Eileen Oakes Muskett, Esquire Attorney ID No. 020731994

FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP

Midtown Building, Suite 400 1301 Atlantic Avenue Atlantic City, NJ 08401 Tel: (609) 348-4515

Fax: (609) 348-6834

emuskett@foxrothschild.com

FILED

June 9, 2023

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

Attorneys for Defendants Merck & Co., Inc. and Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC

ERNEST KEITH and BARBARA A. KEITH,

Plaintiffs.

v.

MERCK & CO., INC., MERCK SHARP & DOHME CORP., and MCKESSON CORP.,

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: MIDDLESEX COUNTY

MCL NO.: 629

DOCKET NO.: MID-L-005530-20

ORDER

THIS MATTER having been brought before the Court upon motion by Fox Rothschild LLP, attorney for Defendants, Merck & Co., Inc., and Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., for an Order to Dismiss the Plaintiff's complaint without prejudice pursuant to R. 4:23-2(b)(3), for failure to effectuate the probate process to appoint a formal estate representative and substitute the estate, and the Court having read and considered the papers submitted in this matter, and for good cause having been shown;

IT IS on this 9th day of June, 2023;

ORDERED that Defendants' Motion to Dismiss without prejudice **is hereby GRANTED**; and it is further

ORDERED that should Plaintiff fail to effectuate the probate process to appoint a formal estate representative and substitute the estate within sixty (60) days of this Order, then a motion to dismiss with prejudice may be filed; and it is further

ORDERED that service of this Order shall be deemed effectuated upon all parties upon its upload to eCourts. Pursuant to <u>Rule</u> 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.

ISI Bruce J. Kaplan HONORABLE BRUCE J. KAPLAN, J.S.C.

UNOPPOSED

Having reviewed the above motion, the Court finds it to be meritorious on its face and is unopposed. Pursuant to \underline{R} . 1:6-2, it therefore will be granted in part essentially for the reasons set forth in the moving papers.