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CAPRICOR THERAPEUTICS, INC., Plaintiff, v. NS PHARMA, INC., and NIPPON SHINYAKU CO., LTD., Defendants.	SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION: BERGEN COUNTY Docket No. BER-C-000117-26 Civil Action **CERTIFICATION OF** **AIDAN LEFFLER**

Aidan Leffler hereby certifies as follows:

1. I am 22 years old and I live in Seattle, Washington. I am a graduate student at the University of Washington.
2. At the age of three, I was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy ("DMD"), a rare genetic disease that affects all of my voluntary muscles, my heart, and my breathing muscles. DMD is a debilitating disease affecting young boys. Without treatment, DMD causes individuals to lose function of their arms and legs, before eventually the heart and lungs stop working and the disease leads to early death.
3. As a young child, there were signs that something was wrong—I did not jump or run as fast as other kids my age. At five, there were further signs of health impacts. At age 12, after I broke my leg in