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## Parties in Multiple Myeloma Benzene Case Reach Settlement Agreement

NEW ORLEANS -- Noting that counsel for the parties in a benzene case had indicated that they had firmly agreed on a compromise, a Louisiana federal court has entered an order of dismissal in the multiple myeloma action.

In the one-page March 19 order, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana dismissed the action without prejudice, allowing the parties 60 days to finalize the compromise.

The plaintiffs brought the claims on behalf of William Singleton, who was allegedly exposed to benzene-containing products during a 40-year career as a painter, mechanic, construction worker and drum filler. As a result of the exposure, Singleton allegedly developed multiple myeloma.

Recently, the court rejected a case management order proposal from defendants, opining that the suggested plan would improperly limit the scope of discovery to areas the plaintiffs listed in their initial disclosures.

Singleton, et al. v. Chevron USA Inc., et al., No. 11-1199 (E.D. La.).

The plaintiffs are represented by L. Eric Williams Jr. of the Williams Law Office in Metairie, La., and Richard J. Fernandez and Amber E. Cisney of The Law Office of Richard J. Fernandez in Metairie, La.

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