

**Janice Paluzzi v. Johnson & Johnson; Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc.,  
formerly known as Johnson & Johnson Consumer Companies, Inc.;  
Barcolene Incorporated, doing business as The Barcolene Company;  
Beacon CMP Corporation; Brenntag North America, Inc., individually and as  
successor-in-interest to Mineral and Pigment Solutions, Inc., successor-in-  
interest to Whittaker, Clark & Daniels, Inc.; Brenntag Specialties, LLC,  
individually and as successor-in-interest to Mineral and Pigment Solutions,  
Inc., successor-in-interest to Whittaker, Clark & Daniels, Inc.; et al; 2025 Jury  
Verdicts LEXIS 54899**

2181CV02109

June 18, 2025

**Headline:** Massachusetts State Jury Awards \$ 8 Million To Consumer In Talc-Linked Mesothelioma Suit  
Against Johnson & Johnson

**Party Names**

Plaintiff(s):

Paluzzi, Janice

Defendant(s):

Johnson & Johnson

Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc., formerly known as Johnson & Johnson Consumer Companies, Inc.

**Topic:** PRODUCT LIABILITY - Talcum Powder Products

**Practice Area:** Commercial Law (UCC); Contracts Law; Environmental Law; Real Property Law; Torts

**Method of Resolution:** Trial

**Case Resolution:** For Plaintiff

**All Dates:** 09/27/2021 Complaint Filed

06/18/2025 Verdict

**State:** Massachusetts

**Court:** Massachusetts Superior Court, Middlesex County

**Plaintiff Counsel**

Plaintiff Name: Janice Paluzzi

Benjamin Braly

Firm Name: Dean Omar Branham Shirley LLP

Address: Dallas Texas

Aaron Chapman

Janice Paluzzi v. Johnson & Johnson; Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc., formerly known as Johnson & Johnson Consumer Companies, Inc.; Barcolene Incorporated, doin....

Firm Name: Dean Omar Branham Shirley LLP

Address: Dallas Texas

Jessica Dean

Firm Name: Dean Omar Branham Shirley LLP

Address: Dallas Texas

Brian Kenney

Firm Name: Early, Lucarelli, Sweeney & Meisenkothen

Address: New Haven Connecticut

Christopher Meisenkothen

Firm Name: Early, Lucarelli, Sweeney & Meisenkothen

Address: New Haven Connecticut

Kyle R. Naven

Firm Name: Early, Lucarelli, Sweeney & Meisenkothen

Address: New Haven Connecticut

Jessica Dean

Firm Name: Dean Omar Branham Shirley LLP

Address: Dallas Texas

### **Defendant Counsel**

Defendant Name: Johnson & Johnson

Bruce Hurley

Firm Name: King & Spalding LLP

Tara Blake

Firm Name: Kirkland & Ellis LLP

### **Case Summary**

Janice Paluzzi, a resident of Hanover, Massachusetts, filed a lawsuit against multiple companies, including Johnson & Johnson (J&J), Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc., and several other defendants, claiming that the use of talcum powder products caused her to develop mesothelioma. Her complaint was filed on Sept. 27, 2021, in the Middlesex Superior Court, Massachusetts, stating that the talcum powder products were contaminated with **asbestos**.

Paluzzi alleged that she had used J&J's talcum powder products, specifically Johnson's Baby Powder and Shower to Shower, daily from childhood, and that this exposure caused her illness. She was diagnosed with mesothelioma in 2021, and the jury saw her testimony via a deposition video dated July 2022. Her attorney argued for \$ 25 million in damages for past pain and suffering, emphasizing that their client's condition was terminal.

The trial featured arguments regarding the source of Paluzzi's exposure to **asbestos**. While J&J argued that her exposure was due to her family's work environments, particularly at the John Hancock Building in Boston, where **asbestos** materials were present, Paluzzi's counsel relied on expert testimonies regarding the **asbestos** content in the J&J products and the qualitative analysis of her exposure.

In its defense, J&J contended there was inadequate evidence linking Paluzzi's usage of their talc products to her mesothelioma, pointing out that none of the bottles tested were those used by Paluzzi, and that her preferred brand

Janice Paluzzi v. Johnson & Johnson; Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc., formerly known as Johnson & Johnson Consumer Companies, Inc.; Barcolene Incorporated, doin....

was Jean NatE. Despite these arguments, on June 18, 2025, the jury sided with Paluzzi, awarding her \$ 8 million in damages.

The verdict included \$ 5 million for past pain and suffering and \$ 3 million for future pain and suffering. The jury found that Paluzzi successfully demonstrated J&J's talcum powder contained asbestos and that a design defect significantly contributed to her mesothelioma. However, the jury did not find J&J liable for breaching the implied warranty of merchantability or negligent in providing inadequate warnings.

**Award:** \$8,000,000

Copyright © 2025 LexisNexis, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

---

End of Document