UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY LOUISVILLE DIVISION

IN RE: SKECHERS TONING SHOES PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

MASTER FILE No. 3:11-MD-2308-TBR

MDL No. 2308

This document relates to:

Honorable Thomas B. Russell

Hochberg, et al., v. Skechers U.S.A., Inc. Case No. 3:12-cv-00370

HOCHBERG'S COUNSEL REPLY BRIEF IN FURTHER SUPPORT OF THEIR REQUEST FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES

Hochberg's Counsel respectfully submits this Reply Brief in Further Support of Their Request for Attorney Fees and Expenses. Grabowski's Counsel "do not oppose a fee award to counsel for...Hochberg." *See* Grabowski Opposition to Applications for Attorneys Fees and Cost ("Grabowski Opp.") at 2. Rather, Grabowski's Counsel contends that because the Hochberg Action was filed after Grabowski Action, Hochberg's Counsel "assumed no risk in litigating this case" and therefore a multiplier on their lodestar is not "justified". *Id.* at 1, 10.

The simple fact that Hochberg Action was filed after the Grabowski Action does not mean that Hochberg's counsel did not assume risk in litigating the case. Hochberg Plaintiffs filed their case after the Grabowski Action because they recognized New York class members would not be part of the nationwide class Grabowski was seeking if the Ninth Circuit found in *Mazza v. American Honda Motor Co., Inc.* that California consumer protection statutes did not apply to non-California consumers extraterritorially. In fact, as noted in Hochberg's opening brief, after the Hochberg Action was filed, the Ninth Circuit held exactly that. As a result, Hochberg's counsel spent significant "at risk" time developing their strategy to protect New York class members, briefing Skecher's stay motion, meeting and conferring with defendants' counsel on discovery issues, and appearing before Magistrate Judge Go who ultimately set a schedule (as opposed to staying the case as urged by Skechers). Just like Grabowski's counsel, Hochberg's Counsel undertook this case on a contingency basis and success was far from guaranteed.¹

Indeed, the timing and tasks performed by Hochberg's Counsel speaks volumes that they

¹ Grabowski's Counsel states that "Counsel assumed no risk in litigating this case (they merely filed duplicate cases, some even after settlement was reached)...." *Id* at 2. Because Grabowski's counsel's brief addresses multiple Plaintiffs, Hochberg's counsel wishes to be very clear -- this statement does not refer to the Hochberg Action, which was filed before any settlement was reached.

were proceeding on a litigation track with the sole intention of aggressively litigating the case on

behalf of the New York class. When Hochberg's Counsel obtained detailed information about

the settlement and determined that it fairly resolved the claims on behalf of the New York class,

Hochberg's Counsel cooperated fully in the settlement process.

Moreover, Hochberg's fee request is not excessive and reflects time expended in

litigation. The 2.8 multiplier Hochberg's Counsel requests is in line with the multipliers often

awarded within the Sixth Circuit and the multiplier being sought by Grabowski's counsel. See,

e.g., Lowther v. AK Steel Corp., 1:11-cv-977, 2012 WL 6676131, at *5 (S.D. Ohio Dec. 21,

2012) (collecting cases demonstrating that a 3.06 lodestar multiplier is reasonable); In re

Cardinal Health Inc. Sec. Litig., 528 F. Supp. 2d 752, 767 (S.D. Ohio 2007) (lodestar multiplier

of six).

CONCLUSION

Hochberg's Counsel respectfully requests that they be awarded attorneys' fees in the

amount of \$450,000, and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$1,251.97.

Dated: February 8, 2013

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I, the undersigned, say:

I am a citizen of the United States and am employed in the office of a member of the Bar of this Court. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is 1925 Century Park East, Suite 2100, Los Angeles, California 90067.

On February 8, 2013, I caused to be served the following document:

HOCHBERG'S COUNSEL REPLY BRIEF IN FURTHER SUPPORT OF THEIR REQUEST FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES

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I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on February 8, 2013, at Los Angeles, California.

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