# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

IN RE: INVOKANA (CANAGLIFLOZIN)
PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

MDL No. 2750

(This Document Relates to All Cases)

Master Docket No: 3:16-md-02750

(BRM)(LHG)

#### CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER NO. 6

(Establishing Common Benefit Fee and Expense Funds)

# I. SCOPE OF ORDER

This Order is entered to provide for the fair and equitable sharing among plaintiffs, and their counsel, of the burden of services performed and expenses incurred by attorneys acting for the common benefit of all plaintiffs in this complex litigation.

#### A. Governing Principles and the Common Benefit Doctrine

The governing principles are derived from the United States Supreme Court's common benefit doctrine, as established in *Trustees v. Greenough*, 105 U.S. 527 (1881); refined in, *inter alia*, *Central Railroad & Banking Co. v. Pettus*, 113 U.S. 116 (1884); *Sprague v. Ticonic National Bank*, 307 U.S. 161 (1939); *Mills v. Electric Auto-Lite Co.*, 396 U.S. 375 (1970); *Boeing Co. v. Van Gemert*, 444 U.S. 472 (1980); and approved and implemented in the MDL context, in *inter alia*, *In re Air Crash Disaster at Florida Everglades on December 29*, 1972, 549 F.2d 1006, 1019-21 (5th Cir. 1977); and *In re MGM Grand Hotel Fire Litigation*, 660 F.Supp. 522, 525-29 (D. Nev. 1987). Common benefit work product includes all work performed for the benefit of all plaintiffs, including pre-trial matters, discovery, trial preparation, a potential settlement process, and all other work that advances this litigation to conclusion.

# B. Application of this Order

This Order applies to all cases now pending, as well as to any case later filed in, transferred to, or removed to this Court and treated as part of the coordinated proceeding known as *In re Invokana (Canaglifozin) Products Liability Litigation*, MDL 2750 (the "MDL"). This Order further applies to: (1) each attorney who represents a plaintiff with a case now pending in or later filed in, transferred to, or removed to this Court, regardless of whether the plaintiff's attorney signs the "Participation Agreement" attached hereto as Exhibit A, and regardless of whether the attorney also has cases outside the MDL (filed or unfiled) ("the MDL Plaintiffs' Counsel"); and (2) each attorney who represents only plaintiffs with cases filed in state court who elects to sign the Participation Agreement ("the Participating Non-MDL Plaintiffs' Counsel") (together with the MDL Plaintiffs' Counsel, "Participating Counsel").

#### C. Participation Agreement (Exhibit A)

Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein, is a voluntary Participation Agreement between: (1) the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee ("PSC") and other plaintiffs' attorneys who perform common benefit work in connection with the MDL, and (2) plaintiffs' attorneys with cases solely in state court who elect to sign the Participation Agreement. The Participation Agreement is a private and cooperative agreement between plaintiffs' attorneys only; and not defendants or defendants' counsel. All plaintiffs' attorneys who currently have cases pending in any state court and who want to become a Participating Counsel shall, within 45 days of this Order, execute the Participation Agreement. Any plaintiffs' attorney who does not yet have an Invokana case filed in any federal or state court and who wants to become a Participating Counsel shall execute the Participation Agreement within 45 days of the date their first case is filed in any state court, if that

lawyer intends to voluntarily become a Participating Counsel at the fee and expense percentages set forth herein. Failure to execute a Participation Agreement indicating that an attorney will be a Participating Counsel within the time frame set forth in this paragraph will result in higher percentages for common benefit assessment as a result of such later participation, absent good cause or special circumstances. More specifically, and as set forth in the Participation Agreement, the higher fee percentage for failure to execute a Participation Agreement indicating that an attorney will be a Participating Counsel within the time frame set forth in this paragraph shall increase by double. For example, a 3% fee assessment will increase to 6%, a 5% fee assessment will increase to 10%, a 7% fee assessment will increase to 14%, etc.

Participating Counsel shall be entitled to receive all the common benefit work product performed by the PSC. Counsel who choose not to execute the Participation Agreement are not entitled to receive common benefit work product and may be subject to an increased assessment on all Invokana cases in which they have a fee interest if they receive common benefit work product or otherwise benefit by the work performed by Participating Counsel.

The Court recognizes the jurisdictional rights and obligations of the state courts to conduct their state court litigation as they so determine and that the state court litigations may include counsel who are Participating Counsel. The Participation Agreement and this Order shall not be cited by a Party to the Participation Agreement in any other court in support of a position that adversely impacts the jurisdictional rights and obligations of the state courts and state court Participating Counsel.

# II. COMMON BENEFIT EXPENSES

# A. Qualified Expenses Eligible for Reimbursement

In order to be eligible for reimbursement of common benefit expenses, said expenses must

meet the requirements of this section and the limitations set forth in the Participation Agreement. Specifically, said expenses must be: (a) for the common benefit; (b) appropriately authorized (as defined in footnote 1 in the Participation Agreement); (c) timely submitted within the defined limitations set forth in this Order; and (d) verified by a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm or by a member of the Court-Appointed Invokana PSC if said member is not a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm.

Time and expense submissions are to be made on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, beginning on March 15, 2017. Each submission should contain all time and expenses incurred during the calendar month prior to the submission date (i.e., the April 15, 2017 submission should include all time and expenses incurred during the month of March 2017), though the first submission should include all time and expenses incurred through February 2017. All time and expense submissions should be accompanied by contemporaneous records and verified by a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm or by a member of the Court-Appointed Invokana PSC if said member is not a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm. In addition, each firm that makes a common benefit time and/or cost submission for a given month shall also be required to submit a brief summary (no more than 2 or 3 sentences) summarizing the contribution that each time keeper from that law firm made toward the common benefit and advancement of the litigation. Submissions of time and expense made after the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the month in which the time or expense were incurred may be rejected. Only time and expense incurred after the entry of CMO #2 by this Court appointing Plaintiffs' Leadership on January 24, 2017 shall be submitted and considered for common benefit consideration, except that time and expense incurred by those appointed as interim liaison counsel by Judge Martinotti prior to the formation of this MDL or beneficial work performed in discovery efforts in the state court Pennsylvania litigation in generic discovery

efforts, and who incurred common benefit costs and time up to and until Plaintiff's Leadership was appointed may submit time and expenses incurred for the common benefit of the litigation.

Moreover, only that time and those expenses incurred for the common benefit of all cases, consistent with the terms of this Order (*e.g.*, activities associated with completing the items to comply with CMO #2), shall be considered for common benefit reimbursement at the end of the litigation.

#### B. Shared and Held Common Benefit Expenses

#### 1. Shared Costs

Shared Costs are costs incurred for the common benefit of all plaintiffs. Shared Costs are costs that will be paid out of a separate Invokana Operating Expense Fund established and administered by Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel and funded by all members of the PSC and others as determined by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel. All Shared Costs must be approved by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel or the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee prior to payment. Shared Costs include: (a) certain filing and service costs; (b) deposition, court reporter, and video technician costs for noncase specific depositions; (c) costs necessary for creation of a document depository, the operation and administration of the depository, and any equipment required for the depository; (d) Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel, Executive Committee, and Liaison Counsel administrative matters (e.g., expenses for equipment, technology, courier services, telecopier, electronic service, photocopy and printing, secretarial/temporary staff, etc.); (e) PSC group administration matters such as PSC or PEC meetings; (f) accountant fees; (g) generic expert witness and consultant fees and expenses; (h) printing, copying, coding, scanning (out of house or extraordinary firm cost); (i) research by outside third party vendors/consultants/ attorneys; (j) translation costs; (k) bank or financial institution charges; (l) certain investigative services, and (m) special master and/or mediator charges.

#### 2. Held Costs

Held Costs are those that will be carried by each Participating Counsel in MDL 2750. Held Costs are those that do not fall into any of the above categories of shared costs, but are incurred for the benefit of all plaintiffs. By way of example, travel costs incurred by a firm for travel to undertake common benefit work shall be held costs. Held costs can also include unreimbursed, but authorized, shared costs. No specific client-related costs shall be considered as Held Costs, unless the case is determined by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel to be a "common benefit case," *e.g.*, certain bellwether cases as determined by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel.

#### C. Authorization and Submission

The Participation Agreements sets forth the guidelines for authorizing and submitting expenses for the common benefit which shall be followed.

# **D.** Expenses Limitations

#### 1. Travel Limitations

Except in extraordinary circumstances approved in advance by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel, all travel reimbursements are subject to the following limitations:

i. <u>Air Travel</u>: Only the price of a coach seat for a reasonable itinerary will be reimbursed. Business/First Class Airfare will *not* be fully reimbursed, except for international flights or domestic flights where the actual in air travel time is 4 hours or more, both of which require prior approval by Plaintiffs Co-Lead Counsel in order to be considered for reimbursement. Use of a private aircraft will not be reimbursed. If Business/First Class Airfare is used on domestic flights then the difference between the Business/First Class Airfare and the coach airfare must be shown on the travel reimbursement form, and only the coach fare will be will be reimbursed.

ii. Hotel: Hotel room charges for the average available room rate of a

business hotel, including the Hyatt, Westin, and Marriott hotels, in the city in which the stay occurred will be reimbursed. Luxury hotels will not be fully reimbursed, but will be reimbursed at the average available rate of a business hotel.

- iii. Meals: Meal expenses must be reasonable.
- iv. <u>Cash Expenses</u>: Miscellaneous cash expenses for which receipts generally are not available (tips, luggage handling, pay telephone, etc.) will be reimbursed up to \$50.00 per trip, as long as the expenses are properly itemized.
- v. <u>Rental Automobiles</u>: Luxury automobile rentals will not be fully reimbursed, unless only luxury automobiles were available. If luxury automobiles are selected when non-luxury vehicles are available, then the difference between the luxury and non-luxury vehicle rates must be shown on the travel reimbursement form, and only the non-luxury rate may be claimed, unless such larger sized vehicle is needed to accommodate several counsel.
- vi. <u>Mileage</u>: Mileage claims must be documented by stating origination point, destination, total actual miles for each trip, and the rate per mile paid by the member's firm. The maximum allowable rate will be the maximum rate allowed by the IRS (currently 56 cents per mile).

#### 2. Non-Travel Limitations

- i. <u>Shipping, Courier, and Delivery Charges</u>: All claimed expenses must be documented with bills showing the sender, origin of the package, recipient, and destination of the package.
- ii. <u>Postage Charges</u>: A contemporaneous postage log or other supporting documentation must be maintained and submitted. Postage charges are to be reported at actual cost.
- iii. <u>Telefax Charges</u>: Contemporaneous records should be maintained and submitted showing faxes sent and received. The per-fax charge shall not exceed \$1.00 per page.
- iv. In-House Photocopy: A contemporaneous photocopy log or other supporting documentation must be maintained and submitted. The maximum copy charge is 15¢ per page.
- v. <u>Computerized Research Lexis/Westlaw</u>: Claims for Lexis or Westlaw, and other computerized legal research expenses should be in the exact amount charged to or allocated by the firm for these research services.

#### E. Verification

The forms detailing expenses shall be certified by a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm or by a member of the Court-Appointed Invokana PSC if said member is not a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm. Attorneys shall keep receipts for all expenses. Credit card receipts are an appropriate form of verification if accompanied by a declaration from counsel that work was performed and paid for the common benefit.

