## LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

January 31, 2023

## VIA CM/ECF

Mark Langer, Clerk of Court Office of the Clerk United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit 333 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 5205 Washington, DC 20001

555 Eleventh Street, N.W., Suite 1000 Washington, D.C. 20004-1304 Tel: +1.202.637.2200 Fax: +1.202.637.2201

FIRM / AFFILIATE OFFICES Austin Milan

www.lw.com

London

Los Angeles

Beijing Boston New York Brussels Orange County

Century City Paris Riyadh Chicago Dubai San Diego Düsseldorf San Francisco Frankfurt Seoul Hamburg Shanghai Silicon Valley Hong Kong Singapore Houston

Tokyo Madrid Washington, D.C.

Tel Aviv

Re: United Therapeutics Corp. v. Johnson, No. 21-5304: Notice of Supplemental Authority Pursuant to Rule 28(j)

Dear Mr. Langer,

On January 30, 2023, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit issued a decision in Sanofi Aventis U.S. LLC v. U.S. Dep't of Health & Hum. Servs., Nos. 21-3167, 21-3379, slip op. (3d Cir. Jan. 30, 2023). In relevant part, a unanimous panel found that the manufacturers' contract-pharmacy policies did not violate 42 U.S.C. § 256b and that "Congress never said that drug makers must deliver discounted Section 340B drugs to an unlimited number of contract pharmacies." *Id.* at 20-21.

The Third Circuit squarely addressed (and rejected) the arguments asserted by the Government in this case. First, the Court rejected the assertion that the statutory requirement to "offer" discounted drugs to "covered entities" requires delivery to all contract pharmacies. Id. at 13-14 ("Nor does the word 'offer' imply that the offeror must deliver goods wherever and to whomever the buyer demands."). Second, the Court rejected the Government's reliance on the "purchased by" provision, observing that the language "says nothing about delivery" and that it "imposes only a price term for drug sales to covered entities, leaving all other terms blank." *Id.* at 14. Third, the Court held that unless the statute "prohibits" manufacturers "from adopting their policies, [the Government] cannot show [manufacturers] have violated Section 340B." *Id.* at 15. Finally, the Court held that the structure of the statute, drafting history, and legislative purpose did not support the Government's position. *Id.* at 15-18.

The Third Circuit's unanimous decision is directly on all fours here. The Violation Letters issued in that case are virtually identical to the one issued to UT here, and the Government's arguments in that case and this one are indistinguishable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Judge Ambro dissented on an unrelated issue.

## LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Philip J. Perry

Philip J. Perry
Andrew D. Prins
Gregory B. in den Berken
Joseph E. Begun
Latham & Watkins LLP
555 Eleventh Street, NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20004

Tel.: (202)637-2200 Fax: (202)637-2201

Email: philip.perry@lw.com

Counsel for Plaintiff-Appellee United Therapeutics Corporation

## **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

I certify that this letter complies with the type-volume limitations of Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 28(j) because it contains 286 words.

/s/ Philip J. Perry
Philip J. Perry