MINUTE ENTRY FALLON, J. MARCH 27, 2008

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

	:	MDL NO. 1355
IN RE: PROPULSID	:	
PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION	:	SECTION "L"
	:	
	:	JUDGE FALLON
	:	

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL CASES

A monthly status conference was held on this date by telephone in the Chambers of Judge Eldon E. Fallon. At the conference, counsel reported to the Court on the topics set forth in Joint Report No. 63 of Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel (PLC) and Defendants' Liaison Counsel (DLC).

I. <u>State Liaison Counsel/MDL Resolution Program II</u>

The enrollment requirements have been met for the State Settlement Program (Propulsid

II). Escrow Agreements have been executed and Defendants have funded the various funds.

The parties have set the deadlines for submission of enrollment and claims forms and notices

have been posted on the Court's website at http://propulsid.laed.uscourts.gov/.

II. Trust Account

No deposits have been made into the Trust Account since the last status conference.

III. MDL Mediation and Resolution Program

The deadline for enrollment and the submission of claims forms for the First MDL Resolution Program has expired. The Special Master reports that there are over 15,000 claimants who enrolled, but did not submit claims forms. The DLC has advised that it will seek dismissal of claimants and is finalizing a motion in this regard. The Special Master reports that 1,729 Tier I, II, and III claims have been submitted to the medical panel for review. Of these 1,729 claims, 1,503 have been treated on an expedited basis. Twelve (12) of the submitted tiered claims have been found eligible by the panel, and the Special Master has made those awards. Two Hundred ninety-two (292) submitted claims are still in the review process, with 289 of these considered expedited by the Defendants.

The weekly telephone conference with the Special Master, PLC, DLC and SLC continues to take place to discuss issues regarding the Resolution Program.

The parties also informed the Court that they have reached an agreement which will allow the twelve claimants that have been found eligible to date to receive 100% of their awards. The parties will be submitting the details of this agreement to the Court for approval.

IV. Emergency Motion for Distribution of Attorney's Fees

On November 23, 2005, the Court issued an Order and Reasons regarding the Emergency Motion for Distribution of Attorney's Fees with full reservation of rights to all attorneys who may claim any right to common fees and expense reimbursement. On December 5, 2005, Daniel E. Becnel filed a Motion to Reconsider the Motion. The matter has been reset for hearing on September 24, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. On March 2, 2006 Dumas & Associates Law Corporation filed a Motion for Common Benefit Fees and Expenses Reimbursements. On April 4, 2006, the PLC filed a response to the motion. A hearing date has not been set.

V. <u>Next Status Conference</u>

The next status conference will be held by telephone on May 15, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. Dialin information for participation will be posted on the Propulsid MDL website prior to the conference.

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