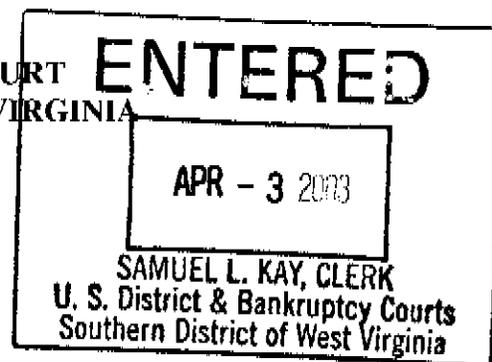


IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA

CHARLESTON DIVISION

IN RE: SERZONE  
PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION



MDL NO. 1477

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THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL CASES

**ORDER**

Pending is plaintiffs' motion to extend time to designate class representatives [Docket 61]. They seek to move the deadline for designating class representatives from March 24, 2003, until April 24, 2003. The defendant has filed an opposition to this motion, objecting to any delay in the class certification process. According to Pretrial Order #6, the defendant has until July 31, 2003 to complete the depositions of the putative class representatives. Even given the April 24 date, the schedule still provides the defendant with over three months to schedule and complete depositions of the putative class representatives. Likewise, a slight delay in designating class representatives will not delay any other part of the class certification schedule. Accordingly, the court **GRANTS** the motion and **ORDERS** that the plaintiffs designate putative class representatives by April 24, 2003.

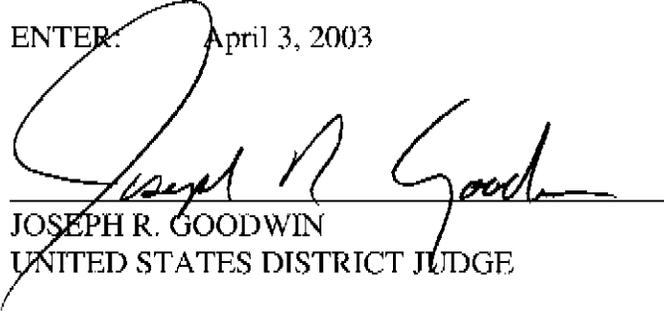
The court has been informed by counsel for the defendant that the next scheduled status conference, set for April 16, 2003, falls on the first day of Passover. The court therefore **CANCELS** this April 16 status conference. The status conference set for May 21, 2003, shall be held as scheduled absent further order of this court. The court notes that the May 21 status conference is the

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last monthly conference scheduled by Pretrial Order #2. The court takes this opportunity to schedule an additional set of regular status conferences, subject to cancellation. In addition to the already scheduled May 21 conference, monthly status conferences will be held in Charleston beginning at 10 a.m. on each of the following dates: June 18, 2003; July 23, 2003; August 20, 2003; September 17, 2003; October 22, 2003; November 19, 2003; December 17, 2003; January 21, 2004 and February 18, 2004.

The court **DIRECTS** the Clerk to send a copy of this Order to Defendant's Liaison Counsel and Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel.

ENTER: April 3, 2003

  
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JOSEPH R. GOODWIN  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE