

MAJERCZYK vs. MENU FOODS, INC.
07C1543

BEFORE THE JUDICIAL PANEL ON
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

07C1543
Andersen

In re:

MENU FOODS, INC. PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION

MDL Docket No. _____

**FLORIDA PLAINTIFF CHRISTINA TROIANO'S MOTION TO TRANSFER AND
COORDINATE OR CONSOLIDATE ACTIONS UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 1407**

FILED



APR - 2 2007

MICHAEL W. DOBBINS
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT

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Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407 and the Rules of Procedure on Multidistrict Litigation, plaintiff in the action styled *Christina Troiano, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Menu Foods, Inc. et. al.*, Case No. 07-60428-CIV-COHN, United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida (“Troiano” or “Movant”), files this Motion and respectfully moves for an Order transferring all related pending actions against Menu Foods, Inc. and its related partners, affiliates and subsidiaries (the “Defendants”), including the actions listed on Schedule of Actions, to the Southern District of Florida.

As set forth below and in the accompanying Memorandum, Troiano believes the actions listed on the accompanying Schedule of Actions, and any future tag-along actions, satisfy the requirements for consolidation and coordination because they concern common questions of fact and law and consolidation or coordination will serve the interests of efficiency and convenience.

In support of this motion, Movants state as follows:

1. Movant is the plaintiff in the following case: *Christina Troiano, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Menu Foods, Inc. et. al.*, Case No. 07-60428-CIV-COHN which is currently pending in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.
2. Movant is currently aware of six other pending class action cases containing similar factual allegations and seeking similar relief against the Defendants. The cases are listed on the attached Schedule.
3. Accompanying Movant’s Motion is a Rule 7.2(a)(ii) Schedule of Actions listing all related actions of which Movant is aware. True and correct copies of the complaints in Movant’s action and the complaints in each of the related actions are attached to the accompanying Schedule of Actions, filed herewith

4. As described in greater detail in the accompanying Memorandum, the factual allegations in each of the actions contain similar allegations regarding Defendants and their defective and ultimately deadly pet food. Each action contends that from December 3, 2006 up to and including March 6, 2007, and possibly at other times, Defendants entered into the stream of commerce pet food that was defective and, for thousands of household pets, deadly – Defendants’ pet food and pet food products (the “Products”) were contaminated with rat poison or a related agent that contributed to the illness and/or death of thousands of dogs and cats. As a result of the defective Products, each action contends that the Plaintiffs and members of the putative Class suffered damages in that they have incurred substantial veterinary bills, death of pets, and purchased and/or own pet food and pet food products that they would not otherwise have bought had they known such products were defective.

5. Each action further contends that Defendants should have known or know and have admitted that certain of the Products produced by the Defendants between December 3, 2006 and March 6, 2007 are defective and causing injury and death to pets, and on March 16, 2007, initiated a recall of some of the Products.

6. A centralization of all actions in the Southern District of Florida will be for the convenience of parties and witnesses under 28 U.S.C. §1407 and will save Defendants the burden of having to defend virtually identical actions in multiple states. Witnesses will also be spared the possibility of being required to testify in several locales.

7. Because each of these related cases arises from a virtually identical set of operative facts relating to Defendants’ conduct, discovery conducted in each of the actions proposed for consolidation will be substantially similar, and will involve the same or similar documents and witnesses.

8. Absent transfer of all of these cases to a single forum for coordinated and consolidated proceedings, there is a substantial risk of inconsistent and conflicting pretrial rulings on discovery and other key issues, such as class certification. Coordination and consolidation will promote the just and efficient conduct of the actions, because it will allow one court to address Defendants' ongoing conduct.

9. Centralization in the Southern District of Florida will also promote the just and efficient conduct of this litigation under 28 U.S.C. § 1407 as more fully set forth in the attached Memorandum.

10. These actions have all been filed on or after March 19, 2007, and are still in their nascent stages. Movant is not aware of any discovery conducted to date, and know of no initial disclosures that have been made in any of these cases. A transfer of these related cases will result in only one judge supervising discovery and resolving any subsequent motions, including motions for class certification.

11. Since all actions are in the beginning stage of the litigation, no prejudice or inconvenience would result from transfer, coordination and/or consolidation.

12. A comparison of the relative MDL case loads of potential transferee districts demonstrates that the Southern District of Florida is a suitable forum. According to the Distribution of Pending MDL Dockets as of March 26, 2007, there is only one pending MDL proceeding in the Southern District of Florida, and numerous judges who have the experience to handle MDL's (*See* Distribution of Pending MDL Dockets as of March 26, 2007, Ex. A.).

13. For these reasons, and as set forth more fully in the accompanying memorandum, Movant respectfully requests that the Panel enter an Order consolidating and coordinating the actions

identified on the accompanying Schedule together with any related actions subsequently filed or presently unknown to Movant for proceedings in the Southern District of Florida.

Respectfully submitted,

DATED: March 28, 2007

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EXHIBIT A

DISTRIBUTION OF PENDING MDL DOCKETS

(AS OF MARCH 12, 2007)

