

FILED

December 24, 2024

HON. BRUCE J. KAPLAN, J.S.C.

<p>FREDA BALLAS,</p> <p>Plaintiff,</p> <p>v</p> <p>MERCK, SHARP &amp; DOHME, CORP., ET AL.,</p> <p>Defendants.</p>	<p>SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: MIDDLESEX COUNTY</p> <p>CIVIL ACTION NO.: MID-L-007298-14</p> <p><b>ORDER ON MOTION FOR SUBSTITUTION OF PARTIES</b></p>
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**THIS MATTER** having been opened to the Court by Scott D. Levensten, Esq, of The Levensten Law Firm, attorney for Plaintiff, seeking an order substituting Maurice Ballas as plaintiff, and the Court having read and considered the papers submitted in this matter, and for good cause having been shown;

**IT IS** on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of December 2024,

**ORDERED** that Plaintiff's Motion for Substitution of Parties is hereby **DENIED without prejudice**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that service of this Order shall be deemed effectuated upon all parties upon its upload to eCourts. Pursuant to Rule 1:5-1(a), movant shall serve a copy of this Order on all parties not served electronically within seven (7) days of the date of this Order.

UNOPPOSED

/s/ Bruce J. Kaplan  
HONORABLE BRUCE J. KAPLAN, J.S.C.

**STATEMENT OF REASONS:**

This Motion comes before the Court by way of Plaintiff's Motion for Substitution of Parties. There was no opposition.

Plaintiff failed to provide the Court with a certification in satisfaction with the Case Management Order uploaded to eCourts on the Fosamax Docket (Docket NO. 7153-14) on November 12, 2024, stating the following:

“To the best of the undersigned counsel’s knowledge, \_\_\_\_\_ (insert the representative’s name) has the authority to serve and was designated as the authorized representative of plaintiff’s estate, and has authorized the undersigned counsel for the plaintiff to substitute him/her as plaintiff and proceed with this action on behalf of the estate.”

Moreover, Plaintiff failed to provide the Court with a Proposed Amended Complaint. Accordingly, the Motion is Denied.