## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

STEVEN GRAVLEY, SR., individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Case No. 2:24-cv-01148-MMB

Plaintiff,

**CLASS ACTION** 

v.

FRESENIUS VASCULAR CARE, INC. d/b/a AZURA VASCULAR CARE,

Defendant.

TYRONE BANKS, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Case No. 2:24-cy-01195-MMB

Plaintiff,

**CLASS ACTION** 

v.

FRESENIUS VASCULAR CARE, INC. d/b/a AZURA VASCULAR CARE, INC.,

Defendant.

## ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' RENEWED MOTION TO <u>CONSOLIDATE</u> CASES AND APPOINT INTERIM CO-LEAD CLASS COUNSEL

THIS MATTER, having come before the Court by the Plaintiffs in the above-captioned cases by their Renewed Motion to Consolidate Cases and to Appoint Interim Co-Lead Class Counsel pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 42(a) and 23(g), and supporting materials, and the Court having read the papers, IT IS ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED as set forth below:

1. The Court hereby consolidates *Gravley, Sr. v. Fresenius Vascular Care, Inc. d/b/a Azura Vascular Care, Inc.*, No. 2:24-cv-01148-MMB (E.D. Pa.) ("*Gravley*"), and *Banks v.* 

Fresenius Vascular Care, Inc. d/b/a Azura Vascular Care, Inc., No. 2:24-cv-01195-MMB (E.D. Pa.) ("Banks"), as well as any future related actions, under the docket number of this, first filed case: No. 2:24-cv-01148-MMB (Gravley) (collectively the "Consolidated Action"). The clerk is direct to administratively terminate Banks.

- 2. The case file for the Consolidated Action will be maintained under Master File No. 2:24-cv-01148-MMB.
- 3. Any action subsequently filed in, transferred to, or removed to this Court that arises out of the same or similar operative facts as the Consolidated Action shall be consolidated with the Consolidated Action for pre-trial purposes. The parties shall file a Notice of Related Action whenever a case that should be consolidated into this action is filed in, transferred to, or removed to this District.
  - 4. If the Court determines that the case is related, the clerk shall:
    - a. Place a copy of this Order in the separate file for such action;
    - b. Serve on Plaintiffs' counsel in the new case a copy of this Order;
    - c. Direct that this Order be served upon Defendant(s) in the new case; and
    - d. Make appropriate entry in the Master Docket.
- 5. Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(g), the Court hereby appoints Andrew W. Ferich of Ahdoot & Wolfson, PC and Benjamin F. Johns of Shub & Johns LLC as interim co-lead class counsel to act on behalf of the Plaintiffs and the class members in the Consolidated Action, with the responsibilities set forth below:
  - a. Determine and present (in briefs, oral argument, or such other fashion as may be appropriate, personally or by a designee) to the Court and opposing parties the position of the Plaintiffs on all matters arising during pretrial proceedings;

- b. Coordinate the initiation and conduct of discovery on behalf of Plaintiffs and the putative class consistent with the requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure;
- c. Convene meetings amongst counsel;
- d. Conduct settlement negotiations on behalf of Plaintiffs and the putative class;
- e. Delegate specific tasks to the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee in a manner to ensure that pretrial preparation for Plaintiffs and the putative class is conducted efficiently and effectively;
- f. Negotiate and enter into stipulations with opposing counsel as necessary for the conduct and efficient advancement of the litigation;
- g. Monitor the activities of all counsel to ensure that schedules are being met and unnecessary expenditures of time and funds are avoided;
- h. Perform such other duties as may be incidental to the proper coordination of Plaintiffs' pretrial activities or authorized by further order of this Court;
- i. Serve as the primary contact for communications between the Court and other Plaintiffs' counsel;
- j. Ensure that all notices, orders, and material communications are properly distributed (to the extent that they are not otherwise served on Plaintiffs' counsel *via* the Court's electronic filing system);
- k. Communicate with Defense counsel as necessary to promote the efficient advancement of this litigation;
- l. Make available to other Plaintiffs' counsel documents produced by the Defendants; and
- m. Allocate attorneys' fees.
- 6. Any additional plaintiffs' counsel will perform work in this litigation only at the direction of interim co-lead class counsel. No motion, request for discovery, or other pretrial proceedings shall be initiated or filed by any plaintiff except through interim co-lead class counsel and no other plaintiffs' counsel or firm shall be authorized to file any papers or perform any work in the case without the express authorization of interim co-lead class counsel.

3

7. Interim Co-Lead Counsel shall have sole authority to communicate with

Defendant's counsel—including with respect to settlement and settlement negotiations—and the

Court on behalf of any Plaintiff unless that authority is expressly delegated to other counsel.

Defendant's counsel may rely on all agreements made with interim co-lead class counsel, and

such agreements shall be binding on all other plaintiffs' counsel.

8. This Order shall apply to the above-captioned matters, any subsequently

consolidated action, any actions consolidated with the above-captioned matters, and any actions

filed in, transferred to, removed to, or otherwise sent to this Court relating to the facts and the data

breach underlying this litigation.

9. Interim Co-Lead Counsel must serve a copy of this Order and all future orders

promptly by overnight delivery service, facsimile, or other expeditious electronic means on

counsel for plaintiffs in any related action to the extent that interim co-lead counsel are aware or

become aware of any such action(s) and on all attorneys for plaintiffs whose cases may

subsequently consolidated with the above actions.

10. Plaintiffs in the Consolidated Action shall file an operative, consolidated complaint

within thirty (30) days of this Order. The parties will meet and confer about a motion to dismiss

briefing schedule and submit a stipulated briefing schedule to the Court.

, 2024

SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 30

/s/ Michael M. Baylson

Honorable Michael M. Baylson

United States District Judge

4