

## PRESS RELEASE

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## BECKER LAW GROUP AND McNicholas & McNicholas File Lawsuit FOR THE WRONGFUL DEATH OF 11-YEAR-OLD BOY FROM EATING QUORN FOOD PRODUCT

LOS ANGELES, CA – The Los Angeles-based plaintiffs' trial law firms of <u>Becker Law Group</u> and <u>McNicholas</u>, filed a lawsuit against Quorn Foods, Inc., Sprouts Farmers Market and Howell Mountain Distributors for the wrongful death of 11-year-old Miles Bengco who suffered a severe anaphylactic reaction to the Quorn Food product "Turk'y Burger," which contained mycoprotein – a novel term coined by Quorn Food's to describe its vat-grown, soil fungus, food products.

The lawsuit alleges that although Quorn Foods labeled its product as "mycoprotein", they alluded that that it is the same or similar to known and more desirable foods, such as mushrooms, truffles and morels. It misbranded its product by conspicuously omitting the word "mold" from the ingredients list. Miles was severely allergic to mold, but was otherwise a healthly and physically active boy and played on a city league basketball team.

"Miles was a healthy 11-year old boy, but Quorn's blatant disregard for consumers with allergies cost Miles his life," says <u>Patrick McNicholas</u>, Partner with McNicholas and McNicholas. "Quorn chose marketing over consumer safety."

"Quorn Foods has an obligation to its consumers to label its food products honestly and accurately so people know what they are eating won't harm them," says <u>Todd Becker</u>, Owner of Becker Law Group.

## **Background**

On the night of Miles' death, his mother purchased a Quorn Turk'y Burger at Sprout's Farmers Market for dinner. With knowledge of Miles' severe allergy to mold and asthmatic past, she carefully reviewed the ingredients and purchased it not knowing that the primary ingredient mycoprotein was a mold.

Within minutes of consuming the burger, Miles went into respiratory distress and began using his nebulizer. Miles communicated to his brother to call 911. The family administered an epi-pen while waiting for emergency response. The ambulance transported Miles in critical condition to Los Alamitos Medical Center, and then subsequently transported him to Miller Children's Hospital in Long Beach, where he was pronounced dead later that evening.

The lawsuit demands a jury trial.

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Becker Law Group, a preeminent Long Beach firm, specializes in representing individuals and businesses in cases involving wrongful death, personal injury, professional malpractice, sexual abuse, civil rights and premises liability, as well as high stakes contract disputes. The international team at Becker Law Group also assists its Chinese clients with matters ranging from immigration to business and litigation.

## **Becker Law Group**

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McNicholas & McNicholas, a Los Angeles-based plaintiff's trial law firm, represents clients in the areas of catastrophic personal injury, employment law, class actions, sexual abuse and other consumer-oriented matters such as civil rights, aviation disasters and product liability. Founded by a family of attorneys spanning three generations, McNicholas & McNicholas has been trying cases to jury verdict on behalf of their clients for more than five decades.

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