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# SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

COORDINATION PROCEEDING
SPECIAL TITLE [Rule 1550(b)]

ASSIGNED FOR ALL PURPOSES TO:

Ludge Winifred V. Smith

Judge Winifred Y. Smith Dept, 21

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:

ALL CASES

CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER NO. 1: CASE MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION PROCEDURES

Pursuant to California Rule of Court ("CRC") 3.541, having considered the written submission of the parties, and the comments and proposals presented to the court, and good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

#### I. GENERAL MATTERS

A. Scope of Order. This Case Management Order No. 1 ("CMO 1"), and all case management and other orders entered by this court, shall be binding on all parties and their counsel

in the Judicial Council Coordinated Proceeding No. 4887, Essure Product Cases, including in all add-on or included actions, unless such order explicitly states that it relates only to specific cases.

- B. Pretrial Coordination. The procedures and protocols contained in this CMO 1 shall govern each case brought by or on behalf of any person alleging injuries and damages from, or cases seeking injunctive relief or restitution relating to, Essure® ("Plaintiffs") that are coordinated in these proceedings pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections ("CCP") 404 et seq. and CRC 3.501, et seq. This CMO 1 does not constitute a determination that these cases should be consolidated for trial, and does not have the effect of making any person or entity a party to an action in which he, she or it has not been named and served.
- C. Register of Actions and Case File. The Clerk of the Alameda County Superior Court will maintain a Register of Actions and Case File under the caption "ESSURE PRODUCT CASES, Judicial Council Coordinated Proceeding No. 4887" (hereafter, "JCCP 4887"). All orders, pleadings, motions, and other documents will, when filed and docketed in JCCP 4887, be deemed filed and docketed in each included action to the extent applicable. Pleadings, motions and other documents shall bear a caption similar to that of this CMO 1. If generally applicable to all of the coordinated actions, the document shall indicate in the caption that it relates to "ALL CASES." Documents intended to apply only to particular cases will indicate in the caption the name and case number of each case to which it applies.
- D. Stay of Proceedings. The parties anticipate that a proposed plan for coordinated motion practice and discovery will be presented to the court. The parties disagree as to whether a stay of all proceedings is warranted in order to promote discussions relating to that proposal. Nonetheless, and for the orderly administration of these coordinated proceedings, the parties have agreed, and the court orders, that any Essure® case identified as an add-on case to these coordinated proceedings is ordered stayed except as to the specific proceedings outlined in this CMO 1 or in any subsequent orders entered by the court. Except as otherwise outlined in this CMO 1, or in any subsequent order, all discovery previously served on any party in any case included in these coordinated proceedings, or in any case identified as an add-on case, and any responsive pleading due to any such case, are hereby stayed until further order of this court. This stay does not preclude

the parties from meeting and conferring on discovery or other issues to facilitate the efficient progress of these coordinated proceedings, nor does it preclude Plaintiffs from initiating discovery when the court deems appropriate. Any California state court Essure® case not yet identified as an add-on case shall be subject to this stay once identified as an add-on case by any party.

For cases not yet coordinated in this proceeding or identified as an add-on case, the party who identifies the case as an add-on case shall have the responsibility of serving the other parties in that case, at the same time as the case is identified to this court as an add-on case, with a copy of each Case Management Order entered in JCCP 4887 (unless the party's counsel of record has already appeared in these coordinated proceedings for another party) and for filing a Notice of Stay of Proceedings (Judicial Council Form CM-180) in the originating court.

E. Admission of Attorneys. *Pro hac vice* admittance in an included action prior to coordination is sufficient to allow an appearance in these coordinated proceedings and in any other included action in which the attorney represents a party. Counsel having been admitted *pro hac vice* in an included action prior to coordination are directed to file a copy of the order of admission in this JCCP 4887 case.

An attorney who is admitted *pro hac vice* in these coordinated proceedings need not file a *pro hac vice* application in any other included action in which he or she represents a party unless and until a remand (CRC 3.542) or transfer (CRC 3.543) results in an action no longer being included in these coordinated proceedings.

Pro huc vice renewal fees pursuant to California Government Code § 70617 (e)(2) shall be deposited with the Clerk of this Court.

