

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

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**IN RE: PROTON-PUMP  
INHIBITOR PRODUCTS  
LIABILITY LITIGATION**

**2:17-MD-2789 (CCC)(LDW)  
(MDL 2789)  
and all member and related cases**

**This Document Relates to:  
All Actions**

**Judge Claire C. Cecchi**

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**CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER NO. 81  
(Mandatory Settlement Conferences)**

As of August 15, 2022, there are approximately 13,400 cases pending in this MDL proceeding, *In re: Proton Pump Inhibitor Products Liability Litigation*. One group of bellwether cases has completed discovery, and three bellwether cases are set for trial. Twenty additional cases were selected for a second bellwether group, and groups of two hundred cases were selected for a first and second wave, and discovery is currently underway in those groups.

The Court finds that now is an opportune time for Plaintiffs and Defendants in these cases to participate in settlement conferences. Special Master Ellen Reisman will conduct these settlement conferences at the offices of Reisman Karron Greene LLP<sup>1</sup> on the dates set forth below. All parties involved shall participate in

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<sup>1</sup> 1725 DeSales St., NW, Suite 501, Washington, D.C. 20036.

these conferences and negotiate in good faith. Special Master Reisman shall report to the Court at the conclusion of each settlement conference.

Chris Seeger and Justin Witkin shall personally attend each session on behalf of all Plaintiffs in MDL 2789. Counsel for the Defendants identified below and a corporate representative with full settlement authority, subject to approval of the respective corporate Board(s), shall personally attend their respective sessions:

1. September 29, 2022. GlaxoSmithKline. Stephen McConnell.
2. September 30, 2022. AstraZeneca / Merck. Arthur Brown.
3. October 19, 2022. Pfizer. Stephen Matthews.
4. October 20, 2022. Procter & Gamble. K.C. Green.
5. October 21, 2022. Takeda / Abbott. Craig Thompson.

The Special Master may schedule as many additional conferences as she determines to be appropriate, and all parties shall participate fully and with all necessary settlement authority in any additional settlement conferences conducted by Special Master Reisman.

All written and oral communications during these settlement conferences are strictly confidential, with the sole exceptions being that Defendant's counsel and representatives are authorized to seek and obtain the necessary approval for any potential resolution discussed at their respective conference, and Plaintiffs' counsel may discuss such potential resolution with the members of the Plaintiffs' Executive

Committee.

**IT IS SO ORDERED**

SIGNED 9th day of September, 2022.

s/ Claire C. Cecchi  
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CLAIRE C. CECCHI  
United States District Judge