SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: MIDDLESEX COUNTY

#### **ASBESTOS LITIGATION**

**Docket No:** L-4234-16 (AS)

ESTATE of KATHERINE AGRI

(Estate of Orin Agri),

Plaintiff(s),

VS.

ACE HARDWARE CORP., et al

Defendant(s).

**Civil Action** 

**CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER V** 

This matter coming in for a Case Management Conference before Special Master Agatha N. Dzikiewicz and the following parties on *March 20, 2019*:

| FIRM               | ATTORNEY             | CLIENT  |
|--------------------|----------------------|---|
| Lanier Law Firm    | Darron Berquist      | Plaintiff(s)                                  |
| Caruso Smith       | Alexandra Caruso     | CertainTeed                                   |
| DLA Piper          | Cory Sidelsky        | BASF Catalysts LLC                            |
| Gibbons PC         | Robert Brown         | Sherwin-Williams Co.                          |
| Goldberg Segalla   | H. Lockwood Miller   | Procter & Gamble                              |
| Goldfein & Joseph  | Madhurika Jeremiah   | Domco Products Texas Inc.                     |
| Kelley Jasons      | Angela Caliendo      | Forenta LP                                    |
| McCarter & English | Amanda M. Munsie     | Johnson & Johnson; Johnson & Johnson Consumer |
| McElroy Deutsch    | Joseph D. Rasnek     | Pfizer; PPG Architectural Finishes            |
| McGivney Kluger    | Joel Clark           | Whittaker Clark & Daniels                     |
| McGivney Kluger    | Thomas McNulty       | Homasote; DAP                                 |
| McGivney Kluger    | Jeffrey Kluger       | Ace Hardware; Graybar                         |
| O'Toole Scrivo     | Gary Van Lieu        | Vanderbilt Minerals                           |
| Rawle & Henderson  | Joshua Lichtenstein  | American Biltrite; Cyprus Amax Minerals       |
| Reilly McDevitt    | Karen Conte          | Benjamin Moore                                |
| Rivkin Radler      | Brian R. Ade         | Helen of Troy, Ltd.                           |
| Vasios Kelly       | Thomas J. Kelly, Jr. | Bird, Inc.                                    |

IT IS on this 25th day of March, 2019, effective from the conference date;

## ORDERED as follows:

Counsel receiving this Order through computerized electronic medium (E-Mail) shall be deemed by the court to have received a copy of the filed original court document. Any document served pursuant to this Order shall be deemed to be served by mail pursuant to *R*.1:5-2.

Any jurisdictional motions must be filed in accordance with the Court Rules or be waived.

Any *forum non conveniens* motions must be filed as soon as practicable; once sufficient discovery is conducted so that the motion may be properly brought.

## **DISCOVERY**

August 30, 2019 Fact discovery, including depositions, shall be completed by this date. Plaintiff's counsel shall

contact the Special Master within one week of this deadline if all fact discovery is not

completed.

August 30, 2019 Depositions of corporate representatives shall be completed by this date.

#### **EARLY SETTLEMENT**

February 28, 2020 Settlement demands shall be served on all counsel and the Special Master by this date.

# MEDICAL EXPERT REPORT

October 4, 2019 Plaintiff shall serve medical expert reports by this date.

October 4, 2019 Upon request by defense counsel, plaintiff is to arrange for the transfer of pathology specimens

and x-rays, if any, by this date.

December 6, 2019 Defendants shall identify its medical experts and serve medical reports, if any, by this date. In

addition, defendants shall notify plaintiff's counsel (as well as all counsel of record) of a

joinder in an expert medical defense by this date.

## **LIABILITY EXPERT REPORTS**

October 4, 2019 Plaintiff shall identify its liability experts and serve liability expert reports by this date or

waive any opportunity to rely on liability expert testimony.

December 6, 2019 Defendants shall identify its liability experts and serve liability expert reports, if any, by this

date or waive any opportunity to rely on liability expert testimony.

## SUMMARY JUDGMENT MOTION PRACTICE

October 4, 2019 Plaintiff's counsel shall advise, in writing, of intent not to oppose motions by this date.

January 17, 2020 Summary judgment motions shall be filed no later than this date.

February 14, 2020 Last return date for summary judgment motions.

## **ECONOMIST EXPERT REPORTS**

October 4, 2019 Plaintiff shall identify its expert economists and serve expert economist report(s), if any, by

this date or waive any opportunity to rely on economic expert testimony.

December 6, 2019 Defendants shall identify its expert economists and serve expert economist report(s), if any,

by this date or waive any opportunity to rely on economic expert testimony.

#### **EXPERT DEPOSITIONS**

March 30, 2020 Expert depositions shall be completed by this date. To the extent that plaintiff and defendant

generic experts have been deposed before, the parties seeking that deposition in this case must

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file an application before the Special Master and demonstrate the necessity for that deposition. To the extent possible, documents requested in a deposition notice directed to an expert shall be produced three days in advance of the expert deposition. The expert shall not be required to produce documents that are readily accessible in the public domain.

## PRE-TRIAL AND TRIAL

September 19, 2019 The settlement conference previously scheduled on this date is **cancelled**.

March 20, 2020 @ 10:00am Settlement conference. All defense counsel shall appear with authority to negotiate

settlement and have a representative authorized to negotiate settlement available by phone. Any request to be excused from the settlement conference shall be made to

the Special Master no later than 4:00pm of the day prior to the conference.

April 27, 2020 Trial Date. (The October 28, 2019 trial is adjourned to this date.)

Plaintiff(s) counsel shall serve a copy of this Order upon any additional counsel immediately upon receipt.

/s/ Ana C. Víscomí
ANA C. VISCOMI, J.S.C.

cc: Clerk, Mass Tort

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