

# JPML Centralizes Suboxone Tooth Decay Lawsuits

*Plaintiffs allege they used the sublingual film to treat their opioid use disorder and suffered serious dental problems.*

PENSACOLA, FL, U.S.A., February 6, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The nationally recognized mass tort law firm [Levin Papantonio Rafferty](#) (LPR) announces that the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation (JPML) created a multidistrict litigation (MDL No. 3092) for [In re: Suboxone \(Buprenorphine/Naloxone\) Film Products Liability Litigation](#).

The JPML issued a Transfer Order on Friday, February 2, 2024, to centralize lawsuits in which claimants allege they were prescribed and used sublingual film Suboxone for opioid addiction or pain management and experienced cavities, tooth loss, tooth fractures, tooth decay, tongue injuries, and/or gum injuries.

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SARA PAPANTONIO, ATTORNEY,  
LEVIN PAPANTONIO RAFFERTY



Tooth decay from Suboxone in film form can require oral surgery. Reports indicate some users have lost half their teeth.

Over 20 pending actions and future tag-along cases will be transferred to the Northern District of Ohio for the purpose of consolidating pretrial hearings. Thirteen actions are pending in this district. The MDL has been assigned to the Honorable J. Philip Calabrese. This will be the first MDL over which Judge Calabrese will have presided.

This is the rare MDL where every party asked for the same district and same judge.

As stated in one Plaintiffs' Brief: "Although this would be Judge Calabrese's first MDL as a judge, his qualifications and complex-civil-litigation experience cannot be doubted. Further, he will be

able to draw on his district colleagues' experience in managing such matters, including Judge Polster's handling of the opioid MDL."

The Transfer Order renamed the litigation, with no objection from involved parties, "because the litigation does not currently encompass marketing or sales practices claims."

LPR Attorney Sara Papantonio is representing claimants in [Suboxone lawsuits](#) on behalf of the law firm.

"We have a company taking advantage of people who have already been victimized by the manufacturers of opiates," Papantonio said. "And now, when these people are taking steps to correct their addiction and get their lives back using this drug called Suboxone, they're facing an increased risk of severe dental disorders."

The Defendant in these actions is Indivior, maker of Suboxone.

### About the Alleged Suboxone Injuries

In 2022, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) warned about the risk of dental problems linked to medications with active ingredient buprenorphine, and key ingredient in Suboxone.

Suboxone is a buprenorphine and naloxone opioid addiction treatment drug made by pharma company Indivior. By taking this drug, an opioid partial agonist, people suffering from addiction or opioid use disorder (OUD) can help reduce their physical dependency on opioids. However, partial agonists reduce saliva production, which can prompt tooth decay as a side effect of usage.

This is particularly true of Suboxone that comes in film form. Patients tuck the film under their tongues or inside their cheeks until the film dissolves.

"The film is incredibly acidic," Papantonio explained, "and as it sits in the mouth, it's causing terrible tooth decay. In some cases, people are losing teeth in an entire half of their mouths."

### About Sara Papantonio

Sara Papantonio is an associate attorney at Levin Papantonio Rafferty and focuses her practice on mass torts. Ms. Papantonio litigates pharmaceutical, environmental, mass tort, and personal injury cases throughout the country. She has considerable experience in Federal Court as an active and central member of several mass tort litigation teams. Besides the Suboxone lawsuits, she is currently working on the Camp Lejeune litigation and Infant Formula MDL.

### About Levin Papantonio Rafferty

The Levin Papantonio Rafferty law firm has been representing injured people across the globe since 1955. The firm has gained national recognition as one of the most successful personal injury firms in the world and has been featured on CNN, NBC, ABC, CBS, and Fox, as well as Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Time Magazine, Forbes, and National Law Journal.

LPR attorneys handle lawsuits throughout the country and have earned more than \$40 billion in jury verdicts and settlements, litigating against some of the largest corporations in the world.

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