MINUTE ENTRY FALLON, J. **AUGUST 23, 2007**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

MDL NO. 1355

IN RE: PROPULSID

PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

SECTION "L"

JUDGE FALLON

THIS 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. 57 of Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel (PLC) and Defendants' Liaison Counsel (DLC).

I. State Liaison Counsel/MDL Resolution Program II

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 notices will be posted on the Court's website.

II. Trust Account

There has been one deposit in 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 (except those granted extensions of time) and is discussing the issue further with the PSC.

The Special Master reported that 891 Tier I, II, and III claims have been submitted to the medical panel for review. Of these 891 claims, 690 have been treated on an expedited basis. Six (6) of the submitted tiered claims have been found eligible by the panel, and the Special Master has made those awards. Thirty-seven (37) submitted claims are still in the review process, with 35 of these considered expedited by the Defendants. Eight hundred fort-eight submitted claims have been found not eligible.

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

IV. *Pro se* Plaintiffs

On January 3, 2007, the Court held a hearing on the Defendants' Motion to Show Cause regarding pro se plaintiffs who have not enrolled in the Settlement Program, at which time the Court ordered the non-enrolled pro se plaintiffs dismissed. Defendants have submitted a list of pro se plaintiffs to be dismissed to the SLC and PLC for final review, which appears to contain an accurate list of pro se plaintiffs subject to the motion. The Defendants are working with the Court to submit the final list for an Order of dismissal.

V. 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. Bechnel filed a Motion to Reconsider the Motion. The matter has been reset for hearing on August 29, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

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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.

VI. Liason's Counsel Motion for Equitable Administration of the Settlement Agreement

On February 7, 2007, the PLC filed a sealed Motion for Equitable Administration of the Settlement Agreement, which Defendants opposed, regarding modification of the process in which claims are approved or denied by the medical panel. This matter was set for hearing on April 4, 207, but was continued without date. Defendants filed a sealed Motion for Judicial Declaration regarding Propulsid II on March 13, 2006, which was also continued without date. The parties have withdrawn their motions with a reservation of rights to reassert their positions, if necessary.

VII. Supplemental Agreement re: Propulsid I and II

The parties have reached an agreement, which is set forth in a "Supplemental Agreement re Propulsid 1 and 2," that is to be posted on the Court's website.

VIII. Next Status Conference

The next status conference will be held by telephone on September 27, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. Dial-in information for participation will be posted on the Propulsid MDL website prior to the conference.