Wendell et al v. Johnson & Johnson et al

Doc. 176

STIPULATION

Pursuant to Rule 6-2(a), the parties jointly request that the deadlines be extended as set forth herein.

On September 4, 2009, this case was removed to the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. A series of motions resolved multiple pleadings issues at the outset of this litigation. On June 10, 2010 plaintiffs filed the operative amended Complaint and the defendants all filed Answers on July 1, 2010. Discovery beyond initial disclosures began once pleadings issues were resolved.

In the interim, the court, on June 3, 2010, entered a Case Management Order which provided, among other things, that fact discovery was to end on February 2, 2011.

On July 13, 2010, plaintiffs served interrogatories and requests for production of documents on all defendants. Defendants served responses to those discovery requests variously on August 25, 2010 (Centocor), September 24, 2010 (Par Pharmaceutical and Teva), October 4, 2010 (Abbott Laboratories) and November 15, 2010 (GlaxoSmithKline). Defendants indicated that responsive documents would be provided or made available for inspection and copying subject to the entry of a protective order.

On July 28, 2010, plaintiffs' counsel sent an email to counsel for defendant Abbott Laboratories asking her to identify 30(b)(6) witnesses for deposition, Exhibit 1, to which she responded the next day that Abbott would endeavor to identify the appropriate witnesses. Exhibit 2. In Abbott's responses to plaintiffs' discovery requests, various witnesses with knowledge are identified but Plaintiffs state that their depositions cannot be properly conducted until the underlying documents have been reviewed.

On or about December 20, 2010, the Court granted the parties' request to extend the deadline to conduct mediation to June 29, 2011. On or about February 3, 2011, the Court granted the parties' request to extend the discovery end date until June 30, 2011, and ordered that Plaintiffs designate testifying experts and provide related reports by August 12, 2011, Defendants designate testifying experts and provide related reports by October 30, 2012 [sic], the parties complete expert discovery

on or before December 14, 2011, and dispositive motions be heard on or before (and a case management conference would be set for) January 26, 2012. The trial date was not continued.

A protective order was ultimately entered by the Court on April 19, 2011. Thereafter, Defendants collectively produced millions of pages of documents on disk drives to Plaintiffs. These productions occurred variously on April 19 (Centocor) and May 11, 18 and 24, 2011 (Abbott). Defendants GlaxoSmithKline, Teva and Par have offered to make documents available for inspection and copying in response to Plaintiffs' requests. Defendant Centocor has offered to make available for inspection and copying its hard-copy production.

The parties have completed key depositions in this litigation, such as the deposition of Maxx Wendell's prescribing physician on April 11, 2011, and of Plaintiffs and another family member on June 14, 2011. On several occasions, the last of which occurred on June 16, 2011, the parties conferred about issues related to timing of mediation, potential dispositive motion practice, and further discovery.

The parties have agreed to mediate this case with Honorable Rebecca Westerfield. The parties are attempting to identify a mutually agreeable date in August but will, in any event, schedule the mediation to occur on or before September 15, 2011. The parties believe that a stay of discovery until after the mediation or, if the mediation is unsuccessful, until after the ruling on the motions for summary judgment discussed below, will allow the parties to conserve resources for settlement, conserve judicial resources, and help resolve the litigation.

Defendants plan to file motions for summary judgment based on the learned intermediary doctrine. Defendants do not need additional discovery to file such motions. Plaintiffs have conducted all discovery needed to oppose such motions and do not plan to oppose the motion on the grounds that further discovery is necessary.

Should those motions and the mediation be unsuccessful, some additional fact discovery would need to be conducted by the parties. Plaintiffs would need to conduct additional discovery bearing on the issues of the adequacy of the warning labels which will not only involve reviewing and selecting pertinent documents from the electronic discovery provided by Defendants but also

after the mediation to avoid incurring potentially unnecessary costs.

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1	5. DECLARATION PURSUANT TO L.R. 6-2(a): The parties declare that (1) the	
2	reason for the requested enlargement of time is to allow the parties to engage in mediation, potential	
3	early dispositive motion practice and additional discovery should mediation or motion practice fail	
4	to dispose of the case; (2) as set forth above, the parties anticipate that this modification of the	
5	discovery end date will affect other deadlines including the April 2012 trial date.	
6	DATED: June 22, 2011	
7	/s/ Kevin Haverty	/s/ Andrew P. Bautista
8	Kevin Haverty (pro hac vice) WILLIAMS CUKER BEREZOFSKY,	Andrew P. Bautista Andrew P. Bautista (pro hac vice) KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP
9	LLC Woodland Falls Corporate Park	300 North LaSalle Chicago, Illinois 60654
10	210 Lake Drive East, Suite 101 Cherry Hill, NJ 08002	Counsel for Abbott Laboratories
11	Counsel for Plaintiffs	
12	/s/ Michelle A. Childers	/s/ Prentiss W. Hallenbeck, Jr.
13	Michelle A. Childers DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH LLP	Prentiss W. Hallenbeck, Jr. (<i>pro hac vice</i>) ULMER & BERNE LLP
14	50 Freemont Street, 30th Fl. San Francisco, CA 94105	600 Vine Street, Suite 2800 Cincinnati, OH 45202
15	Counsel for Centocor Ortho Biotech, Inc. and Johnson & Johnson	Counsel for Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.
16	/s/ William A. Hanssen	/s/ Prentiss W. Hallenbeck, Jr.
17	William A. Hanssen DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH LLP	Prentiss W. Hallenbeck, Jr. (pro hac vice) ULMER & BERNE LLP
18	333 South Grand Ave., Ste. 1700 Los Angeles, CA 90071-1504	600 Vine Street, Suite 2800 Cincinnati, OH 45202
19	Counsel for SmithKline Beecham Corporation	Counsel for Par Pharmaceutical, Inc.
20	d/b/a GlaxoSmithKline	
21	PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED. Defendants shall notice their motion on	
22	the learned intermediary defense for not later than Jan. 26, 2012, and a case management conference will be held on that date at 2 pm.	
23	Dated: June 23 , 2011	C)
24	, 2011	Capiele WILKEN
25		United States District Judge
26		
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ATTESTATION PURSUANT TO GENERAL ORDER 45

I, Kevin Haverty, am the ECF user whose ID and password are being used to file this STIPULATED REQUEST FOR ORDER EXTENDING TIME AND [PROPOSED] ORDER. In compliance with General Order 45, X.B., I hereby attest that the following attorneys have concurred in this filing: Andrew P. Bautista, counsel for Abbott Laboratories; Michelle A. Childers, counsel for Centocor Ortho Biotech, Inc., and Johnson & Johnson; Prentiss W. Hallenbeck, Jr., counsel for Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc., and Par Pharmaceutical, Inc.; William A. Hanssen, counsel for SmithKline Beecham Corporation.

/s/ Kevin Haverty

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on June 22, 2011, I electronically filed the foregoing STIPULATED REQUEST FOR ORDER EXTENDING TIME AND [PROPOSED] ORDER with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the email addresses registered, as denoted on the Court's Electronic Mail Notice List, and I hereby certify that I have mailed a true and correct copy of the foregoing document via the United States Postal Service to the non-CM/ECF participants listed below:

John D. Winter Patterson, Belknap, Webb & Tyler LLP 1133 Avenue Of The Americas New York, New York 10036-6710 Jeffrey F. Peck Ulmer & Berne LLP 600 Vine Street, Suite 2800 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED: June 22, 2011

By: s/ Kevin Haverty

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