District	JUDGE	LITIGATION	Pending	Number of Actions
ARE	D.J. William R. Wilson, Jr.	MDL-1507 In re Prempro Products Liability Litigation	3,377	4,027
AZ	Sr.J. Paul G. Rosenblatt Sr.J. Roger G. Strand	MDL-1541 In re Allstate Insurance Co. Fair Labor Standards Act Litigation MDL-972 In re Diamond Benefits Life Insurance Company & American Universal Insurance Company Contracts Litigation	4 1	5 10
CAC	D.J. David O. Carter D.J. Dale S. Fischer D.J. A. Howard Matz Sr.J. Mariana R. Pfaelzer D.J. Manuel L. Real D.J. Manuel L. Real D.J. Christina A. Snyder C.J. Alicemarie H. Stotler Sr.J. Dickran M. Tevrizian, Jr. D.J. Stephen V. Wilson	MDL-1807 In re Wachovia Securities, LLC, Wage and Hour Litigation MDL-1822 In re Bluetooth Headset Products Liability Litigation MDL-1610 In re Conesco Life Insurance Co. Cost of Insurance Litigation MDL-1574 In re Paxil Products Liability Litigation MDL-1601 In re StarMed Health Personnel, Inc., Fair Labor Standards Act Litigation MDL-1737 In re American Honda Motor Co., Inc., Oil Filter Products Liability Litigation MDL-1671 In re Reformulated Gasoline (RFG) Antitrust & Patent Litigation MDL-1803 In re Banc of America Investment Services, Inc., Overtime Pay Litigation MDL-1475 In re Heritage Bonds Litigation MDL-1745 In re Live Concert Antitrust Litigation	19 14 19 39 3 5 11 5 2 22	19 14 21 148 6 5 12 5 9 22
CAN	D.J. Sandra Brown Armstrong D.J. Sandra Brown Armstrong D.J. Charles R. Breyer	MDL-1781 In re Cintas Corp. Overtime Pay Arbitration Litigation MDL-1809 In re Terminix Employment Practices Litigation MDL-1699 In re Bextra and Celebrex Marketing, Sales Practices and Products Liability Litigation	71 2 1,520	71 2 1,704
	D.J. Charles R. Breyer D.J. Jeremy D. Fogel D.J. Jeremy D. Fogel D.J. Phyllis J. Hamilton D.J. Martin J. Jenkins D.J. Marilyn Hall Patel D.J. Marilyn Hall Patel C.J. Vaughn R. Walker C.J. Vaughn R. Walker D.J. James Ware D.J. James Ware D.J. Claudia Wilken D.J. Jeffrey S. White D.J. Ronald M. Whyte D.J. Ronald M. Whyte	MDL-1793 In re International Air Transportation Surcharge Antitrust Litigation MDL-1257 In re Cable News Network and Time Magazine "Operation Tailwind" Litigation MDL-1654 In re Compression Labs, Inc., Patent Litigation MDL-1486 In re Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM) Antitrust Litigation MDL-1648 In re Rubber Chemicals Antitrust Litigation MDL-1369 In re Napster, Inc., Copyright Litigation MDL-1770 In re Wells Fargo Home Mortgage Overtime Pay Litigation MDL-1606 In re Deep Vein Thrombosis Litigation MDL-1791 In re National Security Agency Telecommunications Records Litigation MDL-1527 In re Cisco Systems, Inc., Securities & Derivative Litigation MDL-1665 In re Acacia Media Technologies Corp. Patent Litigation MDL-1819 In re Static Random Access Memory (SRAM) Antitrust Litigation MDL-1761 In re Ditropan XL Antitrust Litigation MDL-1423 In re Cygnus Telecommunications Technology, LLC, Patent Litigation MDL-1754 In re Apple iPod nano Products Liability Litigation	100 1 10 42 10 1 4 4 53 48 1 22 25 6 15 8	101 8 10 44 13 19 4 78 48 2 22 25 6 30 8

CAS	D.J. Roger T. Benitez D.J. Napoleon A. Jones, Jr. D.J. Jeffrey T. Miller C.J. Robert H. Whaley (WAE)	MDL-1806 In re Morgan Stanley & Co., Inc., Overtime Pay Litigation (No. II) MDL-1296 In re Alliance Equipment Lease Program Securities Litigation MDL-1751 In re Jamster Marketing Litigation MDL-1405 In re California Wholesale Electricity Antitrust Litigation	10 1 5 5	10 27 5 30	
CO	D.J. Robert E. Blackburn D.J. Wiley Y. Daniel	MDL-1788 In re Qwest Communications International, Inc., Securities & "ERISA" Litigation (No. II) MDL-1743 In re American Family Mutual Insurance Co. Overtime Pay Litigation	30 2	30 2	
CT	Sr.J. Alfred V. Covello D.J. Alvin W. Thompson D.J. Stefan R. Underhill D.J. Stefan R. Underhill D.J. Stefan R. Underhill D.J. Stefan R. Underhill	MDL-1568 In re Parcel Tanker Shipping Services Antitrust Litigation MDL-1463 In re Xerox Corp. Securities Litigation MDL-1542 In re Ethylene Propylene Diene Monomer (EPDM) Antitrust Litigation MDL-1631 In re Publication Paper Antitrust Litigation MDL-1642 In re Polychloroprene Rubber (CR) Antitrust Litigation MDL-1649 In re Helicopter Crash Near Wendle Creek, British Columbia, on August 8, 2002	7 22 15 28 9 4	18 22 15 31 9 4	
DC	D.J. John D. Bates C.J. Thomas F. Hogan C.J. Thomas F. Hogan C.J. Thomas F. Hogan D.J. Ellen Segal Huvelle D.J. Name Withheld	MDL-1772 In re Series 7 Broker Qualification Exam Scoring Litigation MDL-1285 In re Vitamin Antitrust Litigation MDL-1290 In re Lorazepam & Clorazepate Antitrust Litigation MDL-1686 In re Iraq and Afghanistan Detainees Litigation MDL-1792 In re InPhonic, Inc., Wireless Phone Rebate Litigation UNDER SEAL	20 4 2 4 15 3	20 84 14 4 15 30	
	D.J. Richard J. Leon D.J. Richard J. Leon D.J. James Robertson D.J. Ricardo M. Urbina	MDL-1515 In re Nifedipine Antitrust Litigation MDL-1668 In re Federal National Mortgage Association Securities, Derivative & "ERISA" Litigation MDL-1796 In re Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Data Theft Litigation MDL-1798 In re Long-Distance Telephone Service Federal Excise Tax Refund Litigation	6 7 3 3	10 18 3 3	
DE	D.J. Joseph J. Farnan, Jr. D.J. Gregory M. Sleet	MDL-1717 In re Intel Corp. Microprocessor Antitrust Litigation MDL-1660 In re PharmaStem Therapeutics, Inc., Patent Litigation	74 6	74 6	
FLM	D.J. Henry Lee Adams, Jr. D.J. Anne C. Conway D.J. James S. Moody, Jr. Sr.J. Harvey E. Schlesinger D.J. James D. Whitmore	MDL-1698 In re American General Life & Accident Insurance Co. Retiree Benefits "ERISA" Litigation MDL-1769 In re Seroquel Products Liability Litigation MDL-1626 In re Accutane Products Liability Litigation MDL-1624 In re GMAC Insurance Management Corp. Overtime Pay Litigation MDL-1656 In re CP Ships Ltd. Securities Litigation	80 342 24 2 7	80 342 29 2 7	

