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3 Vape Distributors Reach Deal To Flee Price-Fixing MDL

By **Jonathan Capriel**

Law360 (November 12, 2026, 9:54 PM EST) -- Several cannabis vape distributors have reached a deal that would allow them to escape part of a sprawling multidistrict litigation accusing them of price-fixing CCell-branded hardware, asking a California federal court to give them until early next month to finalize the agreement.

Three U.S.-based distributors accused of colluding with Chinese manufacturer Shenzhen Smoore Technology Co. Ltd. reached a settlement in principle with vape purchasers Meridian Partners II LLC and Redbud Roots Inc, according to the joint filing dated Monday.

"A stay of the proceedings as to the settling defendants will not cause harm to any party," the filing said. "This request is made jointly by the parties and is done so in order to simplify the issues before the court and preserve judicial resources from being burdened by unnecessary filings by the settling defendants."

The deal appears not to include Smoore and Jupiter Research LLC, which were not signatories to the joint filing. Jupiter was accused of being the enforcer of the price-fixing cartel, a claim that leaned partially on **emails** the court said were taken out of context.

This specific segment of the sprawling MDL was filed by two state-licensed cannabis companies, Meridian Partners II and Redbud Roots, which seek to represent a proposed class of direct purchasers of CCell-branded vape hardware. The settlement would end classwide claims, the suit said.

According to the operative complaint, Smoore used its dominance in the cannabis vape market to both coerce and conspire with distributors. The distributors were forced into but also actively agreed to a "horizontal agreement" whereby they would set minimum prices on goods, agree not to go after each other's customers, and not undercut each other on prices, it says.

Meridian Partners and Redbud Roots are represented by Nathaniel C. Giddings, Sean H. Zehmer, Christopher L. Lebsock, Ida Abhari and Casey L. Danoff of Hausfeld LLP, Joshua H. Grabar of Grabar Law Office and Michelle J. Looby, Dennis Stewart, Daniel C. Hedlund and Bailey Twyman-Metzger of Gustafson Gluek PLLC.

Greenlane Holdings and CB Solutions LLC are represented by Jaikaran Singh, Kate E. Gehl and Timothy J. Patterson of Foley & Lardner LLP.

3Win Corp. is represented by Jared Sutton of Papetti Samuels Weiss McKirgan LLP.

Shenzhen Smoore Technology is represented by Kevin Teruya, William Sears, Lynette Lim and Yixuan Zhu of Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP.

Jupiter Research and 3Win Corp. are represented by Diane R. Hazel of Morrison Foerster LLP.

The case is In re: CCell Closed Cannabis Oil Vaporization Systems and Components Products Antitrust Litigation, case number 3:25-md-03161, in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California.

--Editing by Bruce Goldman.

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