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**VANCOUVER RESIDENT FILES CLASS ACTION
AGAINST JOHNSON & JOHNSON COMPANIES**

**DePuy ASR Hip Implants Alleged to Corrode and
Release Metal Debris into Patients' Bodies**

VANCOUVER, October 18, 2011 – A class action has been filed by Vancouver resident Ted Wilson against Johnson & Johnson Inc., Depuy International Ltd., Depuy Orthopaedics Inc. and Depuy, Inc. on behalf of Canadians implanted with DePuy ASR XL Acetabular Hip Systems and DePuy ASR Hip Resurfacing Systems.

The class action, filed in the Supreme Court of British Columbia, concerns allegedly defective hip implants that were recalled from the market on August 25, 2010. The lawsuit alleges that the implants have an unreasonably high failure rate when compared with other, similar devices. It also alleges that Mr. Wilson and other Canadians suffered personal injuries when their hip implants failed.

The lawsuit alleges that the DePuy ASR hip implants' failure rate is much too high, and is far out of line with other, similar products. In March 2010, the defendants reported that they had received data demonstrating that the implants had a higher than expected failure rate as compared to other hip implants. In August 2010, the defendants sent an "Urgent-Voluntary Product Recall" letter to doctors, indicating that the implants had a failure rate after five years of approximately 13%. Later that month, Health Canada announced the recall of the products.

Ted Wilson was implanted with a DePuy ASR hip implant when he underwent hip surgery in January 2005 to replace his right hip. His implant failed and he required two surgeries in 2007 to remove the implant, treat the consequences of its failure, and to install a new implant.

Mr. Wilson's lawyer, David Klein, explained that "the lawsuit alleges that the DePuy ASR hip implants employed an all metal design, and had a distinctive shape." Mr. Klein continued, "this shape is alleged to make the implants less suited for fixture to the hip bone, causing metal components to grind against each other and releasing metal debris into patients' bodies." The problem, known as metallosis, is alleged to have caused injury to surrounding tissue, and undermined the implants.

Mr. Wilson is represented by Klein Lyons, one of Canada's most experienced class action law firms.

- 30 -

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