FLS	D.J. Federico A. Moreno	MDL-1334 In re Managed Care Litigation	6	123
GAN	D.J. Thomas W. Thrash, Jr.	MDL-1804 In re Stand 'n Seal Products Liability Litigation	13	13
GAS	C.J. William T. Moore, Jr.	MDL-1677 In re NovaStar Home Mortgage Inc. Mortgage Lending Practices Litigation	3	3
IAS	Sr.J. Ronald E. Longstaff	MDL-1733 In re Teflon Products Liability Litigation	22	22
ILN	Sr.J. Marvin E. Aspen Sr.J. Marvin E. Aspen D.J. Elaine E. Bucklo D.J. David H. Coar D.J. David H. Coar D.J. Mark R. Filip D.J. Robert W. Gettleman Sr.J. John F. Grady	MDL-1425 In re Aimster Copyright Litigation MDL-1715 In re Ameriquet Mortgage Co. Mortgage Lending Practices Litigation MDL-1784 In re McDonald's French Fries Litigation MDL-1536 In re Sulfuric Acid Antitrust Litigation MDL-1783 In re JP Morgan Chase & Co. Securities Litigation MDL-1818 In re Citifinancial Services Incorporated Prescreened Offer Litigation MDL-1350 In re Trans Union Corp. Privacy Litigation MDL-986 In re "Factor VIII or IX Concentrate Blood Products" Products Liability Litigation	11 318 10 7 3 5 14 103	11 322 10 7 3 5 15 356
ILS	Sr.J. John F. Grady Sr.J. John F. Grady Sr.J. George W. Lindberg D.J. Charles R. Norgle, Sr. D.J. Amy J. St. Eve D.J. James B. Zagel D.J. James B. Zagel	MDL-1521 In re Wireless Telephone 911 Calls Litigation MDL-1703 In re Sears, Roebuck & Co. Tools Marketing and Sales Practices Litigation MDL-1773 In re Air Crash Near Athens, Greece, on August 14, 2005 MDL-1604 In re Owen Federal Bank FSB Mortgage Servicing Litigation MDL-1778 In re Ocean Financial Corp. Prescreening Litigation MDL-899 In re Mortgage Escrow Deposit Litigation MDL-1392 In re General Motors Corporation Vehicle Paint Litigation (No. III)	10 6 7 64 5 1 2	10 7 7 65 5 75 3
INN	C.J. G. Patrick Murphy C.J. G. Patrick Murphy D.J. Rudy J. Lozano C.J. Robert L. Miller, Jr.	MDL-1562 In re General Motors Corp. Dex-Cool Products Liability Litigation MDL-1748 In re Profiler Products Liability Litigation MDL-1767 In re H&R Block Mortgage Corp. Prescreening Litigation MDL-1700 In re FedEx Ground Package System, Inc., Employment Practices Litigation (No. II)	6 4 3 36	11 4 3 42
INS	D.J. Sarah E. Barker D.J. David F. Hamilton D.J. John D. Tinder	MDL-1373 In re Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc., Tires Products Liability Litigation MDL-1313 In re AT&T Corp. Fiber Optic Cable Installation Litigation MDL-1727 In re COBRA Tax Shelters Litigation	23 35 3	819 35 3
KS	C.J. John W. Lungstrum C.J. John W. Lungstrum D.J. Kathryn H. Vratil	MDL-1468 In re Universal Service Fund Telephone Billing Practices Litigation MDL-1616 In re Urethane Antitrust Litigation MDL-1721 In re Cessna 208 Series Aircraft Products Liability Litigation	63 30 7	68 30 7

LAE	D.J. Eldon E. Fallon D.J. Eldon E. Fallon D.J. Martin L.C. Feldman D.J. Martin L.C. Feldman D.J. Martin L.C. Feldman D.J. Sarah S. Vance	MDL-1355 In re Propulsid Products Liability Litigation MDL-1657 In re Vioxx Marketing, Sales Practices and Products Liability Litigation MDL-1371 In re Monumetal Life Insurance Company Industrial Life Insurance Litigation MDL-1390 In re Life Insurance Co. of Georgia Industrial Life Insurance Litigation MDL-1395 In re Western & Southern Life Insurance Co. Industrial Life Insurance Litigation MDL-1643 In re Educational Testing Service PLT 7-12 Test Scoring Litigation	362 8,538 11 112 7 31	474 8,530 14 133 8 31
MA	D.J. Nancy Gertner D.J. Nancy Gertner Sr.J. Edward F. Harrington D.J. Parti B. Saris D.J. Parti B. Saris D.J. Parti B. Saris D.J. Richard G. Stearns D.J. Joseph L. Tauro D.J. Joseph L. Tauro D.J. Douglas P. Woodlock D.J. Douglas P. Woodlock D.J. Rya W. Zobel D.J. Rya W. Zobel	MDL-1354 In re Citigroup, Inc., Capital Accumulation Plan Litigation MDL-1753 In re Standard Automotive Corp. Retiree Benefits "ERISA" Litigation MDL-1143 In re Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York Premium Litigation MDL-1456 In re Pharmaceutical Industry Average Wholesale Price Litigation MDL-1629 In re Neuronin Marketing, Sales Practices and Products Liability Litigation MDL-1713 In re Bank of America ATM Fee Litigation MDL-1430 In re Lupron Marketing and Sales Practices Litigation MDL-1790 In re Volkswagen and Audi Warranty Extension Litigation MDL-1820 In re Webloyalty.com, Inc., Marketing and Sales Practices Litigation MDL-1543 In re Carbon Black Antitrust Litigation MDL-1704 In re M3Power Razor System Marketing & Sales Practices Litigation MDL-1380 In re Xcelera.com Inc. Securities Litigation MDL-1461 In re Shell Oil Products Co. Dealer Franchise Litigation	6 2 3 18 50 3 2 6 4 1 1 2 1	16 2 23 116 209 3 17 6 4 16 26 20 3
MD	D.J. Catherine C. Blake D.J. Catherine C. Blake D.J. Andre M. Davis D.J. Andre M. Davis D.J. Benson Everett Legg D.J. J. Frederick Motz D.J. J. Frederick Motz D.J. Andre M. Davis and D.J. Catherine C. Blake	MDL-1421 In re Wireless Telephone Radio Frequency Emissions Products Liability Litigation MDL-1539 In re Royal Ahold N.V. Securities & "ERISA" Litigation MDL-1110 In re Second Chance Body Armor, Inc., Advertising Litigation MDL-1518 In re Allegheny Energy, Inc., Securities Litigation MDL-1387 In re ProteGen Sling and Vesica System Products Liability Litigation MDL-1332 In re Microsoft Corp. Windows Operating Systems Antitrust Litigation MDL-1586 In re Mutual Funds Investment Litigation	2 37 2 2 8 2 423	19 37 9 17 584 116 437
ME	D.J. D. Brock Hornby	MDL-1532 In re New Motor Vehicles Canadian Export Antitrust Litigation	30	31
MIE	C.J. Bernard A. Friedman D.J. Gerald E. Rosen D.J. Gerald E. Rosen	MDL-1718 In re Ford Motor Co. Speed Control Deactivation Switch Products Liability Litigation MDL-1725 In re Delphi Corp. Securities, Derivative & "ERISA" Litigation MDL-1749 In re General Motors Corp. Securities & Derivative Litigation	39 24 5	40 25 5