#### III. COMMON BENEFIT WORK

# A. Qualified Common Benefit Work Eligible for Reimbursement

Only Participating Counsel are eligible for reimbursement for time and efforts expended for the common benefit. Participating Counsel shall be eligible for reimbursement for time and efforts expended for common benefit work if said time and efforts are: (a) for the common benefit; (b) appropriately authorized (as described in footnote 1 of the Participation Agreement); (c) timely submitted; and (d) verified by a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm or by a member of the Court-Appointed Invokana PSC if said member is not a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm. Common benefit work shall only be performed by employees of the law firm submitting time/expenses and time/expenses by contract attorneys will not be compensated/reimbursed. Not all common benefit hours billed/submitted are equal. There is no guaranty that all of the time submitted by any firm will be compensated and the hourly rate for the work that is compensated is not guaranteed. Moreover, if counsel is a member of the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee and fails to timely submit capital contributions as may be requested by Co-Lead Counsel throughout this litigation, such counsel and members of his/her firm shall not be allowed to submit common benefit time or expenses for reimbursement.

# B. Compensable Common Benefit Work Defined

As the litigation progresses and common benefit work product continues to be generated, the Co-Lead Counsel, Plaintiffs' Executive Committee and the Co-Chairs of the committees established by Co-Lead Counsel may assign Participating Counsel with common benefit work; common benefit work shall include only work specifically assigned. Examples of common benefit work include, but are not limited to, maintenance of the document review database; review and document coding; expert retention and development authorized by Co-Lead Counsel and/or Co-Chairs of the Science and Expert Committee; preparing for and conducting authorized depositions of Defendants, third-party witnesses, and experts; and activities associated with preparation for trial and the trial of any cases designated as "common benefit trials" by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel. Only common benefit work performed by an employee of the law firm assigned the task will be compensated; work performed by contract lawyers will not be compensated.

# C. Authorization and Time Keeping

All time must be authorized and accurately and contemporaneously maintained. Time shall be kept according to these guidelines as set forth in the Participation Agreement and approved by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel, Plaintiffs' Executive Committee and the Co-Chairs of the committees established by Co-Lead Counsel.

#### IV. PLAINTIFFS' LITIGATION FEE AND EXPENSE FUNDS

# A. Establishing the Fee and Expense Funds

At an appropriate time, Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel will be directed to establish two interest-bearing accounts to receive and disburse funds as provided in this Order (the "Funds"). The first fund shall be designated the "Invokana Fee Fund" and the second fund shall be designated the "Invokana Expense Fund." These funds will be held subject to the direction of this Court.

By subsequent Order of this Court, the Court will appoint a qualified certified public accountant (the "CPA") to serve as Escrow Agent over the Funds and to keep detailed records of all deposits and withdrawals and to prepare tax returns and other tax filings in connection with the Funds. Such subsequent Order shall specify the hourly rates to be charged by the CPA and for the CPA's assistants, who shall be utilized where appropriate to control costs. The CPA shall submit quarterly detailed bills to the Court and to Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel. Upon approval by the Court, the CPA's bills shall be paid from the Invokana Expense Fund and shall be considered a shared cost. The Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel shall provide a copy of this Order to the CPA.

# B. Payments into the Fee and Expense Funds

#### 1. General Standards

All plaintiffs and their attorneys who are subject to this Order and who agree to settle, compromise, dismiss, or reduce the amount of a claim or, with or without trial, recover a judgment for monetary damages or other monetary relief, including such compensatory and punitive damages, with respect to Invokana claims are subject to an assessment of the gross monetary recovery, as provided herein.

# 2. Gross Monetary Recovery

Gross monetary recovery includes any and all amounts paid to plaintiffs' counsel by Defendants through a settlement or pursuant to a judgment. In measuring the "gross monetary recovery," the parties are to (a) exclude court costs that are to be paid by the defendant; (b) include any payments to be made by the defendant on an intervention asserted by third- parties, such as to physicians, hospitals, or other healthcare providers in subrogation related to treatment of a plaintiff, and any governmental liens or obligations (*e.g.*, Medicare/Medicaid); and (c) include the present value of any fixed and certain payments to be made in the future. The assessment shall

apply to all of the cases of the plaintiffs' attorneys who are subject to this Order, whether as sole counsel or co-counsel, including cases pending in the MDL, pending in state court, unfiled, or tolled.

# 3. Assessment Amount

Each Participating Case in which a judgment is entered or in which a resolution is reached with a signed settlement agreement shall be assessed for common benefit work and costs as follows on the gross monetary recovery:

- a) If Judgment is entered or resolution reached on or after March 31, 2017 but on or before May 31, 2017 in an action in which the compensated injury is diabetic ketoacidosis: five (5%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit work; two (2%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit expenses.
- b) If Judgment is entered or resolution reached <u>on or after June 1, 2017 but on or before</u>

  <u>July 15, 2017</u> in an action in which the compensated injury is <u>diabetic ketoacidosis</u>:

  seven (7%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit work; two (2%)

  percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit expenses.
- c) If Judgment is entered or resolution reached at any time <u>after July 15, 2017</u> in an action in which the compensated injury is <u>diabetic ketoacidosis</u>: nine (9%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit work; three (3%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit expenses.
- d) If Judgment is entered or resolution reached <u>on or after March 31, 2017</u> in an action in which the compensated injury is <u>not diabetic ketoacidosis</u>: nine (9%) percent of

gross monetary recovery for common benefit work; three (3%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit expenses.

e) The PSC reserves all of its rights to seek a common benefit assessment on cases resolved before April 2, 2017 where Judgment is entered or resolution reached before April 2, 2017 for any action in which the compensated injury is **diabetic ketoacidosis** three (3%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit work; two (2%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit expenses. Defendants reserve their right to object to object to a retroactive assessment.

The cost hold back portion shall be allocated to pay and/or reimburse the expenses that have been and/or will be incurred at the direction and written authorization by Co-Lead Counsel for the common benefit of Plaintiffs in MDL 2750. The common benefit work assessment shall be allocated to pay and/or reimburse fees for legal services that have been and/or will be provided by attorneys acting at the direction and written authorization by Co-Lead Counsel for the common benefit of Plaintiffs in MDL 2750.

