BEFORE THE UNITED STATES JUDICIAL PANEL ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

**IN RE: Zofran (Ondansetron)** 

**Products Liability Litigation** 

MDL No. 2657

INTERESTED PARTIES CORY AND JILL COX'S RESPONSE TO THE MOTION FOR TRANSFER OF ACTIONS PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1407 FOR COORDINATED OR CONSOLIDATED PRETRIAL PROCEEDING AND MEMORANDUM BRIEF IN SUPPORT THEREOF

Respondents Cory Cox and Jill Cox, each individually and on behalf of Jacob Cox, their minor child ("Cox") are Plaintiffs in a case against GlaxosmithKline, LLC ("GSK") pending in the Eastern District of Arkansas, Case No. 4:15-CV-00284-BRW. Cox files this Response to GSK's Motion for Transfer of Actions to the Eastern District of Pennsylvania Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407 for Coordinated or Consolidated Pretrial Proceedings to object to the venue proposed by GSK. Cox does not oppose the transfer of this case and other related case to an MDL for pretrial proceedings, but does oppose GSK's proposed venue of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Cox takes no position as to which of the other districts suggested by various plaintiffs in related cases should be the forum in this case, but asks the Panel to weigh the factors in favor of those proposed forums, as well as the factors against GSK's proposed forum of Eastern Pennsylvania as discussed below.

MEMORANDUM BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF RESPONSE TO MOTION TO TRANSFER

Assigning this MDL to the Eastern District of Pennsylvania would not be the best use of judicial resources. The list of pending MDLs on the JPML's website lists seventeen MDL cases already pending in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. See Exhibit A. GSK specifically asks that this MDL be assigned to either the Honorable Cynthia M. Rufe or the Honorable Paul S. Diamond. The list of pending MDLs indicates that Judge Rufe already has three MDL cases assigned to her. While the list does not include any MDL cases currently pending before Judge Diamond, appointing

this MDL to him would greatly increase the overall caseload as a whole to the District of Eastern Pennsylvania. Because Eastern Pennsylvania already has a significant number of MDLs pending, Cox asserts that this serves as a basis to deny GSK's request that this MDL be transferred to Eastern Pennsylvania.

GSK argues that Eastern Pennsylvania is an appropriate forum because it has centralized operations in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and, accordingly, a significant number of witnesses and relevant evidence are likely located within the District of Eastern Pennsylvania. While this is a factor considered by the Panel, it is not determinative as to the Panel's venue determination. For example, In *In re: Xarelto (Rivaroxaban) Products Liability Litigation*, 65 F.Supp.3d 1402 (2014), defendant pharmaceutical companies, both with corporate offices in New Jersey, argued that venue for an MDL should be set in New Jersey because that is where many witnesses and evidence would be located. The Panel considered all the factors in that case, and determined that the Eastern District of Louisiana would be the appropriate forum because of the number of actions pending there, because it was a geographically central forum, and because of the experience and ability of a judge seated in Louisiana.

At the time GSK filed its Motion to Transfer, there were no cases pending in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Since that time, there has been one Notice of Related Action of a case filed in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and that action was filed on July 17, 2015. Docket No. 9. Cox maintains that a district with a greater number of cases, and with a case or cases that are more developed, would serve as a more appropriate forum.

Finally, Cox asks the Panel choose a forum that is more geographically central than the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. The Schedule of Actions attached to GSK's Motion to Transfer,

and the subsequent Notices of Related Action filed with the Panel, demonstrate that these actions are being filed across the country. Cox asserts that this is another factor which weighs against the selection of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania as the forum in this MDL.

For the reasons stated herein, Cox asks the Court to deny GSK's Motion to Transfer in regards to GSK's proposed forum of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and to choose one of the forums being proposed by other plaintiffs in this MDL after considering all of the relevant factors.

Respectfully Submitted,

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CM/ECF for JPML (LIVE)-JPML Litigation Statistics by MDL

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Bruce Howe Hendricks (U.S. District Judge)	Bished M Completing District Indian	William E Smith (Chief Judge USDC)	Mary M Lisi (U.S. District Judge)	Arthur J Schwab (U.S. District Judge)	Joy Flowers Conti (Chief Judge, USDC)	Donetta W Ambrose (Sr. District Judge)	Yvette Kane (U.S. District Judge)	Lawrence F Stengel (U.S. District Judge)	Edward G. Smith (U.S. District Judge)	Cynthia M Rufe (U.S. District Judge)	Cynthia M Rufe (U.S. District Judge)	Cynthia M Rufe (U.S. District Judge)	Eduardo C Robreno (Sr. District Judge)	Gene E.K. Pratter (U.S. District Judge)	Gene E.K. Pratter (U.S. District Judge)	J. Curtis Joyner (Sr. District Judge)	C. Damell Jones, II (U.S. District Judge)	Mitchell S Goldberg (U.S. District Judge)	Jan E DuBois (Sr. District Judge)	Jan E DuBois (Sr. District Judge)	Anita B Brody (Sr. District Judge)	Anita B Brody (Sr. District Judge)	Michael M Baylson (Sr. District Judge)	Harvey Bartle, III (U.S. District Judge)	Michael H. Simon (U.S. District Judge)	Robin J. Cauthron (Sr. District Judge)	Robin J. Cauthron (Sr. District Judge)	Edmund A Sargus, Jr (U.S. District Judge)	Sandra S Beckwith (Sr. District Judge)	Jack Zouhary (U.S. District Judge)	Benita Y. Pearson (U.S. District Judge)	David A Katz (Sr. District Judge)	Patricia A Gaughan (U.S. District Judge)	James G Carr (Sr. District Judge)	Christopher A Boyko (U.S. District Judge)	Robert W Sweet (Sr. District Judge)	Robert W Sweet (St. District Indoe)	Robert W Sweet (Sr. District Judge)	Richard J Sullivan (U.S. District Judge)	Sidney H Stein (Sr. District Judge)	Sidney H Stein (Sr. District Judge)	Cathy Seibel (II S. District Judge)	Shira Ann Scheindlin (Sr. District Judge)	Shira Ann Scheindlin (Sr District Judge)	William H Pauley, III (U.S. District Judge)	Colleen McMahon (U.S. District Judge)	Victor Marrero (Sr. District Judge)	Victor Marrero (Sr. District Judge)	Victor Marrero (Sr. District Judge)	John F Keenan (Sr. District Judge)	Kenneth M Karas (U.S. District Judge)	Lewis A Kaplan (Sr. District Judge)	Lewis A Kaplan (Sr. District Judge)
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IN RE: Zofran (Ondansetron)
Products Liability Litigation

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## PROOF OF SERVICE

In compliance with Rule 4.1(a) of the Rules of Procedure for the United States Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing Notice of Appearance were served on all parties who have entered an appearance through ECF system, on July 28, 2015.

Dated this 28th day of July 2015

Respectfully Submitted,

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