

New Jersey Court Orders Depositions of Top Johnson & Johnson Executives in Transvaginal Mesh Litigation

In a significant ruling issued on July 19, 2012, a New Jersey Superior Court Judge presiding in the pelvic mesh litigation involving Johnson & Johnson and its subsidiary Ethicon, Inc. has ordered top executives to testify in depositions. In addition, the trial judge ordered that the executives' computers are subject to electronic searches, and that any relevant information discovered must be turned over to plaintiffs' counsel in advance of the depositions. The trial judge rejected the defense lawyers' attempts to block the depositions on the grounds that these executives were at such a high level that they have little or no relevant knowledge. These depositions will enable the plaintiffs to find out what was known at the highest levels of J & J, and to gain an understanding for why these pelvic mesh products have been marketed to patients and physicians despite the company's knowledge of serious safety problems from the outset.

Roseland, New Jersey (PRWEB) July 23, 2012

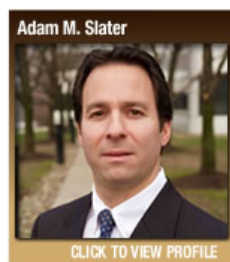


On July 19, 2012 the New Jersey Judge managing more than 1000 pelvic mesh medical device cases filed against Johnson & Johnson and its wholly owned subsidiary Ethicon, Inc., ordered that current J & J Chief Executive Alex Gorsky, former J & J Vice Chairman and current Avon CEO Sheri McCoy, and Ethicon Franchise head Gary Pruden must be produced for depositions, which will be videotaped, in connection with the ongoing pelvic mesh litigation. [In Re Pelvic Mesh Gynecare Litigation, Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Atlantic County, ATL-6341-10, Case No. 291 CT.](#) The Judge also ruled that extensive electronic searches be made of the executives' computers, and that the results be produced to the Plaintiffs ahead of the depositions. Finally, the Judge ordered that if any relevant documents are identified during an electronic search of the computers of former J & J Chief Executive William Weldon, his deposition will be taken as well.

The rulings came in the course of a hearing conducted by the Presiding Judge, the Hon. Carol Higbee, who is managing the coordinated litigation of [In Re Pelvic Mesh Gynecare Litigation, ATL-6341-10, Case No. 291 CT.](#) A formal order confirming Judge Higbee's July 19, 2012 ruling is expected to be entered shortly.

Adam M. Slater, who filed the first New Jersey case claiming these products to be defective in early 2008, and is Co-Liaison Counsel for all of the Plaintiffs, briefed and argued the motion before Judge Higbee, and confirms this significant ruling. "We look forward to questioning the most senior J & J executives in order to find out what was known at the highest levels, and to gain an understanding for why these pelvic mesh products have been marketed to patients and physicians despite the company's knowledge of serious safety problems from the outset," says Slater. [In May, 2012 J & J and Ethicon](#) advised the FDA that four of the medical devices at the center of the litigation will be permanently pulled from the market, including the Prolift, Prolift +M, Prosima, and TVT Secur, and that the indications for another pelvic mesh product, Gynemesh PS, will be changed to significantly narrow the circumstances under which that medical device will be used.

Mr. Slater confirms that Judge Higbee rejected the defense lawyers' efforts to block the depositions on the grounds that these executives were at such a high level that they have little or no relevant knowledge. "We were able to show



Adam Slater, Esq.

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Adam Slater Quoted in Wall Street Journal



[In re Pelvic Mesh Gynecare Litigation, Superior Court of New Jersey, Atlantic County, Master Docket No.: L- 6341-10, J&J Litigation No. 291](#)

Complaint filed by Adam Slater, Plaintiffs' Co-Liaison Counsel



[Bloomberg News Report March 21, 2012](#)

the Judge multiple documents confirming the knowledge and involvement of Mr. Gorsky, Ms. McCoy, and Mr. Pruden in connection with these dangerous products, and we plan to prove the same with Mr. Weldon once we obtain his documents,"says Slater.

About Adam Slater, Esq. and Mazie Slater Katz & Freeman, LLC:

Mazie Slater Katz & Freeman, LLC is a prominent personal injury law firm whose attorneys are aggressively pursuing transvaginal mesh claims on behalf of women throughout the United States who have suffered severe complications as a result of the Gynecare (Ethicon) Prolift Anterior, Posterior, and Total Pelvic Floor Repair Systems, and the TVT products, Prosima, and Gynemesh PS, Bard Avaulta Pelvic Floor Repair Systems, Boston Scientific Uphold and Pinnacle Pelvic Floor Repair Kits, American Medical Systems (AMS) Apogee, Perigee and Elevate Prolapse Repair Systems, and Monarc slings, and related mesh products.

New Jersey certified civil trial attorney Adam Slater has been appointed as plaintiffs' Co-Liaison Counsel in the consolidated cases proceeding in New Jersey State Court against Gynecare, Ethicon and Johnson & Johnson, in re Pelvic Mesh Gynecare Litigation, ATL-6341-10, Case Number 291, which encompasses many of the cases pending against these defendants in the United States.

Click on the links below to read more about developments in transvaginal mesh device litigation.

[Transvaginal Mesh Lawyer Adam Slater Discusses Johnson & Johnson's Decision to Halt Sale of Vaginal Mesh Implants](#)

[FDA Releases Report Highly Critical of Vaginal Mesh Bladder Slings](#)

[FDA Confirms Johnson & Johnson Prolift Pelvic Mesh Product Sold for Over 3 Years without Necessary FDA Clearance](#)

[Adam M. Slater, Esq.](#)

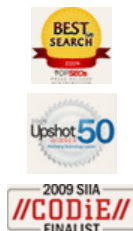
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