F. Communications Among Plaintiffs' Counsel and Among Defendants' Counsel. In recognition that cooperation among counsel and the parties is essential for the orderly and expeditious resolution of the litigation, any cooperative effort shall not in any way be used against any party, be cited as purported evidence of conspiracy or wrongful conduct, and shall not be communicated to any jury. The communication, transmission or dissemination of information of common interest among Plaintiffs' counsel, between Plaintiffs' counsel and Plaintiffs, among defendants' counsel, or between defendants' counsel and defendants (including their employees and

agents), in this proceeding shall be protected by the attorney-client privilege, the attorney work-product doctrine, the protections afforded to material prepared for litigation, or by any other privilege to which a party is otherwise entitled.

- G. Compliance With Rules Regarding Ex Parte Communications With Court. All parties and their counsel shall comply with Rule 5-300 of the Rules of Professional Conduct and with the published procedural guidelines of this court with respect to communications with the court and court staff. Any pleading filed in JCCP 4887 must be served simultaneously on all Lead and Liaison Counsel in the same manner and at the same time as it is filed. All Liaison Counsel shall be copied on all emails with the court's clerk.
- H. Electronic Service. The parties anticipate using a third-party vendor to provide electronic service of documents in this coordinated proceeding. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in this CMO 1, the responsibility of any party (including Lead or Liaison Counsel) to serve any other party (except for service of process or service required under a statute or court rule to be personal service) or to provide notice to any other party, shall be deemed complete with the completion of electronic service, once such service has been authorized by this court in a subsequent case management order.
- I. Service by Court to Liaison Counsel. The Court may, at its discretion, serve only Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel and Defendants' Liaison Counsel with any order, notice, or other paper, and direct Liaison Counsel to serve all remaining parties by whatever means such Liaison Counsel deem(s) appropriate.
- J. Department 21 Procedures. All parties should become thoroughly familiar with the extensive information available on the court's website, DomainWeb (https://publicrecords.alameda.courts.ca.gov/PRS/), including case specific information, calendar information, tentative rulings for law and motion matters, and documents covering assorted topics related to complex litigation (List of Documents button). Among the available documents is a Model Protective Order. While the use of the Model Protective Order is not mandatory, all protective orders must include a provision similar in substance to the following:

"If any Party seeks to file Confidential material or disclose the contents of Confidential material designated as such by another Party as a basis for adjudication other than discovery motions or proceedings (e.g., motions within the scope of CRC 3.1350 and 3.764), the filing Party must meet and confer with the designating Party at least 10 calendar days prior to the intended filing date to offer the designating Party the opportunity to evaluate whether the designated materials fall within the parameters of CRC 2.550(d), and to either (a) remove the Confidential designation, or (b) prepare a motion or application pursuant to CRC 2.551(b)."

#### II. ORGANIZATION OF PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL

A. Plaintiffs' Co-Liaison Counsel. The court designates the following to serve as Plaintiffs' Co-Liaison Counsel:

#### William A. Kershaw (CA State Bar 57486)

Kershaw, Cook & Talley

401 Watt Avenue

Sacramento, CA 95846

Phone: (888) 997-5170

Fax: (916) 669-4499

E-mail: bill@kctlegal.com

#### M. Elizabeth Graham (CA State Bar 143085)

Grant & Eisenhofer P.A.

101 California Street

Suite 2710

San Francisco, CA 94111

Phone: 415-365-9585

E-mail: egraham@gelaw.com

- B. Responsibilities of Plaintiffs' Co-Liaison Counsel. Plaintiffs' Co-Liaison Counsel shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
- 1. Maintain and distribute to the court, to all other Plaintiffs' counsel, and to Defendants' counsel an up-to-date comprehensive service list of all counsel, marked with the last date of revision;
- 2. On behalf of all counsel for all Plaintiffs, receive from Defendants, the court, and third parties, and as appropriate, distribute to all other Plaintiffs' counsel the following: written

B. Duties of Defendants' Co-Lead and Liaison Counsel. Defendants' Lead and Liaison Counsel shall have the responsibility to receive and distribute to other defendants' counsel, as appropriate, orders, notices and correspondence from the court; to coordinate the filing of notices and papers by defendants; to prepare status conference statements in advance of each status conference; to sign documents submitted to the court; to communicate with Plaintiffs' Lead and Co-Liaison Counsel; to negotiate case management orders; and to engage in meet and confer sessions.

