

Original

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

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FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

In Re: I-35W Bridge Collapse Litigation

Master Order File Number: 27 CV 09-7519

Judge Deborah Hedlund

**CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER
AND
ORDER APPOINTING SPECIAL MASTER**

This matter came before the undersigned Judge of District Court based on the parties' request for a Case Management Order and Appointment of a Special Master.

Whereas, presently over 100 cases have been filed relating to claims for damages resulting from the August 1, 2007 collapse of the 35W Bridge in Minneapolis, Minnesota; and

Whereas, the Court finds that issuance of a Case Management Order is necessary to eliminate duplicative discovery, prevent inconsistent pretrial rulings, conserve the resources of the parties, their counsel and the judiciary, and in order to secure the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of all actions arising out of the collapse of the 35W Bridge; and

Whereas, the Court finds that the issues in this case are complex, the discovery likely to be extensive and there is a need for prompt rulings on discovery disputes, some of which may require time-consuming reviews, thereby making a Special Master necessary;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

I. IDENTIFICATION OF PARTIES

1. In this case, over 100 plaintiffs are represented by approximately 20 law firms which shall (hereafter referred to as "the Consortium.")

2. In this case, approximately 30 plaintiffs are represented by the Schwebel Goetz & Sieben law firm (hereafter referred to as the "Schwebel" plaintiffs.)