MN	D.J. Michael J. Davis D.J. Donovan W. Frank Sr.J. Paul A. Magnuson Sr.J. Paul A. Magnuson C.J. James M. Rosenbaum D.J. John R. Tunheim	MDL-1431 In re Baycol Products Liability Litigation MDL-1708 In re Guidant Corp. Implantable Defibrillators Products Liability Litigation MDL-1328 In re Monosodium Glutamate Antitrust Litigation MDL-1724 In re Viagra Products Liability Litigation MDL-1726 In re Medtronic, Inc., Implantable Defibrillators Products Liability Litigation MDL-1396 In re St. Jude Medical, Inc., Silzone Heart Valves Products Liability Litigation	1,392 1,200 1 65 966 30	9,044 1,212 14 70 966 57
MOE	D.J. Jean C. Hamilton Sr.J. Stephen N. Limbaugh D.J. Catherine D. Perry D.J. Rodney W. Sippel	MDL-1702 In re Air Crash Near Kirksville, Missouri, on October 19, 2004 MDL-1672 In re Express Scripts, Inc., Pharmacy Benefits Management Litigation MDL-1811 In re LLRice 601 Contamination Litigation MDL-1736 In re Celexa and Lexapro Products Liability Litigation	6 9 59 32	11 12 59 32
MOW	D.J. Richard E. Dorr	MDL-1786 In re H&R Block, Inc., Express IRA Marketing Litigation	21	21
NCE	Sr.J. W. Earl Britt	MDL-1132 In re Exterior Insulation Finish System (EIFS) Products Liability Litigation	1	109
NCM	C.J. James A. Beatty, Jr.	MDL-1622 In re Cotton Yarn Antitrust Litigation	9	9
NCW	C.J. Richard L. Voorhees	MDL-1516 In re Polyester Staple Antitrust Litigation	17	36
NH	D.J. Paul J. Barbadoro	MDL-1335 In re Tyco International, Ltd., Securities, Derivative and "ERISA" Litigation	13	101
NJ	Sr.J. Harold A. Ackerman C.J. Garrett E. Brown, Jr. C.J. Garrett E. Brown, Jr. D.J. Stanley R. Chesler D.J. Stanley R. Chesler Sr.J. Dickinson R. Debevoise D.J. Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr. Sr.J. John C. Liffand Sr.J. John C. Liffand D.J. Jose L. Linares D.J. William J. Martini D.J. Jerome B. Simandle Sr.J. William H. Walls D.J. Susan D. Wigenton D.J. Freda L. Wolfson	MDL-1687 In re Ford Motor Co. E-350 Van Products Liability Litigation (No. II) MDL-1471 In re Compensation of Managerial, Professional and Technical Employees Antitrust Litigation MDL-1663 In re Insurance Brokerage Antitrust Litigation MDL-1658 In re Merck & Co., Inc., Securities, Derivative & "ERISA" Litigation MDL-1777 In re SFBC International, Inc., Securities & Derivative Litigation MDL-1337 In re Holocaust Era German Industry, Bank & Insurance Litigation MDL-1419 In re K-Dur Antitrust Litigation MDL-1384 In re Gapabentin Patent Litigation MDL-1479 In re Neuronin Antitrust Litigation MDL-1730 In re Hypodermic Products Antitrust Litigation MDL-1763 In re Human Tissue Products Liability Litigation MDL-1514 In re Electrical Carbon Products Antitrust Litigation MDL-1292 In re Candant Corporation Securities Litigation MDL-1550 In re IDT Corp. Calling Card Terms Litigation MDL-1799 In re Vonage Initial Public Offering (IPO) Securities Litigation	5 4 41 2 1 2 1 15 22 7 136 1 3 4 15	5 4 42 35 14 59 44 17 22 8 136 25 18 5 15

NV	D.J. Kent J. Dawson Sr.J. Lloyd D. George C.J. Philip M. Pro C.J. Philip M. Pro	MDL-1619 In re Musha Cay Litigation MDL-1357 In re NOS Communications, Inc., Billing Practices Litigation MDL-1566 In re Western States Wholesale Natural Gas Antitrust Litigation MDL-1735 In re Wal-Mart Wage and Hour Employment Practices Litigation	3 7 3 23	3 8 30 25
NYE	D.J. Carol Bagley Amon D.J. Raymond J. Dearie D.J. John Gleeson D.J. John Gleeson Sr.J. Thomas C. Platt, Jr. Sr.J. Charles P. Sifton Sr.J. David G. Trager Sr.J. Jack B. Weinstein Sr.J. Jack B. Weinstein	MDL-1775 In re Air Cargo Shipping Services Antitrust Litigation MDL-1613 In re Nigeria Charter Flights Contract Litigation MDL-1575 In re Visa/MasterCard Antitrust Litigation MDL-1720 In re Payment Card Interchange Fee and Merchant Discount Antitrust Litigation MDL-799 In re Air Disaster at Lockerbie, Scotland, on December 21, 1988 MDL-1689 In re Air Crash Near Woodbury, Connecticut, on December 20, 2002 MDL-1738 In re Vitamin C Antitrust Litigation MDL-381 In re "Agent Orange" Products Liability Litigation MDL-1596 In re Zyprexa Products Liability Litigation	82 13 6 51 37 8 10 4 1,720	82 14 8 51 297 8 10 627 1,722