All expenses and legal services shall be at the direction of and written authorization by Co-Lead Counsel in order to be considered for reimbursement from these funds. The PSC may apply to the Court for an additional common benefit assessment, against all Participating Cases that are pending at the time of such an application, including if additional funds are needed for reimbursement of the expenses that have been and/or will be incurred at the direction of Co-Lead Counsel for the common benefit of Plaintiffs in MDL 2750, which shall be granted upon a showing of good cause.

# 4. Reporting Obligations

Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel shall provide to Defendants' Liaison Counsel the following two

lists on a quarterly basis beginning on March 31, 2017: (a) a list of all lawyers who have filed an Invokana case that is pending in the MDL ("the MDL Counsel List") and (b) a list of all lawyers who have executed the Participation Agreement that is Exhibit A hereto who do not have an Invokana case pending in the MDL ("the Non-MDL Participating Counsel List"). These same lists shall be made available to all plaintiffs' counsel with cases in this MDL, as well as any other plaintiffs' counsel who signs the Participation Agreement, upon request. In the event there is a dispute as to whether a case should be on the lists, Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel shall seek to resolve the matter with the particular plaintiff's counsel informally, and if that is unsuccessful, upon motion to the Court.

Within 14 days of receipt of these two lists from Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel, Defendants' Liaison Counsel shall provide to Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel a list of all lawyers who appear as counsel of record on a complaint in any Invokana case in any court in the United States (state or federal) who do not appear on either the MDL Counsel List or the Non-MDL Participating Counsel List. The parties' reporting obligations shall continue quarterly until the conclusion of this MDL.

# 5. Obligations to Pay Common Benefit Assessments

For cases subject to an assessment (*i.e.*, any case in which the counsel of record also has appeared as a counsel of record in any case pending in the MDL, or any case for a lawyer without any MDL cases where the PSC has informed Defendants that the plaintiff's lawyer has signed the Participation Agreement, in accordance with the procedure set forth in Section IV(B)(4) above), Defendants are directed to withhold an assessment from any and all amounts paid to plaintiffs and their counsel and to pay the assessment directly into the Funds as a credit against the settlement or judgment. The parties will work cooperatively to develop a mechanism and process by which to ensure that the assessment that is to be withheld by Defendants pursuant to this Order, for each

individual case, has been deposited into the Funds before dismissal of any case can be effectuated. If for any reason the assessment is not or has not been so withheld, the plaintiff and his or her counsel are jointly responsible for paying the assessment into the Fund promptly.

To preserve the confidentiality of settlement amounts, if any, Defendants may pay any such assessments on an aggregate basis for each quarter. Details of any individual settlement agreement, individual settlement amount, and/or amounts deposited into escrow by any particular Defendant shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed by the CPA to anyone, including Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel, any member of the PSC, any Plaintiff's counsel, or the Court, unless the Court requests that it receive that information, in which case the report shall be provided only to the Court and only in camera (i.e., not publicly filed and not available to any counsel). Quarterly statements from the CPA shall, however, be provided to Plaintiffs' Co-Lead and Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel (and, if the Court so orders, to the Court) showing only the aggregate of the quarterly deposits from all Defendants, disbursements, interest earned, financial institution charges, if any, and current balance. Within thirty days after the end of the first quarter in which any Defendant has paid any assessment into the Fund, the Defendant shall meet and confer with Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel (or any other attorney designated by the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee) regarding whether the parties should employ some mechanism to ensure the accuracy of the list of lawyers who are or were subject to an assessment.

# V. <u>DISTRIBUTIONS</u>

# A. Court Approval

The amounts deposited into the Invokana Fee Fund and the Invokana Expense Fund shall be available for distribution to Participating Counsel who have performed professional services or incurred expenses for the common benefit. No amounts will be disbursed without review and approval by the Court, or such other mechanism as the Court may order. Specifically, such sums

shall be distributed only upon Order of this Court. This Court retains jurisdiction over any common

benefit award or distribution.

**B.** Application for Distribution

Each Participating Counsel who does common benefit work has the right to present their

claim(s) for compensation and/or reimbursement prior to any distribution approved by this Court.

Any Counsel who does not sign the Participation Agreement shall not be eligible to receive

common benefit payments for any work performed or expenses incurred.

At the appropriate time, this Court shall appoint a Common Benefit Fee Committee to

make recommendations to this Court for distributions to Participating Counsel who have

performed common benefit work and/or incurred common benefit expenses. In the event that there

is not unanimous agreement among members of the Common Benefit Fee Committee, each

member of the Common Benefit Fee Committee shall only have one vote and each vote shall bear

the same weight. A decision about the recommendation to the Court of Common Benefit Fee

Committee need only be made by a majority of votes. The Common Benefit Fee Committee shall

determine on its own the most fair and efficient manner by which to evaluate all of the time and

expense submissions in making its recommendation to this Court. This Court will give due

consideration to the recommendation of the Common Benefit Fee Committee in making its ruling

on the award of common benefit fees and common benefit cost reimbursement.

SO ORDERED.

Dated this 21st day of March, 2017 at Trenton, New Jersey

\_/s/Brian R. Martinotti

HON. BRIAN R. MARTINOTTI

United States District Judge

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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

IN RE: INVOKANA (CANAGLIFLOZIN) PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

MDL No. 2750

(This Document Relates to All Cases)

Case No: 3:16-md-02750

# **EXHIBIT A TO CMO NO. 6** (Common Benefit Participation Agreement)

Executing the Agreement] (the "Participating Counsel").	
New Jersey in MDL 2750 and	Name of the Firm
the Plaintiffs' Leadership Group appointed by the United States District Court for the District of	
THIS AGREEMENT is made this day of, 2	201, by and between

