

CAMP LEJEUNE PLAINTIFFS' LEADERSHIP COUNSEL

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE CAMP LEJEUNE WATER LITIGATION FEBRUARY 16, 2026

Below is the February 16, 2026, report on the status of the Camp Lejeune Water Litigation from Plaintiffs' Leadership Counsel:

Dear Counsel and Pro Se Plaintiffs:

The Court conducted a status hearing on Friday, February 13, 2026, attended by Plaintiffs' Leadership Group ("PLG") and DOJ counsel. The Honorable Magistrate Judge Robert Jones presided. The Court heard updates from the parties on various issues.

1) Issues Relating to Damages and Offsets

- PLG has recently filed a Motion in Limine to preclude inappropriate offset evidence [D.E. 805] with respect to threshold statutory issues relating to the application of CLJA to damages and offsets. DOJ's response is due February 17. Depending upon DOJ's response, PLG may file a reply brief. Therefore, briefing will be complete by the first week of March, and the motion will thereafter be ripe for determination.*
- The parties have been in the process of taking expert depositions on damages, offsets and lifecare planning. All expert depositions are scheduled to be completed by March 13.*
- DOJ has proposed a schedule for Daubert and/or summary judgment motions relating to damages and offsets. DOJ proposed that initial motions/briefs be due April 20, 2026, with responses due by May 26, 2026, and replies due by June 24, 2026. After discussions with DOJ through a number of meet and confers, PLG is generally agreeable to the proposed schedule, and will be responding to DOJ's draft schedule accordingly. The parties will continue to discuss these issues in hopes that the parties will soon be able to submit a joint motion proposing a schedule for motions practice on damages and offsets.*

2) Pre-trial Deadlines

- DOJ seeks to establish final deadlines for supplementation of damages fact discovery and expert opinions, and to establish pre-trial procedures for a potential Phase 1 evidentiary hearing.*
- PLG believes that since PLG has pending a Motion to Expedite Trials and Reserve Admissibility Determination for individual trials, and no trial dates have yet been set, DOJ's request is premature. Once trial dates have been set, deadlines can then be determined based upon those dates. This is consistent with Local Rule 16.1 and Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26(a)(3).*
- The Court indicated that the substance Rule 16 would govern the scheduling of pre-trial deadlines.*

3) Identifiers in Rubris

- The Court previously entered an Order requiring all plaintiffs who filed short-form complaints to provide identifier information (social security numbers and dates of birth) to the government through Rubris. Numerous plaintiffs did not provide completed identifier information. PLG followed up with plaintiffs' counsel and with pro se plaintiffs with respect to providing completed identifier information. To date, almost all plaintiffs who filed short-form complaints have provided the required identifier information. There remains only a few plaintiffs who have not provided this information, and PLG continues to follow up with those plaintiffs.*

4) PLG's Motions to Strike

- PLG filed a Motion to Strike DOJ expert Goodman's supplemental expert reports as being untimely and improper [D.E. 724], and a Motion to Strike DOJ expert Dr. Bailey's general causation opinions for being untimely [D.E. 787]. The Court heard arguments with respect to each motion from PLG and DOJ. The parties responded to various questions relating to each motion posed by the Court. The Court took the motions under advisement and indicated that it will be issuing a written order deciding the motions.*

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The transcript of the February 13, 2026 hearing will be posted by Plaintiffs' Leadership Group on its website upon receipt of same. The next status conference with the Honorable Magistrate Judge Robert Jones will be March 5, 2026 beginning at 11:00 a.m. in Wilmington.

Please continue to monitor our website for real-time updates: <https://camplejeunecourtinfo.com/>.

*Respectfully,
Plaintiffs' Leadership Group*

We are committed to supporting you throughout the Camp Lejeune litigation process. Our involvement spans all levels, from investigating and preparing administrative claims to filing suits and managing settlements. Contact us today!