at the August 6, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

Enrollment Forms have begun to be served on the PSC and defense counsel. At the present time, PSC attorneys have begun to review proposed Enrollment Forms as to their clients. Those Enrollment Forms include approximately 5000 persons who are under tolling agreements, approximately 2000 plaintiffs in the *Achord* suit (the suit filed in this Court on behalf of Louisiana resident plaintiffs which serves as a substitute for a tolling agreement as to them) and approximately 50 plaintiffs in suits currently pending in this Court. The parties expect that Enrollment Forms will begin to arrive in greater numbers in the weeks ahead.

The parties will be prepared to discuss these issues further at the August 6, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

XI. 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.

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

The parties have further discussed the Stipulation concerning the use of depositions in MDL matters. The parties will be prepared to discuss this further at the August 6, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

XIII. 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.

XIV. 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 August 6, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

XV. <u>Stipulation and Order Appointing Patrick Juneau as Special Master in Compliance with Rule 53</u>

The parties finalized the Stipulation and Order providing for the appointment of Special Master, Patrick Juneau, in compliance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 53 and the Order was entered on June 29, 2004. This item may be removed from the Agenda.

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

The Court has agreed to defer ruling on this Motion until enrollment figures have been

determined.

XVII. Motions for Summary Judgment as to Doctor Defendant, Stephen A. Tramill,

M.D. (Robert R. Boykin v. Johnson & Johnson, #03-2541)

DLC has been notified that Dr. Tramill has not secured a dismissal from plaintiff's attorney

as requested. Counsel for Dr. Tramill has requested that if the enrollment figures are not met within

60 days that the Court re-visit his request for a dismissal. DLC does not object, and will work with

Dr. Tramill's counsel, if necessary, on correcting the Statement of Undisputed Facts. PLC has no

position on the Motion.

XVIII. Pre-Trial Order listing MDL Plaintiffs

On July 20, 2004, defendants filed a Motion and Order Identifying Individuals Whose Cases

are Pending in the MDL. DLC advises that this motion was filed for purposes of the MDL

Mediation and Resolution Program. PLC and DLC are communicating regarding this motion and

have agreed to postpone the hearing date on the motion. The parties will be prepared to discuss the

matter further at the August 6, 2004 Monthly Status Conference.

A proposed Agenda for the August 6, 2004 Monthly Status Conference is attached.

Respectfully submitted

RUSS M. HERMAN, T.A. (La. Bar #6819)

LEONARD A DAVIS, #14190

JAMES C. KLICK, #7451

HERMAN, MATHIS, CASEY, KITCHENS & GEREL, LLP

820 O'Keefe Avenue

New Orleans, Louisiana 70113

Phone: (504) 581-4892; Fax: (504) 561-6024 LIAISON COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFFS

6

DANIEL BECNEL, JR. 106 W. Seventh Street Reserve, LA 70084-0508 Phone: (504) 536-1186 Fax: (504) 536-6445

JAMES DUGAN 3600 North Hullen Street Metairie, LA 70002 Phone: (504) 456-8600 Fax: (504) 456-8624

ARNOLD LEVIN 510 Walnut Street, Suite 500 Philadelphia, PA 19106-3875 Phone: (215) 592-1500 Fax: (215) 592-4663

STEPHEN B. MURRAY 909 Poydras Street, Suite 2550 New Orleans, LA 70112 Phone: (504) 525-8100 Fax: (504) 584-5249 J. MICHAEL PAPANTONIO 316 S. Baylen Street, Suite 600 P.O. Box 12308 Pensacola, FL 32581 Phone: (850) 435-7000 Fax: (850) 435-7020

CHRISTOPHER A. SEEGER One William Street New York, NY 10004 Phone: (212) 584-0700 Fax: (212) 584-0799

BOB F. WRIGHT 556 Jefferson Street, Suite 500 Lafayette, LA 70502-3668 Phone: (337) 233-3033 Fax: (337) 232-8213

CHARLES S. ZIMMERMAN 651 Nicollet Mall Suite 501 Minneapolis, MN 55402 Phone: (612) 341-0400 Fax: (612) 341-0844

PLAINTIFFS' STEERING COMMITTEE

JAMES B. IRWIN, T.A. (La. Bar No. 7172)

QUENTIN F. URQUHART, JR. (La. Bar No. 14475)

KIM E. MOORE (La. Bar No. 18653)

MONIQUE M. GARSAUD (La. Bar. No. 25393) IRWIN FRITCHIE URQUHART & MOORE, LLC

400 Poydras Street, Suite 2700 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Phone: (504) 310-2100 Fax: (504) 310-2101

LIAISON COUNSEL FOR Defendants,

JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA INC. AND JOHNSON & JOHNSON

DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP THOMAS F. CAMPION SUSAN M. SHARKO 500 Campus Drive Florham Park, NJ 07932-1047

Phone: (973) 549-7300 Fax: (973) 360-9831

-and-

DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH, LLP CHARLES F. PREUSS DONALD F. ZIMMER, JR. 50 Fremont Street, 20th Floor San Francisco, CA 94105-2235

Phone: (415) 591-7500 Fax: (415) 591-7510

CO-LEAD COUNSEL FOR Defendants, JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA INC. AND JOHNSON & JOHNSON

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Joint Report No. 32 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 446 day of August, 2004.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

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Monthly Status Conference August 6, 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. Trust Account
- 7. Mediation
- 8. Trial Schedule
- 9. Pharmacy Indemnity Agreements
- 10. MDL Mediation and Resolution Program
- 11. Global Application of Daubert
- 12. Stipulation and Pre-Trial Order Providing for the Use at Trial of Depositions in

State or Federal Courts

- 13. CIS NED-32 Deposition
- 14. Motion for Summary Judgment
- 15. Stipulation and Order Appointment Patrick Juneau as Special Master in Compliance with Rule 53
- 16. Walgreen's Motion for Summary Judgment
- 17. Aldridge and Cooley Motions for Summary Judgment as to Doctor Defendants
- 18. Pre-Trial Order Listing MDL Plaintiffs