WHEREAS, the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey has appointed Seeger Weiss LLP, Douglas & London, P.C., Carella, Byrne, Cecchi, Olstein, Brody & Agnello, Weitz & Luxenberg, P.C., Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC, Levin, Papantonio, Thomas, Mitchell, Rafferty & Proctor, P.A., Schlicter Bogard & Denton, LLP, the Gomez Law Firm, Irpino, Avin & Hawkins, Robins Kaplan, LLP, Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C., Morgan & Morgan, P.A., the Webster Law Firm, and Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP to serve as members of the Plaintiffs' Leadership Group (also referred to as the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee or "PSC"), to facilitate the conduct of pretrial proceedings in the federal actions relating to the use, marketing, and sales of Invokana; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plaintiffs' Leadership Group, in association with other attorneys working for the common benefit of plaintiffs, have developed or are in the process of developing work product that will be valuable in all proceedings and benefit all plaintiffs alleging injury caused by

use of Invokana medication ("Common Benefit Work Product"); and

**WHEREAS**, Participating Counsel is desirous of acquiring the Common Benefit Work Product and establishing an amicable, working relationship with the Plaintiffs' Leadership Group for the mutual benefit of their clients;

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the covenants and promises contained herein, and intending to be legally bound hereby, the parties agree as follows:

#### I. SCOPE OF AGREEMENT

# A. Purpose

This Participation Agreement is a private cooperative agreement between plaintiffs' attorneys to share Common Benefit Work Product pursuant to Case Management Number ("CMO") No. 6, the Order Establishing Common Benefit Fee and Expense Fund and this Participation Agreement. Any plaintiffs' attorney who executes this Agreement or who is otherwise bound to this Participation Agreement by CMO 6 ("Participating Counsel") is entitled to receive the Common Benefit Work Product created by those attorneys who have also executed, or have been deemed to have executed, the Participation Agreement, regardless of the venue in which the attorney's cases are pending.

#### B. Rights and Obligations of Participating Counsel

Participating Counsel shall be provided access to the Common Benefit Work Product, including access to the document depository. Participating Counsel agree that all Invokana cases and/or claims in which Participating Counsel has a fee interest, including unfiled cases, tolled cases, and/or cases filed in state and/or federal court, are subject to the terms of this Participation Agreement. Participating Counsel shall produce a list that correctly sets forth the name of each client represented by them and/or in which they have an interest in the attorney fee, regardless of

what that interest is, who has filed a civil action arising from the use, marketing, and/or sale of Invokana. Such list shall include the court and docket number of each such case. Participating Counsel shall also produce a list that contains the name of each client represented by them and/or in which they have an interest in the attorney fee, regardless of what that interest is, who has not yet filed a civil action. Participating Counsel shall supplement the lists on a quarterly basis and provide the lists to Plaintiffs' Co-Liaison Counsel. The initial list shall be provided within 15 days of signing this Agreement and must be supplemented every 90 days thereafter.

# II. AGREEMENT TO PAY AN ASSESSMENT ON GROSS RECOVERY

Subject to the terms of this Agreement and the terms of CMO No. 6, all plaintiffs and their attorneys who agree to settle, compromise, dismiss, or reduce the amount of a claim, or with or without trial, recover a judgment for monetary damages or other monetary relief, including compensatory and punitive damages, for any Invokana claims are subject to an assessment of the Gross Monetary Recovery, as provided herein.

#### A. Assessment Amount

Each Participating Case in which a judgment is entered or in which a resolution is reached with a signed settlement agreement shall be assessed for common benefit work and costs as follows on the gross monetary recovery:

- 1) If Judgment is entered or resolution reached <u>on or after March 31, 2017 but on</u>
  <u>or before May 31, 2017</u> in an action in which the compensated injury is <u>diabetic</u>
  <u>ketoacidosis</u>: five (5%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit
  work; two (2%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit expenses.
- 2) If Judgment is entered or resolution reached on or after June 1, 2017 but on or before July 15, 2017 in an action in which the compensated injury is diabetic

- **ketoacidosis**: seven (7%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit work; two (2%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit expenses.
- 3) If Judgment is entered or resolution reached at any time <u>after July 15, 2017</u> in an action in which the compensated injury is <u>diabetic ketoacidosis</u>: nine (9%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit work; three (3%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit expenses.
- 4) If Judgment is entered or resolution reached <u>on or after March 31, 2017</u> in an action in which the compensated injury is <u>not diabetic ketoacidosis</u>: nine (9%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit work; three (3%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit expenses.
- 5) The PSC reserves all of its rights to seek a common benefit assessment on cases resolved before April 2, 2017 where Judgment is entered or resolution reached before April 2, 2017 for any action in which the compensated injury is **diabetic ketoacidosis** three (3%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit work; two (2%) percent of gross monetary recovery for common benefit expenses. Defendants reserve their right to object to object to a retroactive assessment.

The aforementioned assessments represent a holdback (*See In re Zyprexa Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 267 F.Supp.2d 256 (E.D.N.Y. 2006)). Failure of any counsel who is not automatically bound to pay the common benefit assessment by virtue of having a fee interest in a case that is part of the MDL to execute a Participation Agreement indicating that an attorney will be a Participating Counsel within the time frame set forth herein paragraph will result in higher percentages for common benefit assessment as a result of such later participation. More specifically, and as set forth in this Participation Agreement, the higher fee percentage for failure to execute a

Participation Agreement indicating that an attorney will be a Participating Counsel within the time frame set forth in this paragraph shall increase by double. For example, a 3% fee assessment will increase to 6%, a 5% fee assessment will increase to 10%, a 7% fee assessment will increase to 14%, etc.

The Participation Agreement is a private and cooperative agreement between plaintiffs' attorneys only; and not defendants or defendants' counsel. All plaintiffs' attorneys who currently have cases pending in any state court and who want to become a Participating Counsel shall, within 45 days of this Order, execute the Participation Agreement. Any plaintiffs' attorney who does not yet have an Invokana case filed in any federal or state court and who wants to become a Participating Counsel shall execute the Participation Agreement within 45 days of the date their first case is filed in any state court, if that lawyer intends to voluntarily become a Participating Counsel at the fee and expense percentages set forth herein.

