Insurer Seeks To Limit Liability For Hepatitis A Outbreak, Law360, ft. Christopher Tellner

By Michael Lipkin, Law360,

Maryland Casualty Co. asked a Pennsylvania federal court Friday to limit its liability to $2 million for insured Fallon Trading Co.'s alleged role in brokering a shipment of pomegranate seeds from Turkey that infected more than 160 consumers with hepatitis A.

Fallon negotiated a sale of pomegranate arils from United Juice, a subsidiary of Turkish fruit producer GoKnur Foodstuffs Import Export Trading, to U.S.-based distributors, according to the complaint. One batch of seeds allegedly was contaminated with hepatitis A and eventually was received by U.S. food manufacturers. The eventual hepatitis A outbreak has led to 3,000 claims of illness and more than 25 lawsuits in state and federal courts, the complaint said.

A representative for Fallon declined to comment Tuesday. Representatives for Maryland Casualty did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Maryland Casualty is represented by Christopher Tellner, Partner, and other attorneys of Kaufman Dolowich & Voluck LLP.

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