## IV. ADD-ON PROCEDURES

A. CRC 3.544 APPLIES. Because the original Petition For Coordination is no longer "pending," CRC 3.531 is no longer applicable, and CRC 3.532 only applies when a new petition is submitted to the Judicial Council after a coordination proceeding is already under way. Where, as here, a petition for coordination has been granted and a coordination trial judge has been appointed, the add-on procedures set forth in CRC 3.544 apply. Pursuant to that rule, when a potential add-on case is identified, a request by way of a Petition To Coordinate Add-On Case[s] ("Add-On Petition") must be promptly filed directly with the Coordination Trial Judge in JCCP 4887. Permission to do so (CRC 3.520) is deemed granted.

All Add-On Petitions must clearly identify the petitioner, so that the resulting order can clearly identify the party upon whom the filing and service requirements of CRC 3.529(a) fall. The notices required under CRC 3.522 and 3.523 ("Notice") need only be filed in the subject add-on case[s] and must be filed together with a Judicial Council Form CM-180 Notice Of Stay Of Proceedings with section 3(e) indicating "Petition To Coordinate Add-On Case pending." The Notice must be served on the Chair of the Judicial Council at the following address:

Chair, Judicial Council of California Administrative Offices of the Courts Attn: Appellate Court Services (Civil Case Coordination) 455 Golden Gate Avenue, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, CA 94102-3688

The Notice must also be served, together with copies of all Case Management Orders entered in JCCP 4887 and the Notice of Stay Of Proceedings, on the parties appearing in the subject add-on case[s], and on Liaison Counsel. As clearly set forth in CRC 3.544(a), the filing of an Add-On Petition must be accompanied by a proof of service reflecting the above.

Counsel who already represent a plaintiff in an action coordinated in these coordinated proceedings and who file a new action on behalf of another plaintiff shall file and serve an Add-On Petition for the new action at the time they serve the complaint in that new action. Failure to include a proof of service will result in the denial of the Add-On Petition without prejudice.

- B. Opposition to Coordination. Within ten (10) calendar days from the date of filing and service of an Add-On Petition, any party may file and serve a Notice of Opposition to Coordination, including points and authorities and other relevant materials. (CRC 3.544(b).) The court may, but need not, set a hearing for determining whether the case[s] should be coordinated. If a hearing is set an order will be issued with hearing date and time, briefing schedule, and directions for service of the order. If no notice of opposition is filed, the court will issue its order granting or denying the Add-On Petition without setting a hearing.
- C. No Waiver. Nothing in this section shall affect any defendant's right to remove any action to federal court. The defendant's right of removal, as well as the defendant's obligation to respond to any complaint, shall (unless stayed) run from the date of proper service of process, regardless whether such action was previously identified as a potential add-on action and/or coordinated into these proceedings.

## V. CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCES

A. Case Management Conferences. Case Management Conferences ("CMCs") will be set from time to time by the court, or by joint application of Plaintiffs' Lead or Co- Liaison counsel and Defendants' Lead and Liaison Counsel to the court. The parties are under a continuing obligation to meet and confer on the timing of CMCs, and may apply separately to the court for a CMC date only if the parties are unable to agree on a date that is convenient to the court, the Defendants' Liaison Counsel, and at least one of Plaintiffs' Co-Liaison Counsel.

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| 1       | B. CMC Statement and Agenda. The parties shall meet and confer through Liaison                        |
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| 2       |   |
| 3       | court and served on all parties by Defendants' Liaison Counsel at least five (5) calendar days before |
| 4       | the CMC.  |
| 5       |   |
| 6       | IT IS SO ORDERED.   |
| 7       |   |
| 8       | Dated: <u>Desember 21, 2016</u> <u>Musike</u> & Anith<br>HONORABLE WINIFRED Y. SMITH                  |
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### Superior Court of California, County of Alameda Department 21, Administration Building

Case Number: JCCP- 004887

Case Name: ESSURE PRODUCT CASES AND COORDINATED ACTIONS.

RE: CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER NO.1 AND COORDINATIONPROCEDURES

#### DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I certify that I am not a party to this cause and that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was mailed first class, postage prepaid, in a sealed envelope, addressed as shown at the bottom of this document, and that the mailing of the foregoing and execution of this certificate occurred at 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, California.

Executed on December 22, 2016

Executive Officer/Clerk of the Superior Court

By <u>Christopher Wright</u> Deputy Clerk

William A. Kershaw Kershaw, Cook & Talley 401 Watt Ave. Sacramento, CA, 95846

M. Elizabeth Graham Grant & Eisenhofer P.A. 101 California St., Suite 2710 San Francisco, CA. 94111