

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
PENSACOLA DIVISION**

**IN RE: DEPO-PROVERA (DEPOT
MEDROXYPROGESTERONE
ACETATE) PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION**

Case No. 3:25-md-3140

**This Document Relates to:
All Cases**

**Judge M. Casey Rodgers
Magistrate Judge Hope T. Cannon**

**CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER NO. 18
(Establishment of Administrative Docket in Connection with Settlement)**

In Case Management Order No. 14 (ECF No. 738) (“CMO 14”), the Court noted that it would establish by separate Order an administrative docket, where persons who are eligible to participate in the Settlement Program¹ but have not yet filed complaints can file their complaints (which is a requirement for participating in the Settlement Program) without paying a filing fee.

Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** as follows.

1. The Court’s Clerk’s Office is directed to establish an administrative docket into which the category of Plaintiffs described in paragraph 2 below may file complaints in the MDL after the date of this Order, under the terms and conditions set forth herein.

¹ Unless otherwise stated, all capitalized terms in this Order have the meaning set forth in CMO 14.

2. Within five days after the date of this Order, BrownGreer will provide each counsel with Plaintiffs registered on MDL Centrality a list identifying its clients who appear to be permitted to file complaints on the administrative docket.

3. On or before November 30, 2026, such counsel are directed to submit to BrownGreer for each client identified by BrownGreer, as well as any additional client whom counsel believes are permitted to file on the administrative docket, a complaint in compliance with the requirements of Pretrial Order No. 6 (ECF No. 168) by uploading such complaint to the Depo-Provera MDL Centrality Portal in the manner provided by BrownGreer.

4. As provided in CMO 14 (*see* ECF No. 738, at 11-12), the only Plaintiffs who are permitted to file complaints on the administrative docket are those who are filing a complaint *solely for the purpose of participating in the Settlement Program, and who (a) signed engagement letters with counsel to pursue an MPA Product claim on or before June 11, 2026, and (b) are eligible to participate in the Settlement Program.* BrownGreer will review the complaints filed on the administrative docket to identify and resolve with counsel any duplicates or other questions regarding permission to file on the administrative docket. For those identified to be filed on the administrative docket, BrownGreer will transmit to the Clerk's Office, through a secure file-sharing platform, the complaint received, together with all other information necessary to properly docket those cases. BrownGreer will inform the

Court promptly if it determines that any Plaintiff does not meet the criteria for filing on the administrative docket. Upon such notice from BrownGreer of a Plaintiff's ineligibility, the Court will direct the Clerk's Office to transfer that Plaintiff's complaint to the active MDL docket (with a filing fee requirement) without further action or order of the Court.

A Plaintiff who files a complaint on the administrative docket will not be required to pay a filing fee at the time of filing. If, however, a Plaintiff's complaint is transferred to the active MDL docket pursuant to this Order or for any other reason, the Plaintiff must pay the Court's standard filing fee within seven days after the date the complaint is transferred to the active docket. Failure to timely pay the filing fee will result in dismissal of the case.

5. Because complaints filed on the administrative docket are by definition not intended to be litigated but rather are filed solely for the purpose of participating in a settlement, Defendants are not required to file individual answers to these complaints. Rather, Defendants must file in the administrative docket a General Answer in accordance with the process set forth in Pretrial Order No. 26 (ECF No. 364) ("PTO 26"), which applies to the active MDL docket. That is, Defendants must file in the administrative docket one General Answer (as defined in PTO 26) that will be applicable to all complaints filed in the administrative docket and will constitute Defendants' answer to each individual complaint for purposes of the

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, including Rule 41. As a result, following the filing of Defendants' General Answer, any Plaintiff who wishes to voluntarily dismiss a complaint filed on the administrative docket must comply with Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 41(a)(1) or 41(a)(2).

6. As of the date on which Defendants' General Answer is filed, it will be deemed to have been filed in every current or future complaint filed on the administrative docket, without any further action required by Defendants. The General Answer is not intended to and will not waive any applicable case-specific or state-specific defenses available to Defendants.

7. If a Plaintiff's complaint is transferred from the administrative docket to the active MDL docket, the Plaintiff will become a Future Filed Plaintiff under CMO 14 as of the date of the transfer and will be subject to and bound by all Court orders that have been entered in the active MDL docket.

SO ORDERED this 15th day of September, 2026.

M. Casey Rodgers

M. CASEY RODGERS
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE