MINUTE ENTRY FALLON, J. **JUNE 13, 2006**

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 pretrial status conference was held on this date via telephone in the Chambers of Judge Eldon E. Fallon. In attendance for Plaintiffs were Russ Herman, Leonard Davis, Arnold Levin, Barry Hill, Dawn Barrios, Richard Arsenault, Daniel Becnel, Silas Mitchell, and Carol Thomas. In attendance for the Defendants were James Irwin, Chuck Preuss, Thomas Campion, and Monique Garsaud. Special Master Patrick Juneau also attended the conference. At the conference, counsel reported to the Court on the topics set forth in Joint Report No. 48 of Plaintiffs' and Defendants' Liaison Counsel.

State Liaison Counsel/MDL Resolution Program II I.

Presently, the deadline for enrollment in the Propulsid II settlement program is June 17, 2006. There are currently about 2,600 enrollees. State Liaison Counsel and Defendants' Liaison Counsel are cautiously optimistic about meeting the required enrollment levels for the program.

II. Trust Account

There has been no activity on this matter since the last status conference

III. Trial Schedule

Currently, one case is set for trial in West Virginia in June 2006: Gregory A. Gellner v.

Johnson & Johnson Co., et al. However, counsel reported that the case is expected to be adjourned.

IV. MDL Mediation and Resolution Program

Special Master Patrick Juneau reported to the Court on the status of the settlement programs. Currently, over 20,000 claimants have enrolled in the program. However, many of these claims contain various deficiencies which have delayed their submission to the defense for briefing and delayed review by the Medical Panel. The Special Master continues to inform Plaintiffs' counsel regarding the deficiencies of various claims as they arise. Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel is working to develop ways to assist counsel in correcting deficient claims so that they may be processed.

V. Pro se Plaintiffs

Robert Johnston has been appointed Curator for Pro Se Plaintiffs, and he received orientation from liaison counsel yesterday regarding his duties as curator. Liaison counsel have proposed sending a mailing to pro se plaintiffs that will detail the plaintiffs' rights and options in the litigation from this point forward. They are working with the Curator to ensure that due process requirements are met for such a mailing.

Proposed Order Designating Settlement Awards as Confidential VI.

This order has been signed, and the item is removed from the agenda.

VII. Emergency Motion for Distribution of Attorney's Fees

After conferring with the PSC and Daniel Becnel, the Court continued Mr. Becnel's Motion for Reconsideration of the Court's ruling on emergency distribution of attorney's fees to September 27, 2006. Counsel have jointly requested that the Court mediate this issue, and the Court will discuss this matter further with counsel.

On March 2, 2006, Dumas & Associates filed a Motion for Common Benefit Fees and Expenses Reimbursements. At the May 12, 2006 monthly status conference, Mr. Dumas orally informed the Court that the law firm wishes to defer this motion until the final fee hearing in this matter. In the May 12, 2006 Minute Entry, the Court denied the motion as premature on that basis.

Walgreens and Stephanie Newport's Motion for Reconsideration

This issue has been resolved and will be removed from the agenda.

IX. Medical Panel Presentation

A second orientation for new members of the Medical Panel will be held on June 29, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. in Judge Fallon's Courtroom.

X. **Ingram Administrative Claims**

Counsel reported that this issue has been resolved.

XI. Next Pretrial Status Conference

The next status conference shall be held on Thursday, August 10, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. This conference shall be held via telephone. The Court shall establish a toll-free number for dial-in by the parties, and the number shall be distributed and posted on the Court's Web site. The Court shall call liaison counsel at 9:30 a.m. prior to the conference.