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PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jenna Reed and Rian Reed vs. Alcon Laboratories, Inc.,
Alcon Manufacturing, Ltd., and Alcon Refractive Horizons, Inc.
United State District Court, District of Colorado
Case #

ALCON SUED FOR PRODUCTS LIABILITY DUE TO RECALL OF DEFECTIVE LADAR6000 EXCIMER LASER - On August 20, 2008, plaintiffs, Jenna Reed and Rian Reed, filed their complaint in the United States District Court, District of Colorado, seeking damages against Alcon for strict liability, negligence, breach of warranty, misrepresentation, and violation of the Colorado Consumer Protection Act.

LASIK eye surgery is among the most prevalent forms of elective surgery performed in the United States. It is estimated that it is performed on approximately one million eyes per year. The LASIK industry generally, and defendants in particular, profess that the surgical laser systems used to perform the surgery are safe. However, on February 21, 2007, the United States Food and Drug Administration recalled defendants= excimer surgical laser system, known as the LADAR6000 Excimer Laser (the ALADAR6000@) due to reports that the LADAR6000=s CustomCornea Myopia and CustomCornea Myopia with Astigmatism algorithm procedures were causing Acentral islands@ in patients (the AFDA Recall@).

Unfortunately for the plaintiff Jenna Reed, a 33 year old wife and mother of two, who resides in Longmont, Colorado, the FDA Recall came too late. She was one of approximately 20 patients who were injured by the defective LADAR6000, which was used by her LASIK surgeon at Insight LASIK (AInSight@), in Layfayette, Colorado.

On September 22, 2006, Mrs. Reed's doctor performed LASIK surgery on her, and programmed the LADAR6000 to perform CustomCornea Myopia with Astigmatism on Jenna Reed (the ASubject Surgery@).

Predictably, Jenna Reed has developed Acentral islands,@ which are a laser created defect in her eyes caused by the laser=s uneven application of energy to her corneas. As a consequence of resultant peaks and valleys in her corneas, Jenna Reed is left with a permanent visual disability marked by problems with her vision, which include, without limitation, blurring, ghosting, double vision, photosensitivity, poor night vision, and ocular headaches.

Defendants have offered to send Jenna Reed, and numerous other patients injured by its defective LADAR6000, to Texas for purported corrective surgery. However, Jenna Reed=s eye care professionals at InSight (who are not the subject of this lawsuit) have advised her that there is no certainty that any further surgery can cure or correct her injuries.

The plaintiffs are represented by Todd J. Krouner, from Chappaqua, New York, and Carrie Frank of Klein | Frank, P.C., in Boulder, Colorado. Mr. Krouner represents victims of LASIK surgery throughout the United States. Ms. Frank is the immediate past chair of the product liability=s section for the American Association for Justice and an officer of the Colorado Trial Lawyer=s Association. Mr. Krouner and Ms. Frank have also filed suit on behalf of Melanie Wheeler, another patient of InSight, who was also injured as a result of the defective LADAR6000.

For further information, please contact Todd J. Krouner at tkrouner@krounerlaw.com or at (914) 238-5800, or Carrie Frank at carrie@klein-law-firm.com or at (303)448-8884.