

Bayer Reaches Verbal Agreements For More Than 50k Roundup Lawsuits

Bayer AG has reached verbal agreements with 50,000 to 85,000 plaintiffs in Roundup cancer lawsuits in the United States. The agreements have not yet been signed, and some of them will need the approval of California Judge Vince Chhabria, the judge responsible for reducing an \$80 million award to \$25 million. Chhabria suspended a trial scheduled for March 23rd without setting a new date, and brought in settlement negotiator Kenneth Feinberg.

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There are talks with various lawyers around the nation who have significant inventories of Roundup cases. I'm optimistic we can reach a comprehensive settlement of this litigation."

Kenneth Feinberg, mediator

These negotiations represent a significant chunk of the 125,000 of the Roundup lawsuits in California and Missouri (where Monsanto headquarters were located), though Bayer has only acknowledged about half of those. Settlements are preferable to high-exposure jury trials, like the three California cases last year that resulted in significant awards against the pharmaceutical and life sciences company. Roundup litigation has plagued the German company since it purchased Monsanto in 2018.

Bayer has said official settlements will likely be announced in June.

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Sources:

- *Bayer Reaches Deals on Big Share of 125,000 Roundup Weedkiller Suits* – Bloomberg
- *This Month's Roundup Trial Halted as Settlement Talks Continue* – Law.com