

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

STATUS CONFERENCE

In Re: Fluoroquinolone Products Liability
Litigation,

Plaintiff,

v.

Defendant

COURT MINUTES

BEFORE: John R. Tunheim
Chief U.S. District Judge

Case No: 15-2642 JRT

Date: May 17, 2021

Deputy: Heather Arent

Court Reporter: Kristine Mousseau

Time Commenced: 3:41 p.m.

Time Concluded: 3:53 p.m.

Time in Court: 12 minutes

Hearing on: Status Conference

I. Johnson & Johnson Defendants Update

Counsel for Johnson & Johnson stated that there were around twenty-four (24) cases remaining against Johnson & Johnson, eight (8) of which were pro se. Counsel stated that one pro se plaintiff joined the status conference and that she would be speaking with another after the status conference. Counsel is working to resolve all remaining cases. Specifically, Counsel noted that there are five (5) cases represented by the same firm among those remaining that will be looked into; four (4) cases in which the plaintiffs were ordered to update their Plaintiff's Fact Sheets but have not done so, and Johnson & Johnson will move to dismiss those cases; two (2) cases in which the plaintiffs are no longer represented by counsel but the attorneys have not withdrawn; and one (1) plaintiff whose attorney has been disbarred.

II. Bayer Defendants Update

Counsel for Bayer stated that there are two (2) cases remaining against the Bayer and Merck Defendants. Counsel noted that in one of those cases, Butkiewicz, they have reached an agreement to resolve the case. The other remaining case, Jackson, was

brought into the MDL recently, over an objection at the JPML. Counsel indicated that they sent a copy of Pre-Trial Order 18 to the plaintiff, but have not yet heard back.

III. Pro Se Claimants Update

Plaintiffs' Counsel stated that the parties are working through the list of remaining claimants. One pro se Johnson & Johnson claimant, Mr. Wietzema, attended the status conference. Mr. Wietzema stated that he would like the case to be resolved quickly and to work directly with Ms. Van Steenburgh. Ms. Van Steenburgh stated that she and Mr. Wietzema have had several conversations in the past few weeks and that she will continue to be in touch with him to resolve his case.

IV. Motion for Correction of Common Payment Fund

Over one year ago Plaintiffs filed a motion to correct overpayment by a law firm which had paid into the common fund for settlements with the Johnson & Johnson Defendants, but the overpayment was greater than initially listed in the motion papers. Plaintiffs' Counsel indicated that a correction to the motion will be filed in the near future, but inquired as to the Court's preference for how to file the correction. The Court stated that a short supplemental motion is preferred.

V. Scheduling of Next Status Conference

The next status conference will be scheduled in late August 2021.

APPEARANCES BY VIDEOCONFERENCE:

Plaintiffs: Yvonne Flaherty, Russell Budd, Bill Robins

Defendants: Tracy Van Steenburgh, Andrew Solow, Michael Suffern, Lori Leskin

Pro Se: Darrell Wietzema

s/Heather Arent
Courtroom Deputy