SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: MIDDLESEX COUNTY

## **ASBESTOS LITIGATION**

ESTATE of THOMAS PAFLITZKO,

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

AMERICAN OPTICAL CO.

Defendant(s).

Docket No: L-3378-14 (AS)

## **Civil Action**

## CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER I

This matter coming in for a Case Management Conference before Special Master Agatha N. Dzikiewicz and the following parties on *February 4, 2016*:

FIRM	ATTORNEY	CLIENT
Napoli Shkolnik	Kardon Stolzman	Plaintiff(s)
Caruso Smith	Stacey Lee Trien	Union Carbide
Gibbons	Ethan Stein	Honeywell Int'l. Inc.
Hawkins Parnell	Roy Viola	Abex
Jones Law Office	Richard V. Jones	Metropolitan Life
Kent McBride	David Rutkowski	Charles Wagner
Lynch Daskal	Kate Romick	Georgia Pacific
Margolis Edelstein	Dawn Dezii	John Crane Inc.
Maron Marvel	Carolyn Willimas	Foseco Inc.
McElroy Deutsch	Joseph D. Rasnek	ArvinMeritor
Pascarella DiVita	Brad Bishop	Ingersoll Rand; Trane
Salmon Ricchezza	John Dugan	Beazer East, Inc.; Universal Refractories

IT IS on this 5th day of February, 2016, 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.

Defense counsel shall notify plaintiff's counsel within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order if their client was incorrectly named in the Complaint. Counsel may be barred from raising this defense at a later time for failure to comply.

# **DISCOVERY**

May 20, 2016	Plaintiff shall serve answers to standard interrogatories, provide the information required by paragraph VII.B.1.a. of the General Order, and shall advise defendants whether the plaintiff is available for deposition and, if not, the reasons therefore by this date.
May 20, 2016	Plaintiff shall serve answers to wrongful death interrogatories by this date.

June 3, 2016 Defendants shall serve answers to standard interrogatories by this date.

July 1, 2016	Plaintiff shall propound supplemental interrogatories and document requests by this date.
August 1, 2016	Defendants shall serve answers to supplemental interrogatories and document requests by this date.
July 1, 2016	Defendants shall propound supplemental interrogatories and document requests by this date.
August 1, 2016	Plaintiff shall serve answers to supplemental interrogatories and document requests by this date.
October 31, 2016	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.
November 30, 2016	Depositions of corporate representatives shall be completed by this date.

# **EARLY SETTLEMENT**

Settlement demands shall be served on all counsel and the Special Master by this date. December 16, 2016

# SUMMARY JUDGMENT MOTION PRACTICE

December 16, 2016	Plaintiff's counsel shall advise, in writing, of intent not to oppose motions by this date.
January 6, 2017	Summary judgment motions shall be filed no later than this date.
February 3, 2017	Last return date for summary judgment motions.

# MEDICAL DEFENSE

MEDICAL DEFENSI	
May 20, 2016	Plaintiff shall serve executed medical authorizations (along with answers to interrogatories) by this date.
May 20, 2016	Plaintiff shall serve a diagnostic medical report and any medical records in plaintiff's possession by this date.
November 30, 2016	Plaintiff shall serve medical expert reports by this date.
November 30, 2016	Upon request by defense counsel, plaintiff is to arrange for the transfer of pathology specimens and x-rays, if any, by this date.
March 17, 2017	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.

<u>LIABILITY EXPERT REPORTS</u>		
January 27, 2017	Plaintiff shall identify its liability experts and serve liability expert reports or a certified expert statement by this date or waive any opportunity to rely on liability expert testimony.	
March 17, 2017	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.	

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## **ECONOMIST EXPERT REPORTS**

January 27, 2017 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.

March 17, 2017 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 31, 2017 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 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

March 23, 2017 @ 1:30pm 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 24, 2017 Trial Date.

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

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

cc: Clerk, Mass Tort

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