

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

In re: PARAQUAT PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION

Case No. 3:21-md-3004-NJR

MDL No. 3004

This Document Relates to All Cases

CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER NO. 22
REAPPOINTING PLAINTIFFS' LEADERSHIP

ROSENSTENGEL, Chief Judge:

In Case Management Order No. 2 (CMO 2), the Court appointed a small, diverse, inclusive, and experienced leadership group consisting of Co-Lead Counsel, MDL and State Court Liaison Counsel, and a Plaintiffs' Executive Committee (PEC). ([Doc. 169](#)). The appointments were personal appointments, such that appointees cannot be substituted by other attorneys without Court approval. (*Id.* at 9-10). The Order further provided that the Court "may add or replace appointees on their request, on request of Plaintiffs' leadership team, or on its own motion, if and as circumstances warrant." (*Id.* at 10).

The appointments in CMO 2 were made for a one-year term. After the conclusion of that term, the Court issued CMO 14, reappointing Plaintiffs' leadership team, with modifications to reflect that one member of the original PEC resigned and three members changed firms. ([Doc. 2181](#)).

Over two years have passed since the Court issued CMO 14, and circumstances relating to several PEC members and their firms have changed. In one instance, a PEC member changed firms and requests replacement; for two members, the firm name has

changed; and in three instances, PEC members changed firms and request to continue in leadership. Having considered these requests, the Court hereby replaces Alicia O'Neill with David P. Matthews and appoints/reappoints the following:

I. CO-LEAD COUNSEL:

Khaldoun A. Baghdadi

Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger
650 California Street, 26th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94108

Sarah Shoemake Doles (Co-Lead and MDL Plaintiffs' Liaison)

Levin, Papantonio, Proctor, Buchanan, O'Brien, Barr & Mougey, P.A.
316 S. Baylen Street, Suite 600
Pensacola, FL 32502

Peter Flowers

Meyers & Flowers, LLC
225 West Wacker Drive, Suite 1515
Chicago, IL 60606

II. PLAINTIFFS' EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PEC):

David Cates (PEC and State Court Liaison for Illinois)

The Cates Law Firm
216 W Pointe Dr., Suite A
Swansea, IL 62226

Amy Eskin (PEC and State Court Liaison for California)

Schneider Wallace Cottrell Konecky LLP
2000 Powell Street, Suite 1400
Emeryville, CA 94608

Chad Finley

TorHoerman Law
210 Main Street
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Marlene J. Goldenberg

Nigh Goldenberg Raso & Vaughn
14 Ridge Square NW, Third Floor
Washington, D.C. 20016

R. Eric Kennedy

Weisman, Kennedy & Berris Co., L.P.A.
101 W Prospect Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

Leslie LaMacchia

Bell Legal Group
219 Ridge Street
Georgetown, SC 29440

Roopal P. Luhana

Chaffin Luhana LLP
600 Third Avenue, 12 Floor
New York, NY 10016

David P. Matthews

Matthews & Associates
2905 Sackett Street
Houston, TX 77098

LaRuby May

Levin, Papantonio, Proctor, Buchanan, O'Brien, Barr & Mougey, P.A.
316 Baylen Street, Suite 600
Pensacola, FL 32502

Julia A. Merritt

Atlanta Personal Injury Law Group
295 W. Crossville Road, Suite 200
Roswell, GA 30075

Amanda Williamson

Heninger Garrison Davis, LLC
2224 1st Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35203

Diandra "Fu" Debrosse Zimmermann

Dicello Levitt Gutzler
420 20th Street North, Suite 2525
Birmingham, AL 35203

The duties and responsibilities of Co-Lead Counsel, MDL and State Court Liaison Counsel, and PEC members are enumerated in CMO 2. These appointments remain personal appointments as described in CMO 2 and shall continue until further order of this Court. An appointee may be removed or replaced, and additional members may be added, if and as circumstances warrant.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: December 10, 2024



NANCY J. ROSENSTENGEL
Chief U.S. District Judge