

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION**

IN RE SUBOXONE	)	Case No. 1:24-md-03092
(BUPRENORPHINE/NALOXONE)	)	
FILM PRODUCTS LIABILITY	)	MDL No. 3092
LITIGATION	)	
	)	Judge J. Philip Calabrese
This Document Applies to All Cases	)	
	)	

MINUTES AND ORDER

On September 21, 2026, the Court held a status conference on the record by Zoom.

The following attended on behalf of Plaintiffs: Ashlie Case Sletvold, Erin Copeland, Alyson Beridon, Trent Miracle, and Caroline Ford.

The following attended on behalf of Defendants Indivior, Inc., Indivior Solutions, Inc., and Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc.: Randall Christian, Mary Pawelek, Denise Dickerson, Patrick DeLaune, and Jason Lundry.

The following attendees were present as well: Luis Escobar and multiple other attorneys joining by phone.

On the record, the Court and counsel addressed the items on the agenda (ECF No. 839) with particular attention to the following:

1. Plaintiff-Centered Discovery

1.a. PLC's Status Report on Census Rounds 1 and 2

The Court and counsel discussed the PLC's status report of Schedule A plaintiffs and Census Round 2. (ECF No. 840.) Defendants raised suggestions of death for Schedule A plaintiffs attached to the agenda and requested dismissal of

those plaintiffs. (ECF No. 840-3.) The Court directed counsel to confer and indicated it would discuss this issue at the next status conference set for October 27, 2026.

1.b. General Update on the Core Discovery Pool

Next, the Court and counsel discussed the progress of discovery in the Core Discovery Pool. Counsel advised that deposition of all 35 Plaintiffs in the Core Discovery Pool are scheduled, and the parties have taken 22 of those. Also, counsel advised that they are working to schedule the depositions of healthcare providers.

Then, the Court raised its ruling docketed just before the hearing (ECF No. 843), addressing Plaintiffs' submissions and Defendants' responses to the Court's previous Show Cause Order (ECF No. 818). The Court identified potential mechanical issues implementing the Order in light of the number of Plaintiffs affected. The Court advised counsel that it may require follow up to implement the order appropriately.

2. Defendant-Centered Discovery

2.a. Timing of Production of Prior Litigation Testimony

On August 28, 2026, the Court issued a Memorandum Opinion addressing the issues raised at the last status conference regarding production of prior deposition testimony of certain custodians. (ECF No. 827.) Based on that ruling, Defendants represented that they are currently reviewing prior productions on a rolling basis, prioritizing those deponents who have upcoming depositions scheduled. Defendants anticipate any supplemental productions in advance of the next status conference.

2.b. Company Employee Deposition Questions About Compensation

The PLC raised concerns regarding objections and withholding of answers to questions about compensation during the deposition of a corporate employee last week. Counsel provided their respective positions on the issue. Based on the discussion, the Court expressed its view that such information is discoverable, though it may not be admissible. The Court invited the parties each to make a one-page submission identifying a case or two that support their respective positions, which the Court will review. If review of those authorities prompts the Court to reach a different view on the discoverability of this information, it will so advise the parties promptly.

3. Defendant Indivior Inc.'s Announced Merger

On August 3, 2026, Indivior Inc. announced a proposed merger. During the status conference, Defendants provided additional information about the proposed merger, including a target closing date of November 3, 2026. Based on information available to counsel at this time, Defendants reported that Indivior Inc.'s legal status is not expected to change generally or with respect to this litigation.

4. Third-Party Discovery

On September 21, 2026, the Court held hearings on the record on the Court's Order of Contempt (ECF No. 823), Order to Compel (ECF No. 819), Amended Order to Show Cause (ECF No. 824), and the parties' motions for orders to show cause (ECF No. 829; ECF No. 830). Ashlie Case Sletvold appeared for Plaintiffs and Denise Dickerson appeared for Defendants to discuss prior Show Cause Orders and provide updates. No one appeared on behalf of any Entity subject to any of these Orders. As

stated on the record, the Court indicated that it would grant the motions to show cause (ECF No. 829; ECF No. 830) and issue an order compelling non-compliant entities to produce the records at issue. For the remaining Entities that have not complied with the Court's Order compelling production of the records at issue, the Court **ORDERS** the requesting party to file any motions for contempt no later than October 16, 2026.

NEXT STATUS CONFERENCE

The Court sets the next status conference for October 27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at a location in the courthouse to be determined. Further, the Court schedules a hearing on the Order to Show Cause and other Orders and issues relating to third-party practice for October 27, 2026 at 12:00 pm in Courtroom 16B. Counsel shall confer on the agenda in advance and submit the agenda no later than 12:00 p.m. on October 23, 2026.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: September 22, 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Philip Calabrese', is written over a horizontal line.

J. Philip Calabrese
United States District Judge
Northern District of Ohio