

## Blood Reagents

Related Lawyers: **Seth R. Gassman, Brent W. Landau**

Related Practice Areas: **Antitrust / Competition**

*In re: Blood Reagents Antitrust Litigation*, No. 09-md-2081 (E.D. Pa.) - Hausfeld represents a class of hospitals, laboratories and donor blood centers in this antitrust class action in which plaintiffs allege that defendants, the two dominant companies in the U.S. blood reagents industry, conspired, combined or contracted to fix, raise, maintain or stabilize the prices of traditional blood reagents for nearly a decade.

Blood reagents are used to identify properties of human blood, including blood type, and are critical to ensure, among other things, that patients receive safe blood transfusions. While the blood reagents industry was competitive throughout the 1980s and 1990s, the industry underwent a series of consolidations that left only the two defendants – Immucor, Inc. and Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, Inc. (formerly a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson and currently a subsidiary of the Carlyle Group) – as significant blood reagents manufacturers. According to plaintiffs' allegations, Immucor and Ortho then conspired to drastically inflate the amount class members paid for traditional blood reagents starting in November 2000.

On May 23, 2012, the court granted final approval for a settlement plaintiffs executed with Immucor. More information on the settlement can be found at [www.ImmucorSettlement.com](http://www.ImmucorSettlement.com). The district court certified the class on August 22, 2012, a decision that is currently before the Third Circuit on appeal.