

Maple Leaf settles class action listeriosis lawsuits for \$27M

Last Updated: Thursday, December 18, 2008 | 2:42 PM ET Comments 126 Recommend 68
CBC News

Maple Leaf Foods has agreed to pay up to \$27 million to settle class action lawsuits over the deadly listeriosis outbreak linked to 20 deaths across the country.

The agreement states that Maple Leaf Foods will pay between \$25 million and \$27 million, subject to court approval in Saskatchewan, Quebec and Ontario.

The amount of each individual settlement will depend upon the severity of a claimant's illness, according to a document released Thursday by lawyers representing the claimants.

The estate of someone who died from listeriosis would receive \$120,000, along with \$35,000 for the spouse, \$30,000 to children, \$20,000 to the parents, \$5,000 for siblings and grandchildren and funeral expenses up to \$13,500.

Those who suffered for two weeks to one month will receive \$8,000 plus \$750 per day for hospitalization.

Those who consumed tainted meat and sustained "psychological injuries or trauma" lasting up to 60 days will receive \$4,000.

People who suffered physical symptoms that lasted 24 to 48 hours will receive \$750.

"Our clients are delighted with the result. We are working towards obtaining court approval and ensuring that the class members are paid immediately," said Ted Charney, a lawyer for the class action suit, said in a news release.

The outbreak was traced to a Maple Leaf Foods plant in Toronto. All 220 meat products produced at the facility were recalled and the plant was shut down while company and health officials tried to determine the source of the contamination.

Maple Leaf CEO Michael McCain has said two slicing machines are believed to be the most likely source of the listeria bacteria. McCain had apologized for the outbreak and said his company would take full responsibility.

With files from the Canadian Press

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DirkDig wrote: Posted 2009/02/03

at 2:55 AM ET from the Canadian Medical Association Journal

<http://www.cmaj.ca/cgi/rapidpdf/cmaj.081477v1>

"Government policy errors helped bring about this epidemic."

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2008/12/18/listeriosis-settlement.html>

9/15/2009

"The listeriosis epidemic is a timely reminder that the Harper government has reversed much of the progress that previous governments made on governing for public health"

"In particular, CFIA opposed "daily visits" by inspectors and "finished product testing for Listeria," precisely the safeguards that might have spotted Maple Leaf Foods' Listeria problem sooner and avoided or reduced the impact of this outbreak."

When are the CONservative's to be held accountable?
Some private inquiry to report to Harper does not count!

Paul Martin called an inquiry into kick backs for government commercials.
And some thought that full PUBLIC inquiry wasn't enough.

People died here. Possibly as a DIRECT result of Harper and Ritz.
Now THAT is inquiry worthy!

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0Agree 1DisagreePolicy Report abuse

EEWS35 wrote:Posted 2009/02/02

at 10:19 AM ETAnd, once again, the lawyers make a fortune. I forgot to put my name in, and a had a bad pain twice that year.

I feel sorry for those who died, but dispise those who are using this for their own good fortune.

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2Agree 0DisagreePolicy Report abuse

Ali Bahadur wrote:Posted 2009/01/28

at 5:17 PM ETMaple Leaf will include that 25M in their future product cost and eventually consumer will pay like those taxes which are imposed on companies but they include in that product cost.

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Mitch1 wrote:Posted 2008/12/23

at 8:11 AM ETMy Grandfather passed away, and we were later contacted by heath department to say that is was as a result of the Listeriosos strain identified at Maple Leaf Foods. Are all people that passed away as a result of a direct link to the strain registered in the lawsuit?

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1Agree 0DisagreePolicy Report abuse

Dan buss wrote:Posted 2008/12/19

at 11:56 AM ETHard to spend that kind of money when your dead

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