Further, it is encouraged that all attorneys who are part of the MDL, as defined in the Court's Initial Case Management Order dated December 21, 2016, execute this agreement, so they are aware of both obligations and benefits of CMO 6.

# 6) Gross Monetary Recovery Defined

Gross Monetary Recovery includes any and all amounts paid to plaintiffs' and/or their counsel by defendant(s) through a settlement or pursuant to a judgment. In measuring the Gross Monetary Recovery, the parties are to (a) exclude court costs that are to be paid by the defendant; (b) include any payments to be made by the defendant on an intervention asserted by third-parties, such as to physicians, hospitals, or other healthcare providers in subrogation related to treatment of a plaintiff, and any governmental liens or obligations (*e.g.*, Medicare/Medicaid); and (c) include the present value of any fixed and certain payments to be made in the future.

#### 7) Covered Cases

The assessment amount set forth above and in the related Common Benefit Order shall apply to all cases now pending or later filed in, transferred to, or removed to MDL 2750 and treated as part of the coordinated proceeding known as *In re Invokana (Canaglifozin) Products Liability Litigation*, regardless of whether the plaintiff's attorney is either Participating or Non-Participating Counsel. In addition, pursuant to the terms of CMO 6, the assessment amount shall apply to all cases in which counsel who have a filed case in MDL 2750 have a fee interest, regardless of the size of that fee interest. Counsel who sign this Participation Agreement further agree that the assessment shall apply to all un-filed cases, tolled cases, and/or cases filed in state court in which they have a fee interest, regardless of the size of that fee interest.

Non-Participating Counsel who have no fee interest in any case in MDL 2750 are not required to pay an assessment on state court cases or on un-filed cases. However, non-MDL Plaintiffs' Counsel as defined in CMO 6, Section I(B), who do not sign the Participation Agreement are not entitled to receive Common Benefit Work Product, and may be subject to an increased assessment on all Invokana cases/claims in which they have a fee interest if they receive any Common Benefit Work Product or otherwise benefit from the work product created by Plaintiffs' Leadership Group and other Participating Counsel working with the MDL. Non-Participating Counsel shall not be eligible to receive Common Benefit payments for any work performed or expenses incurred.

#### 8) Attorneys' Fee Lien

With respect to each client represented in connection with Invokana related claims that are filed or pending in any Federal or State court, are un-filed, or are subject to a tolling agreement, consistent with  $\P$  I(B) and I(C) of the Case Management Order Establishing Common Benefit Fee

and Expense Fund (CMO No. 6), each Participating Counsel shall agree to have defendants deposit or cause to be deposited in the Invokana Fee and Expense Funds established by the District Court in the MDL a percentage of the gross amount recovered by each such client that is equal to the assessment amount. In the event defendants do not deposit the assessed percentage into the Funds, Plaintiff and Plaintiff's Participating Counsel shall deposit or cause to be deposited in the Invokana Fee and Expense Funds established by the District Court in the MDL a percentage of the gross amount recovered by each such client that is equal to the assessment amount. Participating Counsel, on behalf of themselves, their affiliated counsel, and their clients, hereby grant and convey to Plaintiffs' Leadership Group a lien upon and/or a security interest in any fee (a) generated as a result of any recovery by any client who they represent in connection with any Invokana-induced injury and Invokana marketing and sales practices claims and (b) they have any interest in, to the full extent permitted by law, in order to secure payment in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement. Participating Counsel will undertake all actions and execute all documents that are reasonably necessary to effectuate and/or perfect this lien and/or security interest.

#### 9) Attorney-Client Contracts

Both the Plaintiffs' Leadership Group and Participating Counsel recognize the importance of individual cases and the relationship between case-specific clients and their attorneys. Regardless of the type of settlement or conclusion eventually made in either state or federal cases, Plaintiffs' Leadership Group will recommend to the MDL Court that appropriate consideration will be given to individual case contracts between attorneys and their clients.

# III. COMMON BENEFIT EXPENSES

# A. Qualified Expenses Eligible for Reimbursement

In order to be eligible for reimbursement of common benefit expenses, said expenses must be: (a) for the common benefit; (b) appropriately authorized<sup>1</sup> and timely submitted; (c) within the defined limitations set forth in this Participation Agreement and CMO No. 6; and (d) verified by a partner or shareholder in the submitting law firm or by a member of the Court-Appointed Invokana PSC if said member is not a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm.

#### **B.** Authorization and Submission of Expenses

Participating Counsel must submit expenses consistent with the Common Benefit Order. Expenses incurred on matters common to all claimants in MDL 2750 and authorized (as that term is defined in footnote 1) may be submitted for reimbursement.

#### C. Verification

The forms detailing expenses shall be certified by a senior partner in each firm, and such certification should attest to the accuracy of the submissions. Attorneys shall keep receipts for all expenses. Credit card receipts are an appropriate form of verification if accompanied by a declaration from counsel that work was performed and paid for the common benefit.

Cost records shall be electronically submitted to CPA and Co-Liaison Counsel on a monthly basis. Untimely submission of Cost records will result in a waiver of said costs. Unsubstantiated costs may be disallowed, as recommended by the CPA and/or Co-Lead Counsel.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>For the purposes of this Participation Agreement, "authorized" or "approved" in terms of common benefit expenses and common benefit work shall mean authorized and approved by Co-Lead Counsel or members of the Executive Committee or those individuals appointed by Co-Lead Counsel to serve as the Chair or Co-Chair of a committee.

#### IV. COMMON BENEFIT WORK

# A. Common Benefit Work Eligible for Reimbursement

In order to be eligible for reimbursement, time expended must be: (a) for the common benefit; (b) appropriately authorized (*see* Footnote 1 *supra*); (c) timely submitted; and (d) verified by a partner or shareholder in the submitting law firm or by a member of the Court-Appointed Invokana PSC if said member is not a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm. Moreover, if counsel is a member of the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee and fails to timely submit capital contributions as may be requested by Co-Lead Counsel throughout this litigation, such counsel and members of his/her firm shall not be allowed to submit common benefit time or expenses for reimbursement.

#### B. Counsel Involved

Participating Counsel are prohibited from sharing Common Benefit Work Product with Non-Participating Counsel, as defined herein. Counsel eligible to perform common benefit work includes Plaintiffs' Co-Liaison Counsel, Co-Lead Counsel, members of the PSC, Co-Chairs of MDL Committees, and other Participating Counsel.

#### C. Authorization

Time spent on matters common to all claimants in the MDL must be assigned by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel or a member of the Executive Committee or those individuals appointed by Co-Lead Counsel to serve as the Chair or Co-Chair of a committee to be eligible for consideration as common benefit time. No time spent on developing or processing individual issues in any case for an individual client (claimant) will be considered or should be submitted; nor should time spent on unauthorized work be submitted for consideration.

# (1) Examples of Authorized and Unauthorized Work:

a. Depositions of corporate witnesses: Any attorney not designated as one of the authorized questioners or otherwise authorized to attend a deposition on behalf of the PSC shall not be eligible to submit time or expenses for preparing for or attending such deposition, as such attendance is deemed to be on behalf of that attorney's individual clients. Additionally, while the counsel appointed as one of the authorized questioners may utilize other lawyers and/or staff in his/her firm to prepare for the deposition in the event that he/she elects to bring other people from his/her firm to attend the deposition, only the time and expenses for the appointed questioner and one other person from his/her firm shall be considered for common benefit, the time and travel of all other people from his/her firm should not be submitted and will not be considered for common benefit reimbursement or fees; b. Periodic PSC, MDL, or Full-Committee Conference Calls and Meetings: Such calls and meetings are held so that individual attorneys are kept up-todate on the status of the litigation, therefore participation by listening to such calls is not common benefit work. Each attorney has an obligation to stay informed about the litigation so that they can best represent their clients, and that is a reason to participate in such calls and meetings. Only the attorneys designated by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel to run those calls are working for the common benefit by keeping other lawyers informed and educated about the case, and only their time will be considered common benefit time. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prevent members of the PSC from submitting common benefit time for participation in PSC communications that are Germaine to all members of the PSC and are necessary to fulfill their PSC obligations;

- c. <u>Periodic Status Conferences</u>: Periodic status conferences are held so that the litigation continues to move forward and legal issues are resolved with the Court. Individual attorneys are free to attend any status conference held in open court in order to keep up-to-date on the status of the litigation, but participation by attending and listening to such conferences is not common benefit work. Each attorney has an obligation to stay informed about the litigation so that they can best represent their clients. Mere attendance at a status conference will not be considered a common benefit expense or common benefit time, nor shall participation in such status conferences via telephone be considered common benefit time. The attorneys designated by Co-Lead Counsel to address issues that will be raised at a given status conference or requested by Co-Lead Counsel to be present at a status conference are working for the common benefit and their time will be considered common benefit time:
- d. <u>Identification and Work Up of Experts:</u> Participating Attorneys are encouraged to identify experts in consultation with the Co-Chairs of the Science and Expert Committee. If a Participating Attorney travels to and retains an expert without the knowledge and approval of the Co-Lead Counsel or the Co-Chairs of the Science and Expert Committee, the MDL may not need or use that expert, and the associated time and expense may

not be considered common benefit expenses/work, and therefore may not be compensable;

- e. <u>Attendance at Various Seminars</u>: Attendance at a seminar that has as an agenda item about the Invokana litigation is not common benefit work or a common benefit expense;
- f. <u>Document Review</u>: In the MDL, only document review specifically assigned to an attorney and authorized by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel or one of the co-chairs of the Discovery or Science Committees will be considered common benefit work. If an attorney elects to review documents that have not been assigned to that attorney by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel or one of the Co-Chairs of the Discovery or Science Committees, that review is not considered common benefit work;
- g. Review of Pleadings and Orders: Each attorney has an obligation to stay informed about the litigation so that they can best represent their clients, and review of pleadings and orders is part of that obligation. Only those attorneys designated by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel or the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee to review and summarize those pleadings or orders for the MDL are working for the common benefit, and their time will be considered common benefit time. All other counsel are reviewing those pleadings and orders for their own benefit and the benefit of their own clients, and the review is not considered common benefit work. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prevent members of the PSC from submitting common benefit time for reviewing orders that are germane to

all members of the PSC and review of which is necessary to fulfill their PSC obligations;

- h. Review of Discovery Responses: Each attorney has an obligation to stay informed about the litigation so that they can best represent their clients, and that is a reason to review discovery responses served in this litigation. Only those attorneys designated by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel, the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee, or one of the Discovery Committee Co-Chairs to review and summarize discovery responses for the MDL are working for the common benefit, and their time will be considered common benefit time. All other counsel are reviewing those discovery responses for their own benefit and the benefit of their own clients, and the review is not considered common benefit work;
- i. <u>Bellwether Trials:</u> While the work-up of individual cases is not considered common benefit work, in the event that a case is selected as part of an approved bellwether trial process in the MDL or a cooperating state court jurisdiction, the time and expenses in trying the case (including work performed as part of the approved bellwether process) may be considered common benefit work at the discretion of Co-Lead Counsel to the extent it complies with the other provisions of this Order and Participation Agreement;
- j. <u>Duplicative Billing</u>: Having multiple attorneys within one firm bill for duplicative work will be a fact to be considered by the Fee Committee (which will be appointed at the appropriate time) and may not be

compensated and should not be submitted. Law firms are free to staff cases any way they deem appropriate for their law firm, however, the MDL will not compensate one law firm for duplicative billing. This paragraph is not intended to prevent, by way of example, having one lawyer create the first draft of a brief and another lawyer review and edit the brief, nor does this paragraph prevent having multiple attorneys within one firm assist the questioning attorney get ready for a deposition.

