

Two East Fayette Street
 Jefferson Building, Ste. 1100 *
 Baltimore, Maryland 21225
 Serve on: *
 Resident Agent
 Paula Brooks McClellan *
 631 Cherry Hill Road
 Baltimore, Maryland 21225 *
 *

Defendants.
 * * * * *

COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

Now comes the Plaintiff, Yvette Baker, by and through her attorneys, John J. Leppler, Esq. and the Law Office of Barry R. Glazer, L.L.C., hereby brings this Complaint against Defendants, Janelle Cooper, M.D., Saint Paul Place Specialists, Inc., Mercy Medical Center, Inc., and Family Health Centers of Baltimore, Inc., seeks compensatory and other damages, plus costs, and for her causes of action, states as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the Defendants pursuant to Maryland Code *Courts and Judicial Proceeding* § 6-103, because the causes of action arose in Maryland and the Defendants' principal place of business is in Baltimore City, Maryland, and subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to Maryland Code *Courts and Judicial Proceeding* § 4-401, because the amount in controversy is greater than (\$30,000.00). This action was timely filed with the Maryland Health Claims Alternative Dispute Resolution Office and arbitration was waived on November 20, 2017. See Election to Waive Arbitration, Certificate of Qualified Expert and Supplemental Report, and the Order of Transfer, collectively attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. Accordingly, this Complaint has likewise been timely filed with the Circuit Court of Maryland for

Baltimore City.

2. Venue lies within the Circuit Court of Maryland for Baltimore City pursuant to Maryland Code, *Courts and Judicial Proceedings* § 6-202(8), Baltimore City is the proper venue for this action because this is a tort action and the underlying facts of which transpired in Baltimore City, at all times relevant hereto, Defendants carried on a regular business, was employed, habitually engaged in a vocation, and maintained offices and facilities in Baltimore City.

PARTIES

4. Plaintiff Yvette Baker is a resident of Baltimore City, Maryland and resides at 1820 Brunt Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21217.

5. Defendant Janelle Cooper, M.D. is, on information and belief, a physician who is board-eligible but not board-certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology at all times relevant to this Complaint, and has been licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland. Dr. Cooper holds herself out to the general public as a reasonably competent physician with specialist training in Obstetrics and Gynecology (“OB-GYN”). Dr. Cooper is held, therefore, to a standard at the level of knowledge, skill, and care that one expects to be reasonably possessed by an OB-GYN who dedicates special time, attention, and study in the field of obstetrics and gynecology. On information and belief, at all times relevant to this Complaint, Dr. Cooper was an agent, servant, and/or employee of Defendant Family Health Centers of Baltimore, Defendant St. Paul Place Specialists, Inc., and its affiliate, Mercy Medical Center.

6. Defendant St. Paul Place Specialists, Inc. (hereinafter, “SPPS”), at all times relevant to this Complaint, is a Maryland corporation offering medical services in, *inter alia*,

obstetrics and gynecology to the general public as an affiliate of Mercy Medical Center, Inc. In that capacity, it has held itself out as practicing ordinary standards of medical care, including *inter alia*, obstetric and gynecological care. On information and belief, at all times relevant to this Complaint, SPPS employed Defendant Janelle Cooper as an agent, servant or employee to provide medical services to the public in the specialty area of obstetrics and gynecology. At all times relevant hereto, SPPS was responsible for the substandard and negligent acts of its agents, servants, and employees and is therefore vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of its agents, servants, and employees. All references in this Complaint to SPPS include, and also refer to, the acts and/or failures to act of SPPS and its agents, servants, and employees.

7. Defendant Provider Mercy Medical Center, Inc., (hereinafter, "MMC") at all times relevant to this Complaint, is a Maryland corporation operating medical and surgical facilities in Baltimore, Maryland. MMC is a health care provider offering comprehensive medical care in virtually every specialty area of medical practice, including obstetrics and gynecology, to the general public. In that capacity, it has held itself out as practicing ordinary standards of medical care in numerous areas of practice, including *inter alia*, obstetric and gynecological care. On information and belief, MMC is the principal partner for Defendant SPPS, utilizing medical staffing and services provided by the physicians employed by SPPS, including physicians practicing in the area of OB-GYN. At all times relevant hereto, MMC was responsible for the substandard and negligent acts of its agents, servants, and employees and is therefore vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of its agents, servants, and employees. All references in this Complaint to MMC include, and also refer to, the acts and/or failures to act of MMC and its agents, servants, and employees.

8. Defendant Family Health Centers of Baltimore, Inc. (hereinafter "FHCB") at all times relevant to this Complaint, is a Maryland Corporation that provides health care services in several locations in greater Baltimore, Maryland. On information and belief, Defendant Dr. Cooper provided office consultation and pre-surgical services to Ms. Baker at facilities owned and/or operated by FHCB. At all times relevant hereto, FHCB was responsible for the substandard and negligent acts of its agents, servants, and employees and is therefore vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of its agents, servants, and employees. All references in this Complaint to FHCB include, and also refer to, the acts and/or failures to act of FHCB and its agents, servants, and employees.

FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

9. For seventeen years, up to and including the weeks and months immediately prior to the events complained of herein, Yvette Baker was employed as a certified nursing assistant, a line of work that requires constant lifting, bending and movement, caring for the daily living needs of ill or infirm people who are unable to provide their own self care.

10. In or around 2015, Ms. Baker, at age 53, began to experience gynecologic discomfort, described as vaginal dryness and painful sexual intercourse. On or about September 15, 2015, Ms. Baker made an appointment with Janelle Cooper, M.D., an obstetrician and gynecologist (OB-GYN), a Defendant herein, to address these complaints. With Ms. Baker's history of having uterine fibroids (also called leiomyoma), Dr. Cooper ordered a pelvic ultrasound to evaluate for change in size of Ms. Baker's uterine fibroids. She also prescribed a vaginal cream for atrophic vaginitis (also called vaginal atrophy, a condition characterized as thinning and drying of the vaginal wall).

11. On or about September 22, 2015, Ms. Baker had the pelvic ultrasound done which showed the presence of multiple benign uterine fibroids. At a follow-up appointment on or about September 29, 2015, Dr. Cooper discussed the ultrasound findings with Ms. Baker. During this visit, Dr. Cooper also noted that Ms. Baker “states she has pelvic pain/pressure.” Ms. Baker denied any abnormal uterine bleeding. Dr. Cooper suggested only two treatment alternatives: hysterectomy (removal of the uterus and cervix) or uterine artery embolization (UAE), a less invasive technique in which the blood vessels feeding the fibroids are blocked, causing the fibroids to shrink. Dr. Cooper made no notes about the characteristics, duration, severity, and quality of Ms. Baker’s pelvic complaints, as required by the standards of medical care, in determining whether Ms. Baker’s complaints were severe enough to necessitate the major surgical treatment of hysterectomy. Dr. Cooper failed to provide the option for *not* having a surgery for the gynecologic discomfort. Dr. Cooper failed to provide Ms. Baker with proper and adequate information in order to choose an appropriate treatment, as required by the standards of care. Ms. Baker, fearful of the long recovery period associated with a hysterectomy, during which she would be unable to work, adamantly insisted on avoiding a hysterectomy if possible, and opted for UAE.

12. On or about October 6, 2015, Ms. Baker again followed up with Dr. Cooper to discuss options for treating her discomfort. Ms. Baker again expressed her reticence to undergo a hysterectomy, opting for a procedure that would be as noninvasive as possible. Dr. Cooper scheduled Ms. Baker to consult with Brad Cogan, M.D., an interventional radiologist, for a possible UAE. Dr. Cooper also ordered an endometrial biopsy (EMB).

13. On or about October 20, 2015, Ms. Baker was examined by Dr. Cogan, who

concluded:

“If the uterine artery embolization were to be done, the patient would need close follow up with cross sectional imaging to determine whether fibroid growth continues.”

14. On or about November 3, 2015, Ms. Baker returned to Dr. Cooper and learned that her endometrial biopsy result was benign (no cancer).

15. On or about November 17, 2015, Ms. Baker returned to see Dr. Cooper and was told that Dr. Cogan “did not feel she was a suitable candidate for UAE.” Having no other treatment options made known to her by Dr. Cooper, Ms. Baker decided to have a hysterectomy.

16. On December 29, 2015, Ms. Baker had a follow-up consultation with Dr. Cooper. Dr. Cooper’s notes states that Ms. Baker was “doing well with no Complaints.” Dr. Cooper, however, still pursued the planned hysterectomy.

17. At every visit since September 15, 2015, Dr. Cooper made no notes about the characteristics, duration, severity, and quality of Ms. Baker’s pelvic complaints, as required by the standards of medical care, in determining whether hysterectomy was the only or most appropriate option at that time.

18. Following months of delay resulting from getting a surgical clearance, and subsequent surgery rescheduling delays due to “administrative issues,” Dr. Cooper performed the hysterectomy on September 22, 2016 at Mercy Medical Center. The procedure performed was “total abdominal hysterectomy,” a major surgical procedure wherein the uterus is removed through a wide incision in the abdomen. Dr. Cooper failed to offer less invasive surgical options such as a vaginal hysterectomy, which removes the uterus through the vagina, or laparoscopic

hysterectomy, which removes the uterus through small incisions in the abdomen. Both vaginal hysterectomy and laparoscopic hysterectomy have lower incidence of ureteral injuries than abdominal hysterectomy.

19. Dr. Cooper's preoperative and postoperative diagnoses were postmenopausal bleeding and uterine leiomyoma. However, Ms. Baker had not, in fact, complained of postmenstrual bleeding to Dr. Cooper, and Dr. Cooper had actually written that Ms. Baker "denies AUB" (abnormal uterine bleeding) during her September 29, 2015 follow-up consultation.

20. During the hysterectomy, Dr. Cooper made no efforts to identify and protect the ureters (the tubes where urine flows from the kidneys to the urinary bladder), as required by the surgical standards of care, causing Dr. Cooper to negligently transect and injure Ms. Baker's left ureter. Dr. Cooper then failed to recognize this serious injury she caused during the surgery and, despite having a transected ureter, surgically closed Ms. Baker's abdomen.

21. Immediately following the surgery, Ms. Baker developed elevated creatinine in her blood (signifying a kidney malfunction) and white blood cell counts immediately after the surgery. Concerned for renal injury, Julie Hurvitz, M.D. (who assisted Dr. Cooper during the surgery and supervised Ms. Baker's post-operative care while at MMC) ordered an abdominal and pelvic CT scan the day after the surgery. The impression of the CT was that her condition was "expected postsurgical changes of recent total abdominal hysterectomy" with mild hydronephrosis (swelling of kidney due to a build-up of urine).

22. Ms. Baker was discharged from MMC on September 25, 2016. She returned home with instructions to follow up with Dr. Cooper in two weeks. Ms. Baker returned to Dr.

Cooper on October 3, 2016. Dr. Cooper noted no problems with Ms. Baker's recovery. In the days that followed, however, Ms. Baker became increasingly uncomfortable due to an increasing amount of fluid draining from her vagina as well as constipation and urge incontinence (sudden need to urinate). Concerned about the significance of these developments, on or about October 18, 2016, Ms. Baker followed up with Steven Tucker, M.D., an OB-GYN at FHCB, due to copious amounts of clear fluid draining from her vagina. Dr. Tucker ordered Ms. Baker to have laboratory tests and a pelvic CT scan to determine the source of the leakage, and to "rule out fistula" (an abnormal connection between two hollow spaces).

23. On or about October 22, 2016, Ms. Baker was admitted to Mercy Medical Center after her outpatient pelvic CT scan caused "concern for a ureterovaginal fistula." On October 24, 2016, with Ms. Baker under sedation, Mercy urologist Alan Kusakabe, M.D. performed on Ms. Baker a cystogram, a cystoscopy with bilateral retrograde pyelogram, and a diagnostic left ureteroscopy. From these procedures it was determined that there had been a "complete transection of the ureter." Unable to place a stent (a short, narrow tube) in the severed ureter to possibly solve the problem, Dr. Kusakabe ended the procedure with a recommendation that Ms. Baker be evaluated for a surgical ureteral implantation.

24. On or about October 23, 2016, Ms. Baker had a percutaneous nephrostomy tube (a tube placed through the skin of the lower back that drains urine from the kidney) so that her urine could drain into a collection bag. She still wore Depends diapers because of continuous leakage from her vagina, which in turn caused vaginal irritation and discomfort.

25. On or about November 7, 2016, Ms. Baker met again with Dr. Cooper to follow up on the failed stent attempt and the upcoming surgery for ureteral reimplantation. Dr. Cooper

prescribed a medication for yeast infection caused by frequent wet diapers.

26. On or about January 9, 2017, Dr. Kusakabe performed the left surgical ureteral implantation at Mercy Medical Center. The procedure was done without any known complication, and Ms. Baker was discharged on or about January 12, 2017. Her recovery from the implantation included the placement of another ureteral stent and having to use a catheter until the implantation stabilized. She was advised to avoid lifting or strenuous activity for six weeks post-operation. On or about February 6, 2017, Ms. Baker underwent a procedure to remove the catheter. On February 22, 2017, Ms. Baker underwent a procedure to remove the stent that was left in place during the implantation procedure.

27. Since Ms. Baker had the hysterectomy, she has been unable to work. Due to her inability to work and concomitant financial distress, Ms. Baker has experienced major depression and generalized anxiety disorder, for which she has been seeing a counselor. She has developed chronic urinary incontinence and must be proximate to bathroom facilities at all times. She wears menstrual pads to avoid embarrassing urinary leakage episodes. Her most recent follow-up with Dr. Kusakabe in May, 2017 was discouraging, in that while the reimplantation had no known complications, she still has frequent urinary incontinence. Dr. Kusakabe has also identified a cyst on her kidney that will require additional investigation and interventions into the future.

COUNT I
NEGLIGENCE

*(as to Defendants Janelle Cooper, M.D., St. Paul Place Specialists, Inc.,
Family Health Centers of Baltimore, and Mercy Medical Center, Inc.)*

28. Paragraphs 1 through 27 of this Complaint are incorporated in Count I.

29. Dr. Cooper was under a duty to provide medical care to the Ms. Baker in accordance with the standards of practice among members of the medical profession with similar training and experience situated in similar circumstances at the time of the alleged acts giving rise to Ms. Baker's cause of action, including the performance of adequate and proper gynecological examinations, tests, procedures, diagnoses, and providing proper treatment options and recommendations as to appropriate approaches to therapies in light of Ms. Baker's preferences. Dr. Cooper is held to the standard of practice of gynecologic surgeons in similar situations, including deploying proper surgical techniques to protect organs and structures outside of the operating field.

30. Dr. Cooper breached the applicable standards of care in the following ways:

- a. by failing to obtain a pertinent and adequate history of gynecologic symptoms necessary in order to determine the severity of Ms. Cooper's gynecologic condition and in determining which treatment option is proper, including whether to recommend an invasive surgery such as hysterectomy, or just minimal treatment or no treatment at all;
- b. by failing to provide Ms. Baker with the proper and adequate information in order to make an informed decision as to her preferred treatment option to relieve her gynecologic discomfort;
- c. by failing to provide surgical options as to the different modes of

performing a hysterectomy (total abdominal hysterectomy, vaginal hysterectomy, or laparoscopic hysterectomy) with their respective advantages and disadvantages, and risks and benefits.

d. by failing to identify and protect the ureter from harm during the performance of the hysterectomy;

e. by failing to recognize an injury to the ureter during and after the hysterectomy, and discharging Ms. Cooper with an undiagnosed transected ureter; and

f. as otherwise set forth more fully throughout this Complaint, Dr. Cooper may have breached additional duties she owed to Ms. Baker.

31. As a direct and proximate result of Dr. Cooper's deviations from the standard of care, Ms. Baker has suffered severe and permanent injuries, including an injury to her ureter caused by Dr. Cooper; multiple avoidable surgical interventions to treat Ms. Baker's gynecologic discomfort and injury to her ureter; chronic urinary incontinence; embarrassment from chronic urinary incontinence; the necessity of using menstrual pads and diapers to avoid leaking onto her clothing; physical scarring and disfigurement of her lower abdomen; inability to perform paid employment as a certified nurse aid; and the emotional anguish due to straitened financial circumstances. Ms. Baker has suffered and will continue to suffer a loss of enjoyment of her life.

32. The above described acts and omissions of Dr. Cooper were committed in the scope of her employment with St. Paul Place Specialists, Inc., Family Health Centers of Baltimore, and Mercy Medical Center, Inc., and she committed them while on duty as a physician with a specialization in obstetrics and gynecology for St. Paul Place Specialists, Inc.,

Family Health Centers of Baltimore, and Mercy Medical Center, Inc., and in furtherance of St. Paul Place Specialists, Inc., Family Health Centers of Baltimore, and Mercy Medical Center, Inc. interests.

33. The negligence of Dr. Cooper, while acting in her capacity as a physician OB/GYN for St. Paul Place Specialists, Inc., Family Health Centers of Baltimore, and Mercy Medical Center, Inc. was the sole and proximate cause of all the injuries and damages claimed herein, without any negligence on the part of Ms. Baker.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, Yvette Baker, demands judgment against Janelle Cooper, M.D., St. Paul Place Specialists, Inc., Family Health Centers of Baltimore, and Mercy Medical Center, Inc. jointly and severally, for an amount in excess of \$75,000.00, plus costs, interest, and such relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

LAW OFFICE OF BARRY R. GLAZER, L.L.C.

By: 

John J. Leppler, Esq.

P.O. Box 27166

1010 Light Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Phone: (410) 547-8568

Fax: (410) 547-0036

Counsel for Plaintiff Yvette Baker

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

NOW COMES the Plaintiff, Ms. Yvette Baker, incorporates the foregoing Complaint as if set forth fully herein, and demands a trial by jury on all triable issues set forth in the foregoing Complaint.

Respectfully submitted,

LAW OFFICE OF BARRY R. GLAZER, L.L.C.

By: _____

John J. Leppler, Esq.

P.O. Box 27166

1010 Light Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Phone: (410) 547-8568

Counsel for Plaintiff Yvette Baker

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR Baltimore City

(City or County)

CIVIL - NON-DOMESTIC CASE INFORMATION REPORT

17 DEC -5 PM 3:02

DIRECTIONS

Plaintiff: This Information Report must be completed and attached to the complaint filed with the Clerk of Court unless your case is exempted from the requirement by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals pursuant to Rule 2-111(a).

Defendant: You must file an Information Report as required by Rule 2-323(h).

THIS INFORMATION REPORT CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AS A PLEADING

FORM FILED BY: [X] PLAINTIFF [] DEFENDANT CASE NUMBER

CASE NAME: Yvette Baker vs. Janelle Cooper, M.D., et al.

PARTY'S NAME: Yvette Baker PHONE:

PARTY'S ADDRESS: 1820 Brunt Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21217

PARTY'S E-MAIL:

If represented by an attorney: PARTY'S ATTORNEY'S NAME: John J. Leppler, Esq. PHONE: 410.547.8568

PARTY'S ATTORNEY'S ADDRESS: P. O. Box 27166, 1010 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21230

PARTY'S ATTORNEY'S E-MAIL: JLeppler@barryglazer.com

JURY DEMAND? [X] Yes [] No

RELATED CASE PENDING? [] Yes [X] No If yes, Case #(s), if known:

ANTICIPATED LENGTH OF TRIAL?: 10 hours 10 days

PLEADING TYPE

New Case: [X] Original [] Administrative Appeal [] Appeal

Existing Case: [] Post-Judgment [] Amendment

If filing in an existing case, skip Case Category/ Subcategory section - go to Relief section.

IF NEW CASE: CASE CATEGORY/SUBCATEGORY (Check one box.)

- TORTS: [] Asbestos, [] Assault and Battery, [] Business and Commercial, [] Conspiracy, [] Conversion, [] Defamation, [] False Arrest/Imprisonment, [] Fraud, [] Lead Paint - DOB of Youngest Plt., [] Loss of Consortium, [] Malicious Prosecution, [] Malpractice-Medical, [] Malpractice-Professional, [] Misrepresentation, [] Motor Tort, [] Negligence, [] Nuisance, [] Premises Liability, [] Product Liability, [] Specific Performance, [] Toxic Tort, [] Trespass, [] Wrongful Death. CONTRACT: [] Asbestos, [] Breach, [] Business and Commercial, [] Confessed Judgment, (Cont'd) [] Construction, [] Debt, [] Fraud. TORTS: [] Government, [] Insurance, [] Product Liability. PROPERTY: [] Adverse Possession, [] Breach of Lease, [] Detinue, [] Distress/Distain, [] Ejectment, [] Forcible Entry/Detainer, [] Foreclosure, [] Commercial, [] Residential, [] Currency or Vehicle, [] Deed of Trust, [] Land Installments, [] Lien, [] Mortgage, [] Right of Redemption, [] Statement Condo, [] Forfeiture of Property / Personal Item, [] Fraudulent Conveyance, [] Landlord-Tenant, [] Lis Pendens, [] Mechanic's Lien, [] Ownership, [] Partition/Sale in Lieu, [] Quiet Title, [] Rent Escrow, [] Return of Seized Property, [] Right of Redemption, [] Tenant Holding Over. PUBLIC LAW: [] Attorney Grievance, [] Bond Forfeiture Remission, [] Civil Rights, [] County/Mncpl Code/Ord, [] Election Law, [] Eminent Domain/Condemn., [] Environment, [] Error Coram Nobis, [] Habeas Corpus, [] Mandamus, [] Prisoner Rights, [] Public Info. Act Records, [] Quarantine/Isolation, [] Writ of Certiorari. EMPLOYMENT: [] ADA, [] Conspiracy, [] EEO/HR, [] FLSA, [] FMLA, [] Workers' Compensation, [] Wrongful Termination. INDEPENDENT PROCEEDINGS: [] Assumption of Jurisdiction, [] Authorized Sale, [] Attorney Appointment, [] Body Attachment Issuance, [] Commission Issuance. [] Constructive Trust, [] Contempt, [] Deposition Notice, [] Dist Ct Mtn Appeal, [] Financial, [] Grand Jury/Petit Jury, [] Miscellaneous, [] Perpetuate Testimony/Evidence, [] Prod. of Documents Req., [] Receivership, [] Sentence Transfer, [] Set Aside Deed, [] Special Adm. - Atty, [] Subpoena Issue/Quash, [] Trust Established, [] Trustee Substitution/Removal, [] Witness Appearance-Compel. PEACE ORDER: [] Peace Order. EQUITY: [] Declaratory Judgment, [] Equitable Relief, [] Injunctive Relief, [] Mandamus. OTHER: [] Accounting, [] Friendly Suit, [] Grantor in Possession, [] Maryland Insurance Administration, [] Miscellaneous, [] Specific Transaction, [] Structured Settlements.

IF NEW OR EXISTING CASE: RELIEF (Check All that Apply)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abatement | <input type="checkbox"/> Earnings Withholding | <input type="checkbox"/> Judgment-Interest | <input type="checkbox"/> Return of Property |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Action | <input type="checkbox"/> Enrollment | <input type="checkbox"/> Judgment-Summary | <input type="checkbox"/> Sale of Property |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appointment of Receiver | <input type="checkbox"/> Expungement | <input type="checkbox"/> Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Performance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arbitration | <input type="checkbox"/> Findings of Fact | <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Examination | <input type="checkbox"/> Writ-Error Coram Nobis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asset Determination | <input type="checkbox"/> Foreclosure | <input type="checkbox"/> Order | <input type="checkbox"/> Writ-Execution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attachment b/f Judgment | <input type="checkbox"/> Injunction | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership of Property | <input type="checkbox"/> Writ-Garnish Property |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cease & Desist Order | <input type="checkbox"/> Judgment-Affidavit | <input type="checkbox"/> Partition of Property | <input type="checkbox"/> Writ-Garnish Wages |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Condemn Bldg | <input type="checkbox"/> Judgment-Attorney Fees | <input type="checkbox"/> Peace Order | <input type="checkbox"/> Writ-Habeas Corpus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contempt | <input type="checkbox"/> Judgment-Confessed | <input type="checkbox"/> Possession | <input type="checkbox"/> Writ-Mandamus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Court Costs/Fees | <input type="checkbox"/> Judgment-Consent | <input type="checkbox"/> Production of Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Writ-Possession |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Damages-Compensatory | <input type="checkbox"/> Judgment-Declaratory | <input type="checkbox"/> Quarantine/Isolation Order | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Damages-Punitive | <input type="checkbox"/> Judgment-Default | <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement of Employment | |

If you indicated *Liability* above, mark one of the following. This information is not an admission and may not be used for any purpose other than Track Assignment.

- Liability is conceded. Liability is not conceded, but is not seriously in dispute. Liability is seriously in dispute.

MONETARY DAMAGES (Do not include Attorney's Fees, Interest, or Court Costs)

- Under \$10,000 \$10,000 - \$30,000 \$30,000 - \$100,000 Over \$100,000
- Medical Bills \$ _____ Wage Loss \$ _____ Property Damages \$ _____

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION INFORMATION

- Is this case appropriate for referral to an ADR process under Md. Rule 17-101? (Check all that apply)
- | | | | |
|----------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| A. Mediation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | C. Settlement Conference | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| B. Arbitration | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | D. Neutral Evaluation | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- If a Spoken Language Interpreter is needed, check here and attach form CC-DC-041
- If you require an accommodation for a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, check here and attach form CC-DC-049

ESTIMATED LENGTH OF TRIAL

- With the exception of Baltimore County and Baltimore City, please fill in the estimated LENGTH OF TRIAL. (Case will be tracked accordingly)*
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 day of trial or less | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 days of trial time |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 day of trial time | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 3 days of trial time |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 days of trial time | |

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- For all jurisdictions, if Business and Technology track designation under Md. Rule 16-308 is requested, attach a duplicate copy of complaint and check one of the tracks below.*
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Expedited- Trial within 7 months of Defendant's response | <input type="checkbox"/> Standard - Trial within 18 months of Defendant's response |
|---|--|

EMERGENCY RELIEF REQUESTED

**COMPLEX SCIENCE AND/OR TECHNOLOGICAL CASE
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (ASTAR)**

FOR PURPOSES OF POSSIBLE SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT TO ASTAR RESOURCES JUDGES under Md. Rule 16-302, attach a duplicate copy of complaint and check whether assignment to an ASTAR is requested.

- Expedited** - Trial within 7 months of Defendant's response **Standard** - Trial within 18 months of Defendant's response

IF YOU ARE FILING YOUR COMPLAINT IN BALTIMORE CITY, OR BALTIMORE COUNTY, PLEASE FILL OUT THE APPROPRIATE BOX BELOW.

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY (CHECK ONLY ONE)

- Expedited Trial 60 to 120 days from notice. Non-jury matters.
- Civil-Short Trial 210 days from first answer.
- Civil-Standard Trial 360 days from first answer.
- Custom Scheduling order entered by individual judge.
- Asbestos Special scheduling order.
- Lead Paint Fill in: Birth Date of youngest plaintiff _____.
- Tax Sale Foreclosures Special scheduling order.
- Mortgage Foreclosures No scheduling order.

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

- Expedited (Trial Date-90 days) Attachment Before Judgment, Declaratory Judgment (Simple), Administrative Appeals, District Court Appeals and Jury Trial Prayers, Guardianship, Injunction, Mandamus.
- Standard (Trial Date-240 days) Condemnation, Confessed Judgments (Vacated), Contract, Employment Related Cases, Fraud and Misrepresentation, International Tort, Motor Tort, Other Personal Injury, Workers' Compensation Cases.
- Extended Standard (Trial Date-345 days) Asbestos, Lender Liability, Professional Malpractice, Serious Motor Tort or Personal Injury Cases (medical expenses and wage loss of \$100,000, expert and out-of-state witnesses (parties), and trial of five or more days), State Insolvency.
- Complex (Trial Date-450 days) Class Actions, Designated Toxic Tort, Major Construction Contracts, Major Product Liabilities, Other Complex Cases.

December 1, 2017

Date

P. O. Box 27166, 1010 Light Street

Address

Baltimore

City

MD

State

21230

Zip Code

Signature of Counsel / Party

John J. Leppler

Printed Name