

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON DIVISION

IN RE: ETHICON INC. PELVIC REPAIR)
SYSTEM PRODUCTS LIABILITY) MDL Docket No. 2327
LITIGATION) HONORABLE JUDGE JOSEPH R.
GOODWIN

PRETRIAL ORDER # 276

**(ORDER RE: QUALIFIED SETTLEMENT FUND –
ANDRUS WAGSTAFF P.C.)**

Pending is an Amended Unopposed Motion for Approval of Qualified Settlement Fund filed on November 27, 2017 [ECF No. 5079]. Also pending is an Unopposed Motion for Approval of Qualified Settlement Fund, filed November 6, 2017 [ECF No. 4967]. Andrus Wagstaff P.C. (“AW”), as counsel for certain plaintiffs in MDL No. 2327, has moved the Court for entry of an Order to aid in the efficient processing and administration of a Confidential Settlement Agreement (the “Settlement Agreement”) between Defendant Ethicon, Inc. and certain related companies (“Ethicon”) and AW to resolve the claims of certain claimants against Ethicon relating to the implant of Ethicon Pelvic Mesh Products (as defined in the Settlement Agreement). The Court, having reviewed the Motion, and finding good and sufficient cause, FINDS and **ORDERS** the following:

1. The Amended Unopposed Motion for Approval of Qualified Settlement Fund [ECF No. 5079] is **GRANTED**. The Unopposed Motion for Approval of Qualified Settlement Fund [ECF NO. 4967] is **DENIED as moot**.
2. In order to assist in the administration of the settlement of claims brought by the clients of AW, the AW-ETHICON Qualified Settlement Fund shall be established as a Qualified Settlement Fund within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.468B-1, pursuant to this court's continuing subject matter jurisdiction over the underlying matter and consistent with Treas. Reg. Section 1.468B-1(c)(1). All settlements reached by and between Ethicon and Plaintiffs in state or federal litigation or Claimants who are represented by AW pursuant to the Master Settlement Agreement dated May 26, 2017, shall be paid into the

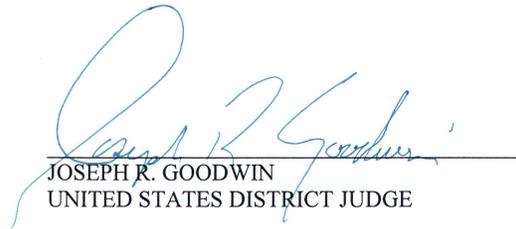
AW- ETHICON Qualified Settlement Fund.

3. Matt Garretson of Garretson Resolution Group is appointed as Fund Administrator and shall serve pursuant to the terms, conditions and restrictions of the Unopposed Motion, the parties' Master Settlement Agreement, and the parties' Escrow Agreement. AW and said Fund Administrator are given the authority to conduct any and all activities necessary to administer this Fund as described in the Motion.
4. The AW-ETHICON Qualified Settlement Fund, which includes all principal and interest earned thereon, shall be deposited in an account held in custody at J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. ("JPM Chase"), and JPM Chase shall serve as the Escrow Agent pursuant to the terms of the Parties' Escrow Agreement with JPM Chase. Investment related decisions shall be made pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the parties Master Settlement Agreement and Escrow Agreement, and disbursements from the AW-ETHICON Qualified Settlement Fund shall be made pursuant to the terms of the Master Settlement Agreement and Escrow Agreement, which include provisions for payments into the MDL No. 2327 Fund.
5. The Fund Administrator is authorized to effect qualified assignments of any resulting structured settlement liability within the meaning of Section 130(c) of the Internal Revenue Code to the qualified assignee.
6. The Fund Administrator is authorized, upon final distribution of all monies paid into the Fund, to take appropriate steps to wind down the fund, and thereafter the

Fund Administrator is discharged from any further responsibility with respect to the Fund.

The court DIRECTS the Clerk to file a copy of this order in 2:12-md-02327 and it shall apply to each member related case previously transferred to, removed to, or filed in this district *where applicable*, which includes counsel in all member cases up to and including civil action number 2:17-cv-04442 . In cases subsequently filed in this district, a copy of the most recent pretrial order will be provided by the Clerk to counsel appearing in each new action at the time of filing of the complaint. In cases subsequently removed or transferred to this court, a copy of the most recent pretrial order will be provided by the clerk to counsel appearing in each new action upon removal or transfer. It shall be the responsibility of the parties to review and abide by all pretrial orders previously entered by the court. The orders may be accessed through the CM/ECF system or the court's website at www.wvsc.uscourts.gov.

ENTER: December 1, 2017


JOSEPH R. GOODWIN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE