

federal courts and any subsequently filed or “tag along” actions to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division. In further support of its motion, Defendants hereby state as follows:

1. Currently, there are at least sixty (60) class action lawsuits filed on behalf of pet owners whose dogs or cats allegedly became ill after consuming pet food manufactured by Menu Foods. Defendants anticipate that many more class action lawsuits will be filed by the time the Panel hears the parties’ motions to transfer for consolidation or coordination as the Menu Foods pet recall is the largest recall in United States history and has received extensive media coverage.

2. The parties agree that the requirements for transfer for consolidation or coordination set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 1407 are met and that transfer will ensure the just and efficient conduct of this litigation.

3. Defendants believe that transfer is necessary in order to avoid conflicting pretrial rulings particularly relating to class certification.

4. The Northern District of Illinois is the most appropriate forum for this litigation because: (1) this court is the most centrally located district court as cases are filed from coast to coast; (2) the court is located in a major metropolitan city and is easily accessible through two large airports including one international airport; (3) the court is geographically close to, and easily accessible from both airports through Chicago’s rail system; (4) the court possesses seasoned judges with considerable MDL experience; and (5) the court possesses the necessary technological and logistical resources, familiarity with large scale MDL proceedings, and experienced judges and courtroom staff.

5. Defendants believe that these cases shall be assigned to the Honorable Judge Wayne R. Anderson, who is currently assigned to one of the first filed cases, *Majerczyk v. Menu*

Foods, case number 1:07-cv-05143, which was filed on March 20, 2007.

WHEREFORE, Defendants respectfully request that the Panel enter an order transferring the Pet Food Product Liability Lawsuits, as well as any similar or related actions that might later be filed, to the United States District Court for the Norther District of Illinois, Eastern Division.

Respectfully submitted,

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