

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**JUDICIAL PANEL ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION**

**CHAIRMAN:**  
 Judge John G. Heyburn II  
 United States District Court  
 Western District of Kentucky

**MEMBERS:**  
 Judge D. Lowell Jensen  
 United States District Court  
 Northern District of California

Judge J. Frederick Motz  
 United States District Court  
 District of Maryland

Judge Robert L. Miller, Jr.  
 United States District Court  
 Northern District of Indiana

Judge Kathryn H. Vratil  
 United States District Court  
 District of Kansas

Judge David R. Hansen  
 United States Court of Appeals  
 Eighth Circuit

Judge Anthony J. Scirica  
 United States Court of Appeals  
 Third Circuit

**DIRECT REPLY TO:**

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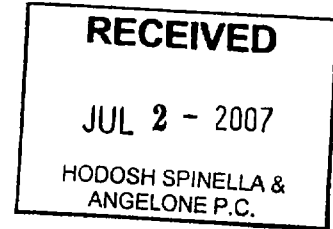
<http://www.jpml.uscourts.gov>

June 28, 2007

TO INVOLVED COUNSEL

Re: MDL-1850 -- In re Pet Food Products Liability Litigation

(See Attached CTO-1)



Dear Counsel:

Attached hereto is a copy of a conditional transfer order filed today by the Panel involving the above-captioned matter. This matter is transferred pursuant to Rule 7.4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, 199 F.R.D. 425, 435-36 (2001). Copies of Rule 5.2, dealing with service, and Rules 7.4 and 7.5, regarding "tag-along" actions, are attached for your convenience.

Inasmuch as there is an unavoidable time lag between notification of the pendency of the tag-along action and the filing of a conditional transfer order, counsel are required by Rule 7.4(b) to notify this office **BY FACSIMILE**, at (202) 502-2888, of any official changes in the status of the tag-along action. These changes could involve dismissal of the action, remand to state court, transfer to another federal court, etc., as indicated by an order filed by the district court. Your cooperation would be appreciated.

**NOTICE OF OPPOSITION DUE ON OR BEFORE: July 13, 2007 (4 p.m. EST)**  
 (Facsimile transmission is suggested.)

If you are considering opposing this conditional transfer order, please review Rules 7.4 and 7.5 of the Panel Rules before filing your Notice of Opposition.

A list of involved counsel is attached.

Very truly,

Jeffery N. Lüthi  
 Clerk of the Panel

By Thomas A. Letimore  
 Deputy Clerk

Attachments

JUDICIAL PANEL ON  
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

JUN 28 2007

FILED  
CLERK'S OFFICE

**DOCKET NO. 1850**

**BEFORE THE JUDICIAL PANEL ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION**

**IN RE PET FOOD PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION**

**(SEE ATTACHED SCHEDULE)**

**CONDITIONAL TRANSFER ORDER (CTO-1)**

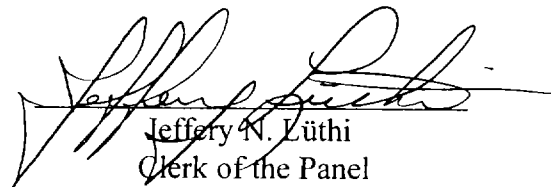
On June 19, 2007, the Panel transferred 12 civil actions to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407. *See* F.Supp.2d (J.P.M.L. 2007). With the consent of that court, all such actions have been assigned to the Honorable Noel L. Hillman.

It appears that the actions on this conditional transfer order involve questions of fact that are common to the actions previously transferred to the District of New Jersey and assigned to Judge Hillman.

Pursuant to Rule 7.4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, 199 F.R.D. 425, 435-36 (2001), these actions are transferred under 28 U.S.C. § 1407 to the District of New Jersey for the reasons stated in the order of June 19, 2007, and, with the consent of that court, assigned to the Honorable Noel L. Hillman.

