

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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MARY K. JONES, Individually and on Behalf	:	Civil Action No. 1:10-cv-03864-AKH
of All Others Similarly Situated,	:	
	:	<u>CLASS ACTION</u>
Plaintiff	:	
vs.	:	MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT
	:	OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION <i>IN LIMINE</i> TO
PFIZER INC., et al.,	:	PRECLUDE OPINION TESTIMONY BY
	:	FACT WITNESSES
Defendants.	:	
_____	X	

Plaintiffs respectfully move for an order under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2) and Federal Rules of Evidence 403 and 701 to preclude fact witnesses from offering impermissible expert or opinion testimony. Rule 701 provides that:

If a witness is not testifying as an expert, testimony in the form of an opinion is limited to one that is:

- (a) rationally based on the witness's perception;
- (b) helpful to clearly understanding the witness's testimony or to determining a fact in issue; and
- (c) not based on scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge within the scope of Rule 702.

Fed. R. Evid. 701.

“The purpose of [the] final foundation requirement [of Rule 701] is to prevent a party from conflating expert and lay opinion testimony thereby conferring an aura of expertise on a witness without satisfying the reliability standard for expert testimony set forth in Rule 702 and the pre-trial disclosure requirements set forth in . . . Fed. R. Civ. P. 26.” *United States v. Garcia*, 413 F.3d 201, 215 (2d Cir. 2005). Accordingly, defendants should be precluded from offering any expert testimony or opinion from fact witnesses that were not timely disclosed pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(C).

The Court ordered defendants to designate experts by April 25, 2014. *See* Dkt No. 191. Pursuant to that Order, on April 25, 2014 defendants designated their experts.<sup>1</sup> Each of the witnesses designated by defendants pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2), subsequently produced expert reports. These witnesses are John C. Coates IV, David W. Feigal, Jr., William W. Holder, Kenneth Lehn,

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<sup>1</sup> Declaration of Willow E. Radcliffe in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion *in Limine* to Preclude Opinion Testimony by Fact Witnesses (“Radcliffe Decl.”), Ex. 1 (identification of defendants' experts), filed concurrently herewith. Since those designations, defendants have withdrawn six of their experts identified in this document.

Sean Nicholson, Sunil Panchal, Jack T. Tanselle and Nicholas C. Theodorou. Thus, defendants are precluded from attempting to offer expert testimony from any other witnesses. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(c)(1) (failure to “identify a witness as required by Rule 26(a)” precludes a party from using that witness at trial).

Specifically, defendants should be precluded from offering any legal or accounting opinions from their fact witnesses, including opinions regarding the following:

- (i) that ‘[m]arketing’ is a broad term that – that, to me, and I think in the mind of any reasonable investor . . . would include off-label promotion” (Radcliffe Decl., Ex. 2 at 137:25-1238:12);
- (ii) “I do not think that there was any obligation under the securities laws to say off-label promotion” (*id.* at 151:16-152:3);
- (iii) “I think we had a very robust and transparent set of disclosure documents” (Radcliffe Decl., Ex. 3 at 183:9-184:5);
- (iv) “[s]itting here today [I] believe that the company’s litigation proceedings disclosures during the class period complied with the securities laws” (Radcliffe Decl., Ex. 2 at 182:13-17);
- (v) “[a]s [I] sit here today [I do not] think that [telling investors we had substantial defenses] was misleading” (*id.* at 68:7-18);
- (vi) “[KPMG partner Larry Bradley] continue[s] to stand behind the conclusions that KPMG reached in connection with its audit” (Radcliffe Decl., Ex. 4 at 335:4-14);
- (vii) “the fact that outside counsel for Pfizer may have had discussions with the Government regarding a potential resolution in the amount of \$750 million . . . does [not change KPMG’s] conclusion regarding whether Pfizer was in compliance with the requirements of FAS 5” or “mean that a loss in that amount was probable and reasonably estimable” (*id.* at 333:24-334:14);
- (viii) “we concluded that the disclosures that were already in our SEC reports fully complied with the securities laws” (Radcliffe Decl., Ex. 2 at 141:7-142:8);
- (ix) “we do what is required by the federal securities laws” (*id.* at 128:12-21); and
- (x) there is “no obligation in the securities laws to disclose a target letter” (*id.* at 138:15-17).

*See Garcia*, 413 F.2d at 211-14 (testimony based on collective knowledge of an investigation inadmissible under Rule 701); *United States v. Collins*, No. 13-2902, 2014 U.S. App. LEXIS 20150, at \*3-\*4 (2d Cir. Oct. 22, 2014) (affirming the exclusion of the testimony of two lawyers as to the materiality of an agreement in a securities fraud action); *Mirowski Family Ventures, LLC v. Boston Sci. Corp.*, No. 1:11-cv-736-WTL-DKL, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14518, at \*3-\*6 (S.D. Ind. Feb. 4, 2013) (excluding testimony of a lawyer as expert testimony regarding, *inter alia*, the probability of future rulings); *Sack, Miller & Rosendin, LLP v. Gen. Refractories Co.*, No. C 03-00880 JSW, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 21397, at \*9-\*10 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 13, 2004) (finding opinion testimony from lawyers regarding the quality of “legal representation and any damages resulting there from would not be proper lay witness”). Such opinion testimony ““would merely tell the jury what result to reach”” and would be prejudicial to plaintiffs. *See United States v. Rea*, 958 F. 2d 1206, 1215 (2d Cir. 1992) (explaining that the helpfulness requirement of Rule 701) (citation omitted); Fed. R. Evid. 403. Accordingly, defendants should be precluded from offering opinion testimony from fact witnesses.

DATED: December 10, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

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I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on December 10, 2014.

s/ WILLOW E. RADCLIFFE

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