January 31, 2025

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Attorney for Plaintiffs

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

LAVONNE JOHNSON, SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

LAW DIVISION: MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Plaintiff,

v. CIVIL ACTION NO.: MID-L-009336-14

MERCK, SHARP & DOHME, CORP.,

Defendant. ORDER ON MOTION TO FILE AND/OR

AMEND COMPLAINT

**THIS MATTER** coming on to be heard on the Motion of Plaintiffs for Leave to File an Amended Complaint, and the Court having considered the moving papers and for good cause

shown,

**IT IS** on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2025,

ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave to file an Amended Complaint, to

substitute Debbie Evans, as successor of the Estate of Lavonne Johnson, as Plaintiff is hereby

**GRANTED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Plaintiffs shall have fourteen (14) days from the date of this Order

within which to file and serve the proposed Amended Complaint; 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.

151 Bruce J. Kaplan

HONORABLE BRUCE J. KAPLAN, J.S.C.

**UNOPPOSED** 

Having reviewed the within motion, this Court finds it meritorious on its face and is unopposed. This Court is granting leave to amend the Complaint in accordance with  $\underline{R}$ . 4:9-1. Moreover, the Court is granting substitution of Plaintiff as permitted under  $\underline{R}$ . 4:34-1. Pursuant to  $\underline{R}$ . 1:6-2, this Motion will be granted essentially for the reasons set forth in the moving papers.