This order does not become effective until it is filed in the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. The transmittal of this order to said Clerk shall be stayed 15 days from the entry thereof. If any party files a notice of opposition with the Clerk of the Panel within this 15-day period, the stay will be continued until further order of the Panel.

FOR THE PANEL:

  
Jeffery N. Lüthi  
Clerk of the Panel

**SCHEDULE CTO-20 - TAG-ALONG ACTIONS  
DOCKET NO. 1850  
IN RE PET FOOD PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION**

<u>DIST. DIV. C.A. #</u>	<u>CASE CAPTION</u>
ARKANSAS EASTERN ARE 4 07-376	Scott Stacey, et al. v. Nestle SA, et al.
ARKANSAS WESTERN ARW 4 07-4036 ARW 5 07-5065	Kirby Cooper v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et al. Sandra L. Gray, et al. v. Menu Foods, et al.
CALIFORNIA CENTRAL CAC 2 07-1987 CAC 2 07-2060 CAC 2 07-2253 CAC 2 07-2338 CAC 2 07-2476 CAC 2 07-2779 CAC 2 07-2964 CAC 5 07-398	Paul Randolph Johnson, et al. v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al. Dawn Howe v. Menu Foods Ltd., et al. Lois Grady, et al. v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et al. Kelly Finestone v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al. Richard Chamberlain v. Nestle SA, et al. Ken Wahl, et al. v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et al. Jayne Englander, et al. v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et al. Dennis Lee Townsend, et al. v. Menu Foods Ltd., et al.
CALIFORNIA EASTERN CAE 2 07-654	Cheryl Carver v. Del Monte Foods Co., et al.
CALIFORNIA NORTHERN CAN 3 07-1809 CAN 3 07-2665	Sherry Ingles v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al. Diane Lowery v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et al.
CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN CAS 3 07-705 CAS 3 07-706 CAS 3 07-734 CAS 3 07-951	Robert Payne, et al. v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al. Diane Swarberg v. Menu Foods Holding, Inc., et al. Hayley Ford, et al. v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et al. John Colliard v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al.
COLORADO CO 1 07-736	Emily Tompkins v. Menu Foods Midwest Corp., et al.
FLORIDA MIDDLE FLM 2 07-235 FLM 6 07-803	Maria Teresa Ferrarese v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al. George Birney, et al. v. Menu Foods, Inc.
FLORIDA SOUTHERN FLS 1 07-20955	Stephen Donnelly, et al. v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al.
IDAHO ID 1 07-160	Larry Klimes, et al. v. Menu Foods
ILLINOIS NORTHERN ILN 1 07-2162 ILN 1 07-2183 ILN 1 07-2211 ILN 1 07-2237	Heather Amro v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et al. Gary Bruski v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al. Raymond Demith, et al. v. Nestle Purina Petcare Co., et al. Sonja Foxe v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al.

## SCHEDULE CTO-1 - TAG-ALONG ACTIONS (MDL-1850)

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<u>DIST. DIV. C.A. #</u>	<u>CASE CAPTION</u>
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>	
MA 1 07-10745	Lidia Rodrigues v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al.
MA 1 07-10797	Megan Connerton, et al. v. Menu Foods Midwest Corp., et al.
<b>MAINE</b>	
ME 2 07-54	Mara Brazilian v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et al.
<b>MINNESOTA</b>	
MN 0 07-1808	Stephanie Rozman v. Menu Foods Midwest Corp., et al.
MN 0 07-2108	Wendy Krosschell v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et al.
<b>MISSOURI WESTERN</b>	
MOW 3 07-5041	Richard Schwinger v. Menu Foods, et al.
<b>MISSISSIPPI SOUTHERN</b>	
MSS 5 07-105	Sarah Cavin v. Menu Foods, et al.
<b>NEVADA</b>	
NV 2 07-686	Maragaret Picus v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., et al.
NV 3 07-159	Marion Streczyn v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al.
<b>NEW YORK SOUTHERN</b>	
NYS 1 07-3236	Mark Cashman, et al. v. Menu Foods Midwest Corp., et al.
<b>OHIO NORTHERN</b>	
OHN 1 07-1018	Gregory Boehm v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al.
<b>PENNSYLVANIA MIDDLE</b>	
PAM 1 07-929	Dixie Keller v. Menu Foods Ltd., et al.
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>	
RI 1 07-115	Carol Brown v. Menu Foods, Inc., et al.
<b>TENNESSEE EASTERN</b>	
TNE 3 07-98	Barbara Light v. Menu Foods Income Fund
<b>WASHINGTON WESTERN</b>	
WAW 2 07-575	Laura Migliore v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-576	Gail Moran v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-577	Sheryl Puett v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-634	Daniel Ray Reeves v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-666	Sheree A. Robinson v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-667	Phyllis A. Ullman v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-668	Elizabeth Palmer v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-669	Jason Labbate v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-670	Megan Whitt v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-684	Linda Weitz v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-685	Michelle Adams v. Menu Foods

