UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

IN RE: SULZER HIP PROSTHESIS AND KNEE PROSTHESIS PRODUCT LIABILITY LITIGATION	)	**Civil Action No.: 01-CV-9000**
	)	**ALL CASES**
This document relates to: *Florence E. Ashford*	)	**(MDL No. 1401)**
	)	**Judge Kathleen M. O'Malley**

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MASTER DETERMINATION

Class Member Florence E. Ashford, by and through her attorney George Holland, Esq. ("Appellant"), appealed the decision of the Claims Administrator ("Appellee") in rendering a Final Determination dated December 5, 2003 on Appellant's claim for Extraordinary Injury Fund ("EIF") benefits from the Sulzer Settlement Trust.

Appellant appealed the decision of the Appellee, and contends that Appellee erred in his decision to award EIF Matrix Levels IV and V benefits in the amount of Zero Dollars ($0.00) to Appellant.

The factual findings of this matter are as follows:

1. Appellant submitted two claims for EIF Matrix Level IV benefits, two claims for Matrix Level V benefits, and two claims for Matrix Level IX benefits.

2. Appellant has been deemed eligible for EIF Matrix Level V benefits for a permanent bone injury and Matrix Level IX benefits for her stage 2 resection surgery of July 9, 2001.

3. Appellant has not received a Final Determination regarding her Matrix Level IX claim for a contralateral injury. Therefore, that claim cannot be appealed at the present time and will not be considered by the Special Master in this Determination.

4. Appellant also seeks EIF benefits as a result of a wound infection and related injury, and a non-union of a tibial tubercle osteotomy.

5. Appellee issued Preliminary and Final Determinations that Appellant was not eligible for EIF Matrix Level IV and V benefits for the wound infection and related injury, or for the non-union of a tibial tubercle osteotomy.