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Parties in Louisiana Case Reach Settlement Agreement of Benzene Claims

NEW ORLEANS — Parties involved in a benzene lawsuit brought on behalf of a former polyurethane applicator have reached a settlement agreement, according to a recent notice filed in the federal court overseeing the action.

In the June 18 order of dismissal, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana said that it had been advised by counsel for the parties that all of the parties to the action had “firmly agreed upon a compromise.”

The plaintiffs asserted the claims on behalf of Walter Sarrat, whose employment by Gencote Inc. as a polyurethane applicator required him to spray barges, sugar silos and other metal objects in an effort to prevent corrosion. Plaintiffs assert that toluene containing up to 2.5 percent benzene was present in the polyurethane coatings.

As a result of this exposure, Sarrat developed chronic lymphocytic leukemia, the plaintiffs contended.

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

Univar is represented by Barbara L. Arras and Jeremy T. Grabill of Phelps Dunbar LLP in New Orleans.

Sarrat v. Univar USA Inc., No. 14-1017 (E.D. La.).

Document is Available Call (800) 496-4319 or Search www.harrismartin.com Order of Dismissal Ref# BEN-1507-10

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