UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

IN RE: CHINESE-MANUFACTURED 09-MD-2047

DRYWALL PRODUCTS

* LIABILITY LITIGATION Section L

Relates to: All Cases July 27, 2016

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STATUS CONFERENCE BEFORE THE HONORABLE ELDON E. FALLON UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Appearances:

For the PSC: Herman Herman & Katz, LLC

BY: RUSS M. HERMAN, ESQ.

820 O'Keefe Avenue

New Orleans, Louisiana 70113

For the Knauf Defendants: Baker Donelson Bearman

Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC BY: KERRY J. MILLER, ESQ. 201 St. Charles Avenue, Suite 3600 New Orleans, Louisiana 70170

Phelps Dunbar, LLP For the Taishan, CNBM,

BY: HARRY ROSENBERG, ESQ. and BNBM Defendants:

365 Canal Street, Suite 2000 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Official Court Reporter: Toni Doyle Tusa, CCR, FCRR

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Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography using computer-aided transcription software.

PROCEEDINGS

seated, please.

(July 27, 2016)

THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

I apologize for our Court. We are doing a lot of work in the courtroom to get ready for the bellwether trials coming up in another matter, so we are a little disheveled. I

am using other courtrooms.

I met a moment ago with lead liaison counsel to discuss the matter with them. We don't have a lot on the agenda today, but we will take it as ordered. Let me hear from liaison counsel.

MR. ROSENBERG: Good morning, Your Honor.

Your Honor, do you want us to quickly make an appearance? Harry Rosenberg, Your Honor, liaison counsel for the CNBM, BNBM, and Taishan entities.

MR. MILLER: Thank you, Harry and Russ.

Kerry Miller, Your Honor, on behalf of Knauf and the defense steering committee.

MR. HERMAN: May it please the Court. Good morning, Your Honor. Russ Herman of Herman Herman & Katz here for the plaintiffs' steering committee and plaintiffs.

There are only two matters, as I appreciate it.

One is a report update from BrownGreer, and also Mr. Miller may
have a report to make on the Knauf remediation program.

09:00

THE COURT: Is that right, Harry?

MR. ROSENBERG: That's right, Your Honor. Other than that, there's nothing, other than the Court indicated it would announce the next status conference.

THE COURT: Right.

MR. MILLER: Kerry Miller again, Your Honor, very briefly.

The Knauf class settlement remediation program enters its final phases. Phil Adams from Moss is here, as he has been for all of our status conferences. There are only a few homes left and they expect to complete them soon.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Anything from Jake?

MR. WOODY: Yes, Your Honor. I have a very brief report regarding the other loss claims that we have talked so much about.

On Monday, July 25, you entered an order on the last appeal. I spoke with that attorney involved in that case, and she indicated that our claimant accepted that decision and would not be appealing it. That means that we can do the final accounting, and we are now printing the checks. We'll send them as soon as they are ready.

If you are represented, we will send it to your lawyer and let the lawyer distribute it to the claimant, and we will send it directly to *pro se* claimants. I expect we will

1 09:01 2 week. 3 4 5 in view of that fund. 6 7 MR. WOODY: Yes. 8 9 10 11 12 13 THE COURT: Right. 14 15 deal with that as it comes up. 16 THE COURT: Okay. 17 MR. WOODY: Thank you. 18 **THE COURT:** Thank you very much. 19 20 status conferences for August and September. 21 22 23 24 25 neglected to cover. It involves the stipend payments to each

have it done before the next status conference, hopefully next **THE COURT:** I suspect we will get some response. know that everybody recognizes that that was a finite fund. a result of that, the amounts have to be kind of just averaged, **THE COURT:** The people who are expecting X may get X minus one or something of that sort. You are going to have some comments, so you are going to have to handle those. MR. WOODY: Yes, sir. There's a provision in the settlement agreement that instructs us to do that. MR. WOODY: But, yes, we are aware of that. We will MR. ROSENBERG: Your Honor, I think the only other item, to my knowledge, is the Court's announcement of the **THE COURT:** The next status conference, as you know, is August 25. The following one is September 22. MR. WOODY: I have one more thing, Your Honor, that I 09:03

law firm.

We filed a series of motions for rules to show cause on some disputed issues. Those are all set for the next status conference. We have been able to resolve a few of those even before this conference and will continue to do that. I will file an updated list of issues before that status conference.

THE COURT: Let's do that so that I will know at the status conference whether or not there's any issues left.

MR. WOODY: Yes, Your Honor.

MR. HERMAN: May it please the Court. Your Honor, the only other matters, I want to thank the legal representatives of BNBM and CNBM, who are in the courtroom today. We will be meeting with Mr. Rosenberg immediately following this hearing with regard to the BNBM recent report.

MR. ROSENBERG: Your Honor, I didn't think there was an issue, but I'm always happy to meet with Mr. Herman and his colleagues, as I advised the Court in the preliminary conference. I didn't think that was part of the Court's agenda today.

THE COURT: I'll see you all, then, at the next status conference. Thank you very much. The Court will stand in recess.

THE DEPUTY CLERK: All rise.

(Proceedings adjourned.)

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CERTIFICATE

I, Toni Doyle Tusa, CCR, FCRR, Official Court
Reporter for the United States District Court, Eastern District
of Louisiana, certify that the foregoing is a true and correct
transcript, to the best of my ability and understanding, from
the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

<u>s/ Toni Doyle Tusa</u> Toni Doyle Tusa, CCR, FCRR Official Court Reporter

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