



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION FOR
JUSTICE®

The Association for Trial Lawyers

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR JUSTICE
**HERNIA MESH
LITIGATION GROUP**
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership limited to AAJ Regular, Sustaining, Leaders Forum, President’s Club, and Life members and Paralegal Affiliates.

Membership Requirements and Purpose Statement

AAJ Regular, Life, President’s Club, or Sustaining Members may join the Hernia Mesh Litigation Group if the applicant affirms those requirements set forth in the Hernia Mesh Litigation Group Membership Affidavit. AAJ Paralegal Affiliates may join after filling out the application and being vetted, but only if an AAJ Regular, Sustaining, Life, President’s Club, or Leaders Forum member from the same firm is also a member of the Litigation Group.¹

The purposes of the Hernia Mesh Litigation Group are as follows:

1. To encourage the exchange of information among members of the group for the common benefit of all Litigation Group members and their clients;
2. To provide educational programs and networking opportunities relating to Hernia Mesh litigation;
3. To provide networking opportunities through AAJ list servers and educational programs;
4. To provide pleadings, medical literature, research, internal company documents (to the extent permissible under confidentiality agreements), expert information, and other materials;
5. To offer assistance and guidance concerning the coordination of state litigation and MDL litigation, if applicable;
6. To have members work together for the common purpose of litigating Hernia Mesh cases successfully; and
7. To attract new members to the American Association for Justice and the Hernia Mesh Litigation Group.

Membership Dues:

\$300 for first member and \$100 for each member from the same firm (no firm paying more than \$400).

Name: _____

Name of Firm: _____

Address: _____

Office Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

AAJ ID#: _____

This must be included in your application. If you do not know your number, call AAJ at 202.965.3500 or 800.424.2725, ext. 8611.

Year Admitted to Practice: _____ State Bar #: _____

Practice Area: _____

If joining as a Paralegal member, please include your AAJ sponsoring attorney’s name, AAJ ID #, and signature:

Name _____ AAJ ID _____

Signature _____

¹ However, should special circumstances warrant, the Litigation Group co-leads can evaluate on a case-by-case basis requests for membership from AAJ paralegal affiliates from firms who do not have an AAJ attorney Litigation Group member, so long as the paralegal affiliate also submits proof of sponsorship from a current AAJ member from the same firm.

Type of Membership:

Regular _____ Sustaining _____ Leaders Forum _____ President's Club _____ Life _____

Please enclose a check made payable to the Hernia Mesh Litigation Group. Send check, application and affidavit to:

Michael G. Daly
Pogust Millrood, LLC
8 Tower Bridge
161 Washington St., Suite 940
Conshohocken, PA 19428

610/329-3809
mdaly@pogustmillrood.com

If we need to contact you to service your membership record or to provide you with information about member products and services and advocacy and legislative updates, we will honor your contact preferences. By providing your contact information, including phone number, fax number, and email address, you consent and give permission for AAJ to contact you by any of those means, which may include calls to your mobile phone, faxes, or emails. You may contact AAJ at any time to change your preferences.



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**HERNIA MESH
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MEMBERSHIP AFFIDAVIT

I, _____, hereby affirm:

1. A) I am a Regular, Life, President’s Club, Leaders Forum, or Sustaining member or Paralegal Affiliate of the American Association for Justice (AAJ) in good standing. My AAJ Membership Number is _____ and I am a member in good standing of the bar(s) of _____.
B) I am not currently a member of the American Association for Justice (AAJ), but I am including my application to join. I am a member in good standing of the following bar(s) of _____.
2. I am primarily engaged in the representation of plaintiffs.
3. Neither I, nor anyone from my firm or anyone affiliated with my firm, defends or otherwise represents (including all forms of transactional work) a defendant in any case involving claims related to a surgical mesh product. Neither I, nor anyone of my firm or anyone affiliated with my firm, engages in pharmaceutical, products liability, or personal injury defense.
4. Neither my practice nor my firm’s practice, in whole or meaningful part, has a significant relationship with interests adverse to, on inconsistent to, those of AAJ or the Hernia Mesh Litigation Group.
5. I desire to work in concert with other member attorneys representing plaintiffs in similar Hernia Mesh cases in cooperative effort to assist in achieving our common interests to prepare and fairly resolve individual cases properly.
6. I will not disclose any portion of, or any copies of, any information obtained from this Group to any company involved with Hernia Mesh Manufacturers or Distributors or an affiliate entity, their agents, employees, independent contractors, or to any person, firm or entity where the materials may be seen, copied, accessed, or otherwise reached by any Hernia Mesh Manufacturer- or Distributor-related entity or person or affiliated entities.
7. I will not make recordings of any Hernia Mesh Litigation Group meetings or proceedings or any portion thereof without the written permission of the Chair or Cochairs.
8. I will fully and candidly share relevant information, documents, and other materials with other members of the Hernia Mesh Litigation Group.
9. I will not disclose information of a strategic nature to non-members if such disclosure would compromise the interests of members and their clients who are victims of Hernia Mesh products.
10. I will not share, show, reveal, or disclose any information, documents, index, or materials obtained from the Hernia Mesh Litigation Group, its members, or the AAJ Exchange, nor will I distribute the information unless ordered to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction.
11. I will notify the Chair or Cochairs of the Hernia Mesh Litigation Group if any request is made to obtain the Index or any materials obtained from or through Hernia Mesh Litigation Group, and I will resist such attempts.
12. I understand that there will be a dues obligation to the Litigation Group, initially \$300 for first member and \$100 for each member from the same firm with no firm paying more than \$400, but subject to reasonably necessary increases from time to time.
13. I understand that my initial and continued membership in this Litigation Group is contingent upon the payment of dues, membership in AAJ, membership in good standing of the Bar, and my ongoing commitment to the principles and representations made above on which I fully appreciate that my colleagues are strictly relying.
14. I understand that I am not entitled as a matter of right to be a member of this Litigation Group nor do I have any obligation to join, and that I will be entitled to remain in this Group only to the extent that I fully comply with the above written representations and subject to the prevailing rules, regulations, and guidelines for AAJ Litigation Groups in general and the Hernia Mesh Litigation Group in particular.

I HEREBY SWEAR AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF. I FURTHER AGREE THAT IF ANY OF THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS KNOWINGLY AND PURPOSEFULLY VIOLATED, THAT MY MEMBERSHIP IN THE HERNIA MESH LITIGATION GROUP SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY TERMINATED, AND THAT I MAY BE SUBJECT TO ETHICAL AND DISCIPLINARY CHARGES.

Dated this _____ day of _____, Year _____

Applicant’s Signature

Printed Name



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**HERNIA MESH
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PAYMENT INFORMATION

Check is enclosed

Make payable to “Hernia Mesh Litigation Group” and include name, AAJ ID Number, and “Hernia Mesh” in Memo

Signature: _____

Membership dues paid to the American Association for Justice (AAJ) are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes. However, dues may be tax deductible as ordinary and necessary business dues and expenses subject to restrictions imposed as a result of AAJ’s lobbying activities. AAJ estimates that the portion of dues and other similar amounts that it expects to receive that are allocable to AAJ’s lobbying expenditures is 34%. Accordingly, currently 66% of your dues and contributions to AAJ may be deducted as ordinary and necessary business expenses. Please consult your tax advisor to confirm.