SCHEDULE CTO-1 - TAG-ALONG ACTIONS (MDL-1850)

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**DIST. DIV. C.A. #**

**CASE CAPTION**

WAW 2 07-686	Lerae Dineen v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-687	Sandra Shingle v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-688	Gary Thomas v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-689	Deborah A. Mullen v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-690	Helen Percy v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-745	Paula Monk v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-746	Tony Boyer v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-747	Norman Brenton v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-748	Lynda Nagel v. Menu Foods
WAW 2 07-749	Teresa Eilers v. Menu Foods
WAW 3 07-5204	Jeff Rusiecki v. Menu Foods
WAW 3 07-5205	Nancy Guthrie v. Menu Foods

**WISCONSIN WESTERN**

WIW 3 07-159	Jacqueline Johnson v. The Procter & Gamble Co., et al.
WIW 3 07-248	Penny J. Roberts, et al. v. Menu Foods Income Fund, et al.

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DOCKET NO. 1850

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**RULE 5.2: SERVICE OF PAPERS FILED**

(a) All papers filed with the Clerk of the Panel shall be accompanied by proof of previous or simultaneous service on all other parties in all actions involved in the litigation. Service and proof of service shall be made as provided in Rules 5 and 6 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The proof of service shall indicate the name and complete address of each person served and shall indicate the party represented by each. If a party is not represented by counsel, the proof of service shall indicate the name of the party and the party's last known address. The proof of service shall indicate why any person named as a party in a constituent complaint was not served with the Section 1407 pleading. The original proof of service shall be filed with the Clerk of the Panel and copies thereof shall be sent to each person included within the proof of service. After the "Panel Service List" described in subsection (d) of this Rule has been received from the Clerk of the Panel, the "Panel Service List" shall be utilized for service of responses to motions and all other filings. In such instances, the "Panel Service List" shall be attached to the proof of service and shall be supplemented in the proof of service in the event of the presence of additional parties or subsequent corrections relating to any party, counsel or address already on the "Panel Service List."

(b) The proof of service pertaining to motions for transfer of actions pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1407 shall certify that copies of the motions have been mailed or otherwise delivered for filing to the clerk of each district court in which an action is pending that will be affected by the motion. The proof of service pertaining to a motion for remand pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1407 shall certify that a copy of the motion has been mailed or otherwise delivered for filing to the clerk of the Section 1407 transferee district court in which any action affected by the motion is pending.

(c) Within eleven days of filing of a motion to transfer, an order to show cause or a conditional transfer order, each party or designated attorney shall notify the Clerk of the Panel, in writing, of the name and address of the attorney designated to receive service of all pleadings, notices, orders and other papers relating to practice before the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. Only one attorney shall be designated for each party. Any party not represented by counsel shall be served by mailing such pleadings to the party's last known address. Requests for an extension of time to file the designation of attorney shall not be granted except in extraordinary circumstances.

(d) In order to facilitate compliance with subsection (a) of this Rule, the Clerk of the Panel shall prepare and serve on all counsel and parties not represented by counsel, a "Panel Service List" containing the names and addresses of the designated attorneys and the party or parties they represent in the actions under consideration by the Panel and the names and addresses of the parties not represented by counsel in the actions under consideration by the Panel. After the "Panel Service List" has been received from the Clerk of the Panel, notice of subsequent corrections relating to any party, counsel or address on the "Panel Service List" shall be served on all other parties in all actions involved in the litigation.

(e) If following transfer of any group of multidistrict litigation, the transferee district court appoints liaison counsel, this Rule shall be satisfied by serving each party in each affected action and all liaison counsel. Liaison counsel designated by the transferee district court shall receive copies of all Panel orders concerning their particular litigation and shall be responsible for distribution to the parties for whom he or she serves as liaison counsel.

(a) Upon learning of the pendency of a potential "tag-along action," as defined in Rule 1.1 of these Rules, an order may be entered by the Clerk of the Panel transferring that action to the previously designated transferee district court on the basis of the prior hearing session(s) and for the reasons expressed in previous opinions and orders of the Panel in the litigation. The Clerk of the Panel shall serve this order on each party to the litigation but, in order to afford all parties the opportunity to oppose transfer, shall not send the order to the clerk of the transferee district court for fifteen days from the entry thereof.

(b) Parties to an action subject to a conditional transfer order shall notify the Clerk of the Panel within the fifteen-day period if that action is no longer pending in its transferor district court.

(c) Any party opposing the transfer shall file a notice of opposition with the Clerk of the Panel within the fifteen-day period. If a notice of opposition is received by the Clerk of the Panel within this fifteen-day period, the Clerk of the Panel shall not transmit said order to the clerk of the transferee district court until further order of the Panel. The Clerk of the Panel shall notify the parties of the briefing schedule.

(d) Within fifteen days of the filing of its notice of opposition, the party opposing transfer shall file a motion to vacate the conditional transfer order and brief in support thereof. The Chairman of the Panel shall set the motion for the next appropriate hearing session of the Panel. Failure to file and serve a motion and brief shall be treated as withdrawal of the opposition and the Clerk of the Panel shall forthwith transmit the order to the clerk of the transferee district court.

(e) Conditional transfer orders do not become effective unless and until they are filed with the clerk of the transferee district court.

(f) Notices of opposition and motions to vacate such orders of the Panel and responses thereto shall be governed by Rules 5.12, 5.2, 7.1 and 7.2 of these Rules.

RULE 7.5: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS CONCERNING "TAG-ALONG ACTIONS"

(a) Potential "tag-along actions" filed in the transferee district require no action on the part of the Panel and requests for assignment of such actions to the Section 1407 transferee judge should be made in accordance with local rules for the assignment of related actions.

(b) Upon learning of the pendency of a potential "tag-along action" and having reasonable anticipation of opposition to transfer of that action, the Panel may direct the Clerk of the Panel to file a show cause order, in accordance with Rule 7.3 of these Rules, instead of a conditional transfer order.

(c) Failure to serve one or more of the defendants in a potential "tag-along action" with the complaint and summons as required by Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure does not preclude transfer of such action under Section 1407. Such failure, however, may be submitted by such a defendant as a basis for opposing the proposed transfer if prejudice can be shown. The inability of the Clerk of the Panel to serve a conditional transfer order on all plaintiffs or defendants or their counsel shall not render the transfer of the action void but can be submitted by such a party as a basis for moving to remand as to such party if prejudice can be shown.

(d) A civil action apparently involving common questions of fact with actions under consideration by the Panel for transfer under Section 1407, which was either not included in a motion under Rule 7.2 of these Rules, or was included in such a motion that was filed too late to be included in the initial hearing session, will ordinarily be treated by the Panel as a potential "tag-along action."

(e) Any party or counsel in actions previously transferred under Section 1407 or under consideration by the Panel for transfer under Section 1407 shall promptly notify the Clerk of the Panel of any potential "tag-along actions" in which that party is also named or in which that counsel appears.