

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
(Filed: December 31, 2003)

IN RE: CLAIMS FOR VACCINE INJURIES *
RESULTING IN AUTISM SPECTRUM *
DISORDER OR A SIMILAR *
NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER * AUTISM MASTER FILE
*
VARIOUS PETITIONERS, *
*
v. *
*
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND *
HUMAN SERVICES, *
*
Respondent. *

ORDER MODIFYING BRIEFING SCHEDULE RE MERCK DISCOVERY

An unrecorded telephonic status conference was held on December 19, 2003. Participating were Michael Williams and Thomas Powers for the petitioners, along with Vincent Matanoski and Mark Raby for the respondent. At the time for discussion of the petitioners' pending motion for discovery from Merck & Co., we added the following participants: Dino Sangiano, attorney for Merck, and four attorneys representing other vaccine manufacturers: Brad Wolff, representing Aventis Pasteur; Daniel Thomach, representing Wyeth; Stacey Martinez, representing GlaxoSmithKline; and Lee Davis Thames, representing Baxler.

After discussion at that conference, the due date for reply briefs by Merck and the other four vaccine manufacturers was rescheduled for December 29, 2003. In addition, oral argument on this issue, previously scheduled for January 6, 2004, was postponed indefinitely. Instead, a telephonic status conference has been scheduled for January 15, 2004.



George L. Hastings, Jr.
Special Master

*All briefs shall be served on the filing dates on all of the other interested parties (*i.e.*, the respondent, Merck, and the vaccine manufacturers) not only by ordinary service but also by either "email" or "fax."