

PLAINTIFFS' LEADERSHIP RESPONDS TO JOHNSON & JOHNSON'S MISCHARACTERIZATION OF SPECIAL MASTER'S DAUBERT RULING

Montgomery, AL (January 21, 2026) – Johnson & Johnson's latest public statement attempts to spin the Special Master's comprehensive Daubert Report & Recommendation as a victory for the company. The ruling is anything but.

"This is a major victory for 67,000 women poisoned by talc and harmed again by Johnson & Johnson's pathological need to obstruct, delay and lie," said Andy Birchfield, head of the Mass Torts Section at Beasley Allen Law Firm. "They're attempting to convince investors this is not bad news even as they double down on their toxic, failing litigation strategy of attacking women, misleading the courts, contradicting every judge and criticizing every ruling."

The Special Master's decision preserves the plaintiffs' central evidence on talc, asbestos, migration, dose-response, chronic inflammation, and ovarian cancer—clearing the pathway toward long-overdue trials. That is the outcome Johnson & Johnson most hoped to avoid.

"Let me be clear: Our clients will prevail. Our trial teams are ready. The science is strong. We'll go toe to toe as long as it takes," Birchfield said. "It's time for J&J to reconsider its horribly flawed strategy. Even Wall Street is saying enough is enough."

Johnson & Johnson's statement, claiming the ruling "strengthens" its litigation position and attacking both opposing counsel and the civil justice system, is yet another chapter in a long pattern of deception and deflection. J&J's approach has included:

- Three failed bankruptcy attempts designed to isolate and eliminate talc liabilities.
- Years of delay that have compounded the suffering of cancer victims.
- Public attacks on plaintiffs, experts, and the judiciary in an effort to undermine confidence in the legal system rather than engage in good faith.
- Financial pressure strategies aimed at driving down settlement values for women facing catastrophic diagnoses and to break down their resolve.

"I believe we can work toward a fair, reasonable resolution but first, J&J must engage responsibly, acknowledge the risks of its products and be willing to correct its misconduct and make things right," Birchfield said. "Until that occurs, plaintiffs look forward to presenting the scientific evidence—deemed admissible once again—to juries of citizens who will evaluate the facts for themselves."

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