Proskauer

Proskauer Secures Landmark Victory for Monsanto

December 13, 2021

December 13, 2021 (Los Angeles) – Proskauer, a leading international law firm, secured a landmark victory for Monsanto in a case brought by a woman claiming that use of the herbicide Roundup caused her non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. A California jury rejected the claims, returning a defense verdict on all counts.

The verdict in S*tephens v. Monsanto* is the second defense verdict in the Roundup mass tort litigation and the first involving a plaintiff who used the product herself. All prior trials with plaintiffs who claimed to have personally applied Roundup resulted in verdicts against Monsanto ranging from $80 million to over $2 billion.

Over 20 witnesses testified in the five-month trial, with some phases taking place in person and others by Zoom. In reaching a defense verdict, the San Bernardino County jury concluded not only that Roundup did not cause Mrs. Stephens's cancer, but that Roundup performs safely and does not pose a cancer risk. This defense verdict on "general causation" is the first of its kind, with the only prior verdict for Monsanto addressing whether a specific individual's exposure to Roundup was sufficient to cause cancer. In deciding that Roundup does not cause non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, the jurors add their voices to those of regulators in Sacramento, Washington, D.C., and around the world, all of whom have consistently reached the same conclusion.

The Proskauer team was led by Bart Williams and Manuel Cachán, and included partner Lee Popkin, senior counsel Shawn Ledingham, special litigation counsel Jennifer Jones, associates Jennifer Yang, Christina Assi, Kelly Curtis, Om Alladi, Hena Vora, Seth Victor, Hannah Silverman, and paralegals Jeff Soldridge, Stacey Evans, Abby Rubin, Julian McCarthy, and Catie Goodell (Litigation).

About Proskauer

We are 725+ lawyers serving clients from 12 offices located in the leading financial and business centers in the Americas, Europe and Asia. The world's leading organizations, companies and corporations choose us to be their representatives in their most critical situations. But more, they consider Proskauer a strategic partner to drive their business forward. We work with asset managers, major sports leagues, Fortune 500 companies, entertainment industry legends and other industry-redefining companies.

Proskauer has a full-service litigation practice with extensive trial experience in virtually every major forum across the globe. We take a collaborative approach to representing defendants and plaintiffs, multinationals, middle-market and small-cap businesses, financial institutions, partnerships and individuals, with one thing in mind – driving successful outcomes for our clients.

We win make-or-break cases, change laws and establish precedents. Our litigators cover the full spectrum of complex commercial litigation practice areas and handle the complete range of sophisticated litigation, trial, appellate and counseling, as well as government contractor issues and investigations.

Our prowess in the field consistently earns the highest accolades, receiving a top-tier rankings in *Chambers* and recognized as leaders by *The Legal 500* and *Benchmark Litigation*, among others.

Related Professionals

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