

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

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

PRETRIAL ORDER # 258
(ORDER RE: APPOINTING RONALD E. CORKERN, JR. AS SPECIAL MASTER FOR
PRIVATE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS BETWEEN ETHICON AND CERTAIN
PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL)

Pending is an Unopposed Motion for Appointing Ronald E. Corkern, Jr. as Special Master for Private Settlement Agreement Between Ethicon and Certain Plaintiffs' Counsel, filed May 16, 2017. [ECF No. 3930]. Also pending is an identical Unopposed Motion for Appointing Ronald E. Corkern, Jr. as Special Master for Private Settlement Agreement Between Ethicon and Certain Plaintiffs' Counsel, filed on May 17, 2017. [ECF No. 3932]. The court **ORDERS** that the first Unopposed Motion [ECF No. 3930] is **DENIED** as moot.

Salim-Beasley, LLC ("Salim-Beasley"), as counsel for certain plaintiffs in MDL No. 2327, has moved the Court for entry of an Order to aid in the administration of a Confidential Settlement Agreement (the "Settlement Agreement") between Defendant, Ethicon, Inc., and certain related companies "Ethicon" and Salim-Beasley, LLC to resolve the claims of certain claimants against Ethicon relating to the implantation 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:

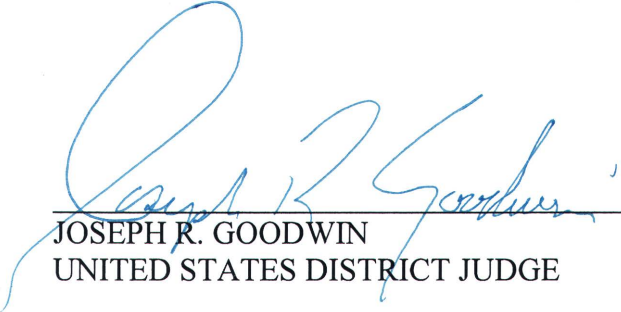
1. The Unopposed Motion [ECF No. 3932] is **GRANTED**.

2. Ronald E. Corkern, Jr., Esq., Corkern, Crews, Guillet & Johnson, P.C., 616 Front Street, Natchitoches, LA, 71457, is hereby appointed as Special Master for the administration of the settlement reached between Salim-Beasley, LLC and Ethicon related to the implantation of Ethicon Pelvic Mesh Products (as defined in the Settlement Agreement).
3. The duties of the Special Master shall be as set forth in the confidential Settlement Agreement entered into between Plaintiffs' Counsel and Ethicon.
4. In furtherance of the fair and efficient administration and implantation of the settlements, the Special Master may have *ex parte* communications with the parties to the Settlement Agreement, Plaintiffs' Counsel and their clients, Ethicon and its counsel, or the Court, and such *ex parte* communications shall not be deemed to have waived any attorney-client privileges.
5. The Special Master shall be compensated privately as specified respectively in the Settlement Agreement or by agreement with Plaintiffs' Counsel. The Court will approve all compensation made to the Special Master.

The court **DIRECTS** the Clerk to file a copy of this order in 2:12-md-2327 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-2973. 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: May 18, 2017



JOSEPH R. GOODWIN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE