

NOTICE TO THE BAR

MASS TORTS – PROPOSED TERMINATION OF MASS TORT DESIGNATIONS OF (1) VIOXX AND (2) BEXTRA/CELEBEX LITIGATION

By Order of May 20, 2003, the Supreme Court designated all New Jersey state-court Vioxx litigation as a mass tort and assigned it to Atlantic County for centralized case management by Superior Court Judge Carol E. Higbee. In accordance with the provisions of the Revised Mass Tort Guidelines (Directive #7-09) and Rule 4:38A, Judge Higbee has reported to the Administrative Director of the Courts that the bulk of this litigation has been concluded, with just six cases remaining active. On this basis Judge Higbee recommends that the mass tort designation of the Vioxx litigation should be terminated, although she would continue to handle the remaining six cases to their conclusion.

By Order of December 6, 2005, the Supreme Court designated the all New Jersey state-court Bextra/Celebex litigation as a mass tort and assigned it to Atlantic County for centralized case management by Judge Higbee. In accordance with the provisions of the Revised Mass Tort Guidelines (Directive #7-09) and Rule 4:38A, Judge Higbee has reported that all of the Bextra/Celebex litigation has been concluded. She thus recommends that the centralized management and mass tort designation of the Bextra/Celebex litigation should be terminated.

This Notice is to advise of the proposed termination of the mass tort designations of (1) the Vioxx New Jersey state-court litigation and (2) the Bextra/Celebex New Jersey state-court litigation. Any comments on or objections to these proposed actions must be submitted in writing, with relevant supporting documentation, to the Administrative Director of the Courts, P. O. Box 037, Trenton, NJ 08625-0037, **by October 1, 2010**. Once this comment period has closed, the proposed termination of the mass tort designations will be submitted to the Supreme Court for its consideration and action.

/s/ Glenn A. Grant

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

Dated: August 20, 2010