# D. Time Keeping and Submission of Time Records

All time must be accurately and contemporaneously maintained. Participating Counsel shall keep a daily record of time spent in connection with common benefit work on this litigation, indicating with specificity the hours, location, and particular activity (such as "conducted deposition of John Doe"). Time entries that are not sufficiently detailed may not be considered for common benefit payments. All common benefit work time for each firm shall be maintained in tenth-of-an-hour increments. Time submissions will be audited by a CPA to be appointed by the MDL Court.

These guidelines are intended for all activities performed and expenses incurred by Participating Counsel in MDL 2545:

- All time submissions must be incurred only for work authorized under this
   Participation Agreement;
  - 2. All time submissions must be made on the forms provided by the PSC;
- 3. Time and expense submissions are to be made on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, beginning on March 15, 2017. Each submission should contain all time and expenses incurred during the calendar month prior to the submission date (*i.e.*, the April 15, 2017

submission should include all time and expenses incurred during the month of March 2017), though the first submission should include all time and expenses incurred through February 2017. All time and expense submissions should be accompanied by contemporaneous records and verified by a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm or by a member of the Court-Appointed Invokana PSC if said member is not a partner or shareholder in the submitting firm. Submissions of time and expense made after the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the month in which the time or expense were incurred may be rejected. Only time and expense incurred after the entry of CMO No. 2 by the MDL Court appointing Plaintiffs' Leadership on January 24, 2017 shall be submitted and considered for common benefit consideration, except that time and expense incurred by those appointed as interim liaison counsel by Judge Martinotti prior to the formation of this MDL or beneficial work performed in discovery efforts in the state court Pennsylvania litigation in generic discovery efforts, and who incurred common benefit costs and time up to and until Plaintiff's Leadership was appointed may submit time and expenses incurred for the common benefit of the litigation. In addition, each firm that makes a common benefit time and/or cost submission for a given month shall also be required to submit a brief summary (no more than 2 or 3 sentences) summarizing the contribution that each time keeper from that law firm made toward the common benefit and advancement of the litigation. Moreover, only that time and those expenses incurred for the common benefit of all cases, consistent with the terms of the Common Benefit Order and this Participation Agreement, shall be considered.

4. All time submissions must be electronically sent in the designated form to the attention of MLD Co-Liaison Counsel so they can be reviewed, compiled, and

submitted to the Court at the appropriate time.

- 5. Failure to provide submissions in a timely manner shall result in a waiver of attorney fees and expenses claimed for the time period that is the subject of the submission. Failure to submit time and expense records in electronic (searchable) format on the Excel forms approved by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel, or any other method approved by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel, will result in a notice of deficiency, after which the submitting firm shall have 15 days to cure the deficient submission. Absent prior approval from Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel or special circumstances, failure to cure the deficiency within the fifteen-day period shall result in (a) that month's submission being rejected, and (b) the submitting firm waiving compensation for the time and expenses submitted that month. Upon a determination by Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel that a Participating Law Firm repeatedly fails to comply with the requirement to timely submit time and expense records in the required format, that Participating Law Firm may be barred from performing future common benefit work.
- 6. Time spent compiling the data for the time and expense submissions is not considered common benefit time.
- 7. Common benefit work shall only be performed by employees of the law firm submitting time and/or expenses, unless prior written consent of Co-Lead Counsel is obtained. Absent prior written consent of Co-Lead Counsel, time and/or expenses by contract attorneys will not be compensated or reimbursed.
- 8. The undersigned Participating Counsel understands, acknowledges and agrees that there is no guaranty that all of the time submitted by his or her law firm will be compensated and that the hourly rate for the work that is compensated is not guaranteed

(e.g., that the Common Benefit Fee Committee may award different hourly rates for different work and for the same work performed by different attorneys or law firms). The undersigned also understands, acknowledges, and agrees that all hours are not going to be viewed equally and awarded at the same rate (e.g., document review time and deposition/trial time may not be treated and awarded at the same rate).

### E. Distribution of Fees

- 1. No Individual Right to the Funds: No party or attorney has any individual right to any common benefit funds except to the extent directed by Order of the MDL Court. Common benefit funds will not constitute the property of any party or attorney or be subject to garnishment or attachment for the debts of any party or attorney except when and as directed by court order. These limitations do not preclude a party or attorney from transferring, assigning, or creating a security interest in potential disbursements from the fund if permitted by applicable state laws and if subject to the conditions and contingencies of this Agreement.
- 2. <u>Court Approval</u>: The amounts deposited in the Invokana Fee Fund shall be available for distribution to attorneys who have performed professional services or incurred expenses for the common benefit. The MDL Court retains jurisdiction over any common benefit award. The undersigned Participating Counsel, on behalf of themselves, their affiliated counsel, and their clients, hereby consents to the jurisdiction of the MDL Court in connection with any common benefit award. Each Participating Counsel who does common benefit work has the right to present their claim(s) for compensation and reimbursement prior to any recommendation to the Court. It is expected that due consideration of payment of common benefit fees and expenses will be given to the

# recommendation of Plaintiffs' Common Benefit Fee Committee by the MDL Court.

I	[name of lawyer executing the Agreement] hereby represent to the
Plaintiffs' Leadership Grou	up that I have the authority to execute this Agreement on behalf of my
law firm and have the author	ority to bind my law firm to the terms of this Agreement.
Choose One:	
	[name of lawyer executing the Agreement] hereby certify that my fs' Counsel as defined in CMO, Section and is subject to an sts as outlined herein.
I	[name of lawyer executing the Agreement] hereby certify that my
law firm is a participating n	on-MDL Plaintiffs' Counsel as defined in CMO, Section, and
is an early participant and i	s subject to an assessment for fees and costs as outlined herein.
I	[name of lawyer executing the Agreement] hereby certify that my
law firm is a is a participa	ating non-MDL Plaintiffs' Counsel as defined in CMO, Section
and is a late particir	pant and is subject to a double assessment as outlined herein.