NYS				
Sr.J. Harold Baer, Jr.	MDL-1661	In re Rivastigmine Patent Litigation	4	5
D.J. Deborah A. Batts	MDL-1714	In re Rhodia S.A. Securities Litigation	4	4
D.J. Richard A. Berman	MDL-1628	In re Pineapple Antitrust Litigation	6	10
D.J. Charles L. Briecant	MDL-1368	In re High Pressure Laminate Antitrust Litigation	12	37
D.J. Charles L. Briecant	MDL-1508	In re Medco Health Solutions, Inc., Pharmacy Benefits Management Litigation	6	18
D.J. Richard C. Casey	MDL-1570	In re Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2001	22	23
D.J. Denise Cote	MDL-1487	In re WorldCom, Inc., Securities & "ERISA" Litigation	28	177
D.J. Paul A. Crotty	MDL-1794	In re Novartis Wage and Hour Litigation	2	2
D.J. George B. Daniels	MDL-1379	In re Literary Works in Electronic Databases Copyright Litigation	3	5
Sr.J. Kevin Thomas Duffy	MDL-1443	In re America Online, Inc., Community Leaders Litigation	3	3
Sr.J. Thomas P. Griesa	MDL-1336	In re Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Securities Litigation	20	20
Sr.J. Thomas P. Griesa	MDL-1644	In re Elevator and Escalator Antitrust Litigation	4	25
D.J. Alvin K. Hellerstein	MDL-1230	In re Philip Services Corporation Securities Litigation	1	24
D.J. Richard J. Holwell	MDL-1771	In re "A Million Little Pieces" Litigation	11	11
D.J. Barbara S. Jones	MDL-1291	In re Omeprazole Patent Litigation	6	22
D.J. Lewis A. Kaplan	MDL-1348	In re Rezulin Products Liability Litigation	991	1,865
D.J. Lewis A. Kaplan	MDL-1653	In re Parmalat Securities Litigation	16	16
Sr.J. John F. Keenan	MDL-1484	In re Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., Research Reports Securities Litigation	22	176
Sr.J. John F. Keenan	MDL-1789	In re Fosamax Products Liability Litigation	108	108
Sr.J. Shirley Wohl Kram	MDL-1495	In re Enterprise Mortgage Acceptance Co., LLC, Securities Litigation	2	13
Sr.J. Shirley Wohl Kram	MDL-1500	In re AOL Time Warner Inc. Securities & "ERISA" Litigation	57	72
Sr.J. Shirley Wohl Kram	MDL-1739	In re Grand Theft Auto Video Game Consumer Litigation (No. II)	7	7
Sr.J. Shirley Wohl Kram	MDL-1744	In re Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., Securities Litigation	10	10
D.J. Gerard E. Lynch	MDL-1472	In re Global Crossing Ltd. Securities and "ERISA" Litigation	5	89
D.J. Gerard E. Lynch	MDL-1630	In re Global Crossing Limited Securities Litigation	1	9
Sr.J. Lawrence M. McKenna	MDL-1529	In re Adelphia Communications Corp. Securities & Derivative Litigation (No. II)	71	71
D.J. Colleen McMahon	MDL-1695	In re Veeco Instruments Inc. Securities Litigation	13	13
D.J. Colleen McMahon	MDL-1755	In re Bayou Hedge Funds Investment Litigation	7	7
Sr.J. Richard Owen	MDL-1688	In re Pfizer Inc. Securities, Derivative & "ERISA" Litigation	30	30
Sr.J. Richard Owen	MDL-1706	In re Doral Financial Corp. Securities Litigation	24	24
D.J. William H. Pauley III	MDL-1409	In re Currency Conversion Fee Antitrust Litigation	5	34
D.J. Loretta A. Preska	MDL-1659	In re Nortel Networks Corp. Securities Litigation	28	29
D.J. Loretta A. Preska	MDL-1780	In re Digital Music Antitrust Litigation	30	30
D.J. Jed S. Rakoff	MDL-1598	In re Ephedra Products Liability Litigation	625	840

NYS (cont.)	D.J. Jed S. Rakoff	MDL-1740 In re Canon U.S.A., Inc., Digital Cameras Products Liability Litigation	3	4
	D.J. Shira Ann Scheindlin	MDL-1358 In re Methy/ Tertiary Buy/ Ether ("MTBE") Products Liability Litigation	147	159
	D.J. Shira Ann Scheindlin	MDL-1428 In re Ski Train Fire in Kaprun, Austria, on November 11, 2000	14	27
	D.J. Shira Ann Scheindlin	MDL-1554 In re Initial Public Offering (IPO) Securities Litigation	393	511
	Sr.J. John E. Sprizzo	MDL-1153 In re Bennett Funding Group, Inc., Securities Litigation (No. II)	29	66
	Sr.J. John E. Sprizzo	MDL-1499 In re South African Apartheid Litigation	13	14
	Sr.J. John E. Sprizzo	MDL-1584 In re Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. Securities & Derivative Litigation	6	8
	(No. II)			
	D.J. Sidney H. Stein	MDL-1603 In re OxyContin Antitrust Litigation	58	58
	D.J. Sidney H. Stein	MDL-1696 In re Sierra Wireless, Inc., Securities Litigation	9	9
OHN	Sr.J. Robert W. Sweet and Sr.J. John F. Keenan*	MDL-1448 In re Air Crash at Belle Harbor, New York, on November 12, 2001	344	365
		* Judge Keenan is assigned to actions in which Judge Sweet is recused.		
	D.J. Peter C. Economus	MDL-1561 In re Travel Agent Commission Antitrust Litigation	2	3
	D.J. James S. Gwin	MDL-1481 In re Meridia Products Liability Litigation	2	125
	Sr.J. David A. Katz	MDL-1742 In re Ortho Evra Products Liability Litigation	507	515
	D.J. Donald C. Nugent	MDL-1488 In re Ford Motor Co. Panther Platform/Fuel Tank Design Products Liability Litigation	4	31
	D.J. Kathleen McDonald O'Malley	MDL-1401 In re Sulzer Orthopedics Inc. Hip Prosthesis and Knee Prosthesis Products Liability Litigation	4	434
	D.J. Kathleen McDonald O'Malley	MDL-1490 In re Commercial Money Center, Inc., Equipment Lease Litigation	34	38
	D.J. Kathleen McDonald O'Malley	MDL-1535 In re Welding Fume Products Liability Litigation	4,186	11,436
OHS	D.J. Gregory L. Frost	MDL-1638 In re Foundry Resins Antitrust Litigation	14	19
	Sr.J. James L. Graham	MDL-1565 In re National Century Financial Enterprises, Inc., Investment Litigation	21	22
	D.J. Edmund A. Sargus, Jr.	MDL-1315 In re SmartTalk TeleServices, Inc., Securities Litigation	21	21
OK W	D.J. Stephen P. Friot	MDL-1564 In re Farmers Insurance Co., Inc., FCRA Litigation	9	12
OR	Sr.J. Robert E. Jones	MDL-1439 In re Farmers Insurance Exchange Claims Representatives' Overtime Pay Litigation	3	12

