

2873

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

FILED

IN RE: ASBESTOS PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION (No. VI)

MAR 10 2000

This Document Relates To MICHAEL S. KUNZ, Clerk CIVIL ACTION NO. MDL 875

ALL ACTIONS

By [Signature] Dep. Clerk

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 6

The Court is advised that counsel are still unaware of several of the nuances required on pleadings which are to be filed with the Transferee Court or with the Judicial Panel. Many pleadings continue to be improperly forwarded to the Transferee Court or prepared with incorrect and/or inadequate information in the headings. Substantial amounts of paper are being unnecessarily wasted by the sending of documents (both originals and copies) to the wrong court. All counsel shall adhere to the following requirements:

1. Knowing that all asbestos-related personal injury actions are to be transferred to the Eastern District of Pennsylvania for inclusion in MDL 875, plaintiffs' counsel shall refrain from filing multiple plaintiff actions. The administrative burden upon the Transferor Court clerks and upon the Judicial Panel clerks overshadows any efficiencies created.
2. All counsel are reminded that this Court does not have jurisdiction of any case until transfer has been

completed in accordance with the rules of the Judicial Panel On Multidistrict Litigation. No pleadings should be sent to this Court until jurisdiction is transferred. All counsel are responsible to ensure that the Judicial Panel is made aware of any potential tag-along case. A copy of the Complaint and the docket sheet should be forwarded to the Panel at the following address:

Clerk of the Panel
Judicial Panel On Multidistrict Litigation
One Columbus Circle, NE
Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building
Room G-255, North Lobby
Washington, D.C. 20002-8004

3. All pleadings for cases in MDL 875 shall properly identify the plaintiff by full name. (SSN optional) In addition, each pleading shall identify the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania as the court of jurisdiction and shall set forth "MDL 875" as the case number in that court. Each pleading MUST also identify the Transferor Court and shall set forth the correct case number (A correct case number includes the divisional code, year, and sequence number). (District Court abbreviations and divisional codes are set forth on Appendix A)
4. The clerks of the Transferor Courts are responsible for maintaining the files and the dockets of all cases assigned to MDL 875. Original filings should be filed with the Transferor Court. The Clerk of the Judicial Panel should receive a copy of each new complaint,

amended complaint adding new parties, third-party complaint, new appearance, or change of counsel. Original motions are filed with the Transferor Court and a copy together with an original proposed order is to be sent to the Transferee Judge. Motions for remand or suggestion of remand are to be handled in accordance with the Mutidistrict Panel Rules.

5. In submitting orders for approval of dismissals, settlements, change of counsel, and other matters where many cases in the same district and division are impacted identically, counsel shall combine such relief into a single order naming the individual plaintiffs in the heading or by attachment. ALL ORDERS MUST CONTAIN THE PROPER IDENTIFICATION OF EACH PLAINTIFF, THE TRANSFEROR COURT, AND THE CORRECT CASE NUMBER AS AS IDENTIFIED IN #3 ABOVE. Once the order is executed and returned to the Transferor Court, it shall be appropriately duplicated for insertion into the file of each involved case.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY THE COURT:



CHARLES R. WEINER, J.

Date: Mar 10, 2000