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## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CLEVELAND COUNTY

STAT	E OF OKLAHOMA	STATE OF OKLAHOMA S.S.
STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel., MIK HUNTER, ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA	•	JUN 2 0 2019
Plaintiff,	) ) )	In the office of the Court Clerk MARILYN WILLIAM
VS.	) No. CJ-20	17-816
PURDUE PHARMA, L.P.; PURDUE PHARMA, INC.,; THE PURDUE FREDERICK COMPANY; TEVA PHARMACEUTICALS USA, INC.; CEPHALON, INC.; JOHNSON & JOHNSON; JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA, INC., n/k/a JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. ALLERGAN, PLC f/k/a ACTAVIS PLC f/k/a ACTAVIS, INC., f/k/a WATSON PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.; ACTAVILIC; and ACTAVIS PHARMA, INC., f WATSON PHARMA, INC., f	) )  S )	
Defendants.	ý	

## NON-PARTY, GARY SCHICK, M.D.'S SPECIAL APPEARANCE AND MOTION TO QUASH OR MODIFY TRIAL SUBPOENA

Dr. Gary Schick is a non-party witness in this case and a physical medicine and rehab specialist practicing with McBride Orthopedic Hospital in Oklahoma City. Pursuant to 12 O.S. § 2004.1(C)(3), his attorneys submit this brief for the benefit of Dr. Schick's patients who are presently scheduled for necessary medical care.

### Factual Background

## **Brief in Support**

Pursuant to 12 O.S. § 2004.1(C)(3)(a), "On timely motion, the court by which a subpoena was issued shall quash or modify the subpoena if it: (1) fails to allow reasonable time for compliance...(2) subjects a person to undue burden..." (12 O.S. § 2004.1(C)(3)(a).) Furthermore, a trial subpoena may be quashed if it "requires disclosure of a non-retained expert's opinion or information not describing specific events or occurrences in dispute and resulting from the expert study made not at the request of any party..." 12 O.S. § 2004.1 (C)(3)(b)(2).

## **PROPOSITION I:**

## PLAINTIFF'S TRIAL SUBPOENA FAILS TO ALLOW REASONABLE TIME FOR COMPLIANCE.

Dr. Schick has not been afforded reasonable time to comply with the Subpoena as required by 12 O.S. § 2004.1(C)(3)(a)(1). Although the Subpoena was served within the requisite statutory time, less than a week is an insufficient and unreasonable amount of time for practicing physician Dr. Schick to coordinate with his numerous patients scheduled for treatment during the trial of the above-captioned matter. Dr. Schick is scheduled to see over twenty-three (23) patients on the date he is under subpoena to testify. To force him to cancel these procedures/medication evaluations causes potential delay in the patients getting necessary medical care. Parties have known about this trial setting and could have issued notice or contacted Dr. Schick and provided sufficient opportunity for him to block out this date. Furthermore, Dr. Schick's testimony can be read at trial in lieu of his attendance. To force his patients to go without necessary medical care while he attends trial poses an unduly burden on him

and his patients and does not allow reasonable time to rearrange his schedule to comply with the subpoena.

# PROPOSITION II: COMPELLING DR. SCHICK'S TESTIMONY LIVE AT TRIAL IS UNDULY BURDENSOME TO HIM AND HIS PATIENTS

Under 12 O.S. § 2004.1(C)(3)(a)(4), a subpoena may also be quashed or modified if it "subjects a person to undue burden." Quashing a modification of the subpoena is proper under this provision, because enforcement would be overly burdensome. Dr. Schick's reputation is his livelihood. The effects of even one upset patient over a postponed surgery have the potential to affect his practice for years to come. Further, any negative patient outcomes that occur because of the inability to be treated as scheduled could pose risk to Dr. Schick, as well as his patients.

Of note, under § 2004.1(C)(3)(a)(4) quashing or modifying a subpoena is proper if there is an undue burden to "a person"; the legislature did not limit this provision to the effect of a subpoena on parties or witness directly subject to a subpoena. It can thus be assumed that our legislature chose this broad term of art to encompass *any* person affected by a subpoena, directly or indirectly. Because the undue burden to be experienced by Dr. Schick's patients (e.g., prolonged pain and suffering) is imminent, this is a consideration that should weigh heavily on the Court's analysis under 12 O.S. § 2004.1 (C)(3)(a)(4). Statute aside, public policy concerns arising from the health and well-being of people needing invasive procedures and life-saving medications should likewise result in Dr. Schick's Motion to Quash or Modify being sustained if there is <u>any</u> alternative means of procuring his testimony, *i.e.*, a videotaped deposition.

## Conclusion

Dr. Schick is a non-party witness. His patients schedule procedures months in advance due to his limited availability, so it is patently unreasonable for a lawyer to compel his attendance at trial in a case he is not a party to on such short notice. It is unfair and unduly burdensome to Dr. Schick, and perhaps more importantly, his patients, to coerce his attendance at trial if his testimony can be properly procured by alternative means such as the reading of his deposition transcript. As such, Plaintiff's Motion to Enforce should be denied, and Dr. Schick's Motion to Quash or Modify should be sustained.

WHEREFORE, Non-party, Gary Schick, M.D., respectfully requests this Court quash or modify the trial subpoena issued

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## **Certificate of Service**

On this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2019, true and correct copies of the within and foregoing NON-PARTY, GARY SCHICK, M.D.'S SPECIAL APPEARANCE AND MOTION TO QUASH OR MODIFY TRIAL SUBPOENA was mailed, with sufficient postage fully prepaid thereon, to the following counsel of record:

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