

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
LAW DIVISION: MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
**ASBESTOS LITIGATION**

**Docket No: L-5908-15 (AS)**

**Civil Action**

**CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER I**

ROBERT & REGINA BERGMAN, <i>Plaintiff(s),</i>
vs.
BELL LABORATORIES, et al <i>Defendant(s).</i>

This matter coming in for a Case Management Conference before Special Master Agatha N. Dzikiewicz and the following parties on January 13, 2016:

FIRM	ATTORNEY	CLIENT
Weitz & Luxenberg	Robert Silverman	Plaintiff(s)
Caruso Smith Picini	Ronald S. Suss	Union Carbide
Jones Law Firm	Richard V. Jones	Metropolitan Life
Locke Lord	Aileen McTiernan	Alcatel-Lucent / AT&T
Marks O'Neill	Paul Smyth	Caterpillar
McElroy Deutsch	Michele Hydrusko	Pfizer

IT IS on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 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**

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| February 5, 2016  | Defendants shall serve answers to standard interrogatories by this date.                           |
| February 12, 2016 | Plaintiff shall propound supplemental interrogatories and document requests by this date.          |
| March 14, 2016    | Defendants shall serve answers to supplemental interrogatories and document requests by this date. |
| February 12, 2016 | Defendants shall propound supplemental interrogatories and document requests by this date.         |
| March 14, 2016    | Plaintiff shall serve answers to supplemental interrogatories and document requests by this date.  |

April 15, 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.

April 15, 2016 Depositions of corporate representatives shall be completed by this date.

### **EARLY SETTLEMENT**

April 22, 2016 Settlement demands shall be served on all counsel and the Special Master by this date.

### **SUMMARY JUDGMENT MOTION PRACTICE**

April 15, 2016 Plaintiff's counsel shall advise, in writing, of intent not to oppose motions by this date.

April 29, 2016 Summary judgment motions shall be filed no later than this date.

May 27, 2016 Last return date for summary judgment motions.

### **MEDICAL DEFENSE**

May 31, 2016 Plaintiff shall serve medical expert reports by this date.

May 31, 2016 Upon request by defense counsel, plaintiff is to arrange for the transfer of pathology specimens and x-rays, if any, by this date.

July 29, 2016 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**

May 31, 2016 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.

July 29, 2016 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.

### **EXPERT DEPOSITIONS**

August 19, 2016 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**

August 31, 2016 @ 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.

10 business days prior to trial    Pretrial Information Exchange Form due.

September 19, 2016                      **Trial-Ready** 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: counsel:

Kelley Jasons *for Schneider Electric USA*

cc:        Clerk, Mass Tort