PAE	C.J. Harvey Bartle III	MDL-1203 In re Diet Drugs (Phentermine/Fenfluramine/Dexfenfluramine) Products Liability Litigation	2,626	20,006
	D.J. Ronald L. Buckwalter	MDL-1014 In re Orthopedic Bone Screw Products Liability Litigation	1	3,085
	D.J. Ronald L. Buckwalter	MDL-1741 In re Isotagen, Inc., Securities & Derivative Litigation	5	5
	D.J. Stewart Dalzell	MDL-1682 In re Hydrogen Peroxide Antitrust Litigation	1	33
	D.J. Legrome D. Davis	MDL-1684 In re Plastics Additives Antitrust Litigation (No. II)	9	9
	Sr.J. Jan E. DuBois	MDL-1261 In re Linerboard Antitrust Litigation	10	20
	Sr.J. John P. Fullam	MDL-1782 In re Pharmacy Benefit Managers Antitrust Litigation	6	6
	D.J. James T. Giles	MDL-875 In re Asbestos Products Liability Litigation (No. VI)	35,378	111,259
	D.J. Bruce W. Kauffman	MDL-969 In re Unisys Corp. Retiree Medical Benefit "ERISA" Litigation	8	14
	D.J. Mary A. McLaughlin	MDL-1712 In re American Investors Life Insurance Co. Annuity Marketing and Sales Practices Litigation	15	15
	Sr.J. Louis H. Pollak	MDL-1817 In re CertainTeed Corp. Roofing Shingle Products Liability Litigation	9	9
	D.J. Timothy J. Savage	MDL-1675 In re ACE Limited Securities Litigation	4	4
	D.J. Timothy J. Savage	MDL-1768 In re Methyl Methacrylate (MMA) Antitrust Litigation	18	18
	D.J. Richard Barclay Surrick	MDL-1426 In re Automotive Refinishing Paint Antitrust Litigation	62	63
PAM	D.J. Thomas I. Vanaskie	MDL-1556 In re Pressure Sensitive Labelstock Antitrust Litigation	11	11
PAW	C.J. Donetta W. Ambrose	MDL-1091 In re Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. Sales Practices Litigation	6	148
	D.J. Gary L. Lancaster	MDL-1674 In re Community Bank of Northern Virginia Mortgage Lending Practices Litigation	6	6
SC	Sr.J. Solomon Blatt, Jr.	MDL-1595 In re Electrical Receptacle Products Liability Litigation	1	9
	D.J. Cameron McGowan Currie	MDL-1429 In re American General Life & Accident Insurance Co. Industrial Life Insurance Litigation	69	135
	D.J. David C. Norton	MDL-1785 In re Bausch & Lomb Inc. Contact Lens Solution Products Liability Litigation	113	114
	Sr.J. Matthew J. Perry, Jr.	MDL-865 In re Showa Denko K.K. L-Tryptophan Products Liability Litigation (No. II)	1	973
TNE	C.J. Curtis L. Collier	MDL-1552 In re UnumProvident Corp. Securities, Derivative & "ERISA" Litigation	23	28
TNM	C.J. Todd J. Campbell	MDL-1760 In re Aredia and Zometa Products Liability Litigation	209	210
	Sr.J. John T. Nixon	MDL-1537 In re Nortel Networks Corp. "ERISA" Litigation	6	6
TNW	D.J. J. Daniel Breen	MDL-1551 In re Reciprocal of America (ROA) Sales Practices Litigation	13	13

TXE	D.J. Leonard E. Davis D.J. T. John Ward	MDL-1512 In re Electronic Data Systems Corp. Securities & "ERISA" Litigation MDL-1530 In re Fleming Companies Inc. Securities & Derivative Litigation	4 10	29 22
TXN	C.J. A. Joe Fish D.J. Sidney A. Fitzwater	MDL-1578 In re UICI "Association-Group" Insurance Litigation MDL-1214 In re Great Southern Life Insurance Company Sales Practices Litigation	15 1	28 25
TXS	D.J. Vanessa D. Gilmore D.J. Melinda Harmon D.J. Melinda Harmon D.J. Lynn N. Hughes D.J. Janis Graham Jack	MDL-1646 In re Testmasters Trademark Litigation MDL-1422 In re Waste Management, Inc., Securities Litigation MDL-1446 In re Enron Corp. Securities, Derivative & "ERISA" Litigation MDL-1609 In re Service Corporation International Securities Litigation MDL-1810 In re MERSCORP Inc., et al., Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA) Litigation	1 1 129 1 19	6 7 196 4 19
UT	D.J. Dale A. Kimball	MDL-1546 In re Medical Waste Services Antitrust Litigation	1	8
VAE	D.J. Leonie M. Brinkema	MDL-1705 In re Xybernaut Corp. Securities Litigation	10	10
WAW	D.J. Barbara Jacobs Rothstein	MDL-1407 In re Phenylpropanolamine (PPA) Products Liability Litigation	402	3,365
WVS	D.J. Joseph R. Goodwin	MDL-1477 In re Serzone Products Liability Litigation	16	177
WY	C.J. William F. Downes	MDL-1293 In re Natural Gas Royalties Qui Tam Litigation	75	83

**BEFORE THE JUDICIAL PANEL ON
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION**

07c1543
Andersen

In re:

MENU FOODS, INC. PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION

MDL Docket No. _____

**FLORIDA PLAINTIFF CHRISTINA TROIANO'S MEMORANDUM OF LAW
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO TRANSFER AND COORDINATE OR
CONSOLIDATE ACTIONS UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 1407**

FILED

APR - 2 2007

MICHAEL W. DOBBINS
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT

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Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407 and the Rules of Procedure on Multidistrict Litigation, Plaintiff in the action styled *Christina Troiano, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Menu Foods, Inc. et. al.*, CASE NO. 07-60428-CIV-COHN, United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. Plaintiff Christina Troiano (“Troiano” or “Movant”), respectfully submits this Memorandum in Support of Florida Plaintiff Christina Troiano’s Motion for Transfer and Coordination or Consolidation. For the reasons set forth below, Movant’s lawsuit and the related lawsuits identified in the accompanying Schedule of Actions should be transferred to and consolidated in the Southern District of Florida.

I. INTRODUCTION

Troiano brings her class action to remedy the harm caused by the defective and deadly pet food manufactured and placed into the stream of commerce by Menu Foods, Inc. and its affiliates, partners and subsidiaries (collectively, the “Menu Foods Defendants” or “Defendants”). Defendants are the leading North American private label/contract manufacturer of wet pet food products (the “Products”) sold by supermarket retailers, mass merchandisers, pet specialty retailers, and other wholesale and retail outlets, including Wal-Mart, Safeway, Kroger, PetSmart, Inc., Giant Food, and other large retail chains, and has provided pet food products to or for Proctor & Gamble, Inc. Defendants produce hundreds of millions of containers of pet food annually.

Defendants design, manufacture, market, advertise and warrant their pet food Products. In conjunction with each sale, Defendants market, advertise and warrant that the Products are fit for the ordinary purpose for which such goods are used – consumption by pets – and are free from defects. Defendants produce the pet food Products intending that consumers will purchase the pet food products, regardless of brand or label name, place of purchase, or the location where pets actually consume them. The pet food Products are placed in the stream of commerce and distributed and

offered for sale and sold to Troiano and purchasers in Florida and the United States and fed to their pets.

From December 3, 2006 up to and including March 6, 2007, and possibly at other times, Defendants entered into the stream of commerce pet food Products that were deadly and defective – Defendants’ pet food and pet food Products were potentially contaminated with rat poison or some other agent that contributed to the illness and/or death of thousands of dogs and cats. As a result of the defective Products, Troiano and members of the putative Class have suffered damages in that they have incurred substantial veterinary bills, death of pets, and purchased and/or own pet food and pet food products that they would not otherwise have bought had they known such products were defective.

Defendants know and have admitted that certain of the Products produced by the Defendants between December 3, 2006 and March 6, 2007 are defective and causing injury and death to pets, and on March 16, 2007, initiated a nationwide recall of some of the Products. Further, the Food and Drug Administration has reported that as many as one in six animals died in tests of the Products by Defendants last month after the Defendants received complaints the Products were poisoning pets around the country. A spokeswoman for the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets has said that rodent poison was determined to have been mixed into the Products.

II. HISTORY OF THE PENDING LAWSUITS

The related actions, identified in the accompanying Schedule of Actions present common questions of law and fact, common defendants, and are brought on behalf of overlapping classes (*i.e.*, all persons and entities who suffered damages due to Defendants’ defective pet food and pet food Products). Transfer and consolidation of all existing actions, and all subsequently filed related cases, to the Southern District of Florida will best serve the convenience of the parties and witnesses

and promote the just and efficient conduct of the litigation. Each related action is briefly discussed below.

On or about March 19, 2007, Tom Whaley, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated, filed the class action styled *Whaley v. Menu Foods, Inc., et. al.*, Case No. 2:07-cv-00411, in the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington (the “*Whaley Action*”). This complaint seeks damages and equitable relief for breach of contract, unjust enrichment, deceptive and unfair business practices, breach of warranties and negligent misrepresentation on behalf of a class of all persons who purchased any dog or cat food which was produced by the Defendants and/or has had a dog or cat become ill as a result of eating the food.

Also on March 19, 2007, Lizajean Holt, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated, filed the class action styled *Holt v. Menu Foods, Inc.*, Case No. 3:07-cv-00094, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee (the “*Holt Action*”). This complaint likewise seeks damages and equitable relief for deceptive and unfair business practices, breach of warranties and negligence on behalf of a class of all persons in the United States who purchased or fed his, her, or their cat(s) or dog(s) pet food produced or manufactured by Defendants that was or will be recalled by the Defendants, including that produced from December 3, 2006 up to and including March 6, 2007.

On or about March 20, 2007, Dawn Majerczyk, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated, filed the class action styled *Majerczyk v. Menu Foods, Inc.*, Case No. 1:07-cv-01543, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (the “*Majerczyk Action*”). This complaint seeks damages and injunctive relief for breach of warranties and negligence on behalf of a class of herself and all others who purchased pet food in the United States that was ultimately subject to the March 16, 2007 Menu Foods recall.

On or about March 21, 2007, Charley Ray Sims and Pamela Sims, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, filed the class action styled *Sims, et. al. v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et. al.*, Case No. 5:07-cv-05053, in the District Court for the Western District of Arkansas (the “*Sims Action*”). This complaint seeks damages for strict liability, fraud, breach of express and implied warranties and negligence on behalf of a class of (1) all persons or entities who purchased Menu Food brands at any time and disposed of or will not use the products based on publicity surrounding the safety and recall of the products; (2) all persons or entities who purchased Menu Foods products and fed products to their pets on or since December 6, 2006; and (3) all persons or entities who purchased Menu Food products from wholesale distributors on or since December 6, 2006.

On or about March 23, 2007, Jared Workman, and Mark and Mona Cohen, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, filed the class action styled *Workman, et. al. v. Menu Foods Limited, et. al.*, Case No. 1:07-cv-01338, in the District Court for the District of New Jersey (the “*Workman Action*”). This complaint seeks damages for breach of express and implied warranties and negligence on behalf of a class of all persons in the United States who purchased any of the pet food brands manufactured by Defendants during the period commencing December 3, 2006, and ending March 6, 2007.

Also on March 23, 2007, Richard and Barbara Widen, and Mark and Mona Cohen, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, filed the class action styled *Widen, et. al. v. Menu Foods, et. al.*, Case No. 5:07-cv-05055, in the District Court for the Western District of Arkansas (the “*Widen Action*”). This complaint seeks damages for strict liability and negligence on behalf of a class of all persons in the United States who purchased contaminated pet food from Wal-Mart that was produced by Menu Foods.

On March 26, 2007, Troiano, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated, filed her Complaint against Defendants alleging claims for negligence, breach of warranties, strict liability, and unjust enrichment.

III. ARGUMENT

In view of the facts outlined above, and the jurisprudence regarding multidistrict litigation set forth below, these cases should be centralized in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. Transfer and consolidation is essential to permit the efficient and non-duplicative handling of these cases and the Southern District of Florida is the most appropriate venue for this multidistrict litigation.

A. The Similarity of These Class Actions Warrants Coordination and Consolidation

28 U.S.C. § 1407(a) authorizes the transfer of multiple civil actions pending in various federal districts to a single federal district court when the actions involve “one or more common questions of fact” Moreover, transfer is necessary “in order to eliminate duplicative discovery; prevent inconsistent rulings on pretrial motions, including those with respect to whether the actions should proceed as [class actions]” *In re Starmed Health Personnel, Inc. Fair Labor Standards Act Litig.*, 317 F. Supp. 2d 1380, 1381 (J.P.M.L. 2004); *see also In re Comp. of Managerial Prof'l and Tech. Employees Antitrust Litig.*, 206 F. Supp. 2d 1374, 1375 (J.P.M.L. 2002) (noting that centralization is “necessary in order to... prevent inconsistent pretrial rulings (especially with regard to class certification issues”)).

The requirements for transfer under section 1407 are easily satisfied here. As discussed above, each of these pending cases (i) purport to represent a large class of individuals and/or entities who were damaged by defective and deadly pet food marketed, manufactured and/or distributed by the Defendants, (ii) assert the same or similar claims against the Defendants, and (iii) seek to recover

losses based upon those damages caused by the Defendants. To separately litigate each pending case (and subsequently filed related cases) would waste resources and present the danger of inconsistent pretrial rulings. Consolidation of these cases is particularly critical because these related actions seek class action status on behalf of the same class or overlapping classes and, as a result, there is a significant potential for conflicting or inconsistent rulings on class certification issues. Accordingly, centralization and consolidation pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407 is warranted.

The consolidation and transfer of these cases would further promote the efficient adjudication of these actions. As the class actions alleged in these related cases are similar if not identical, the discovery needed in each of these pending cases will unquestionably be duplicative. To have the parties engaged in duplicative discovery in multiple complex class actions would be singularly inefficient and an unnecessary burden on the judicial system and the parties. These factors again all weigh heavily in favor of consolidating and coordinating these cases.

B. The Southern District of Florida Is the Proper Forum for These Coordinated Proceedings

Numerous factors may be considered by the Panel in determining the most appropriate transferee forum, including “convenience of the parties and witnesses.” *See In re Computervision Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 814 F. Supp. 85, 86 (J.P.M.L. 1993). Here, the balance of relevant factors weighs strongly in favor of transferring these actions to the Southern District of Florida due to its convenient location, large concentration of putative class members, experience in handling MDL proceedings, and lack of pending MDL cases.

1. The Southern District of Florida Is as Appropriate as Any Other Forum for the Parties and Witnesses

The convenience of the parties and witnesses is a critical factor in determining to which district related actions should be transferred. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1407(a) (related actions may be transferred to a district for coordinated proceedings upon a determination that the transfer “will be

for the convenience of parties and witnesses and will promote the just and efficient conduct of such actions”). In deciding whether a particular forum is convenient, the Panel examines factors such as: where the first filed and most advanced cases are pending; the location of the parties, documents and potential witnesses relative to that district; and the location where the majority of actions have been brought. *See In re Baldwin-United Corp. Litig.*, 581 F. Supp. 739, 740 (J.P.M.L. 1984).

The Defendants in the multiple class actions are a Canadian business entity and its United States subsidiaries and/or affiliates, as well as certain other Defendant-distributors of the defective products. Each of these entities is headquartered and/or incorporated in different jurisdictions, including Canada, New Jersey, and Delaware. Of the seven lawsuits currently pending, one is pending in the Western District of Washington, one is pending in the Eastern District of Tennessee, one is pending in the Northern District of Illinois, two are pending in the Western District of Arkansas, one is pending in the District Court for the District of New Jersey, and one is pending in the Southern District of Florida. Further, upon information and belief, Defendants conduct business, and potentially have caused damages to purported class members, in all fifty states. Thus, there is no central forum that would be more convenient over any others in terms of the locations of parties, documents, and potential witnesses.

2. The Accessibility of the Southern District of Florida Warrants Transfer

While there will be a large number of class members residing in Florida, Troiano anticipates that parties to this litigation will come from all across the country and not one centralized region. Those parties residing outside of Florida will find the courthouses in the Southern District of Florida convenient and accessible by all forms of transportation. The multiple federal courthouses in the Southern District of Florida – in, among other place, Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach – are all in very close proximity to airports that have direct flights on many airlines to

numerous cities across the United States. Traveling from the airport to the courthouse is also simple due to the varieties of ground transportation available. *See In re Comp. of Managerial, Prof'l and Tech. Employees Antitrust Litig.*, 206 F. Supp. 2d at 1375 (transferring cases to the District of New Jersey and noting that the District of New Jersey is an “accessible” metropolitan location that is geographically convenient for litigants and counsel). On balance, the accessibility factor favors transfer of the related actions in the Southern District of Florida.

3. The Southern District of Florida Has the Capacity and Expertise to Handle these Related Cases

A comparison of the relative MDL case loads of potential transferee districts demonstrates that the Southern District of Florida is a highly suitable forum. The judges of the Southern District of Florida have vast experience in Multidistrict litigation, having brought to termination a total of 24 cases through September 30, 2006.¹ Yet, as of March 26, 2007, the Southern District of Florida only had only one pending MDL proceeding, which is nearly in an inactive stage. Thus, while the Southern District of Florida is well versed in the nuances of Multidistrict litigation, the Southern District would not be overburdened with similar cases if these actions were transferred there.

C. No Party Is Prejudiced by the Transfer and Consolidation of These Lawsuits

Each of the related lawsuits is in its infancy. To Movant’s knowledge, no party has served discovery, filed disclosures or engaged in substantive motion practice regarding these lawsuits. Because these related cases are all in their early stages, no party will be prejudiced by the transfer to the Southern District of Florida. Furthermore, since no discovery has occurred, an Order transferring

¹ Multidistrict Litigation Terminated Through September 30, 2006, available at <http://www.jpml.uscourts.gov/Statistics/TerminatedDocketsThroughSeptember2006.pdf>, viewed on March 26, 2007.

these cases to the Southern District of Florida can truly eliminate the expenses associated with the duplicative discovery that would otherwise occur in District Courts across the country.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the reasons discussed above, the Plaintiff respectfully request that the related actions identified on the accompanying Schedule of Actions, and any tag-along actions, be transferred to and consolidated in the Southern District of Florida. Accordingly, the Plaintiff respectfully request that this Panel enter an Order transferring the related actions, and any future related actions, to the Southern District of Florida.

Respectfully submitted,

DATED: March 28, 2007

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**BEFORE THE JUDICIAL PANEL ON
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION**

In re:

MENU FOODS, INC. PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION

MDL Docket No. _____

**SCHEDULE OF ACTIONS IN SUPPORT OF FLORIDA PLAINTIFF CHRISTINA
TROIANO'S MOTION TO TRANSFER AND COORDINATE OR CONSOLIDATE
ACTIONS UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 1407**

FILED

APR - 2 2007

MICHAEL W. DOBBINS
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SCHEDULE OF ACTIONS

Case Caption	Date Filed	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
Plaintiffs: Tom Whaley Defendants: Menu Foods, The Iams Company, Dog Food Producers Number 1-50, Cat Food Producers 1-40	March 19, 2007	W.D. Washington	2:07-cv-00411	Ricardo S. Martinez
Plaintiffs: Lizajean Holt Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc.	March 19, 2007	E.D. Tennessee	3:07-cv-00094	Thomas W. Phillips
Plaintiffs: Dawn Majerczyk Defendants: Menu Foods, Inc.	March 20, 2007	N.D. Illinois	1:07-cv-01543	Wayne R. Anderson
Plaintiffs: Charles Ray Sims, Pamela Sims Defendants: Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods Midwest Corporation, Menu Foods South Dakota Inc., Menu Foods, Inc., Menu Foods Holdings, Inc.	March 21, 2007	W.D. Arkansas	5:07-cv-05053	Jimm Larry Hendren
Plaintiffs: Richard Scott Widen, Barbara Widen Defendants: Menu Foods, Menu Foods Income Fund, Menu Foods General Partnership Limited, Menu Foods Limited	March 23, 2007	W.D. Arkansas	5:07-cv-05055	Robert T. Dawson

Partnership, Menu Foods Operating Partnership, Menu Foods Midwest				
Plaintiffs: Jared Workman, Mark Cohen, Mona Cohen Defendants: Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation	March 23, 2007	D. New Jersey	2:07-cv- 00411	Noel L. Hillman
Plaintiffs: Christina Troiano Defendants: Menu Foods Limited, Menu Foods Inc., Menu Foods Midwest Corporation	March 26, 2007	S.D. Florida	0:07-cv- 60428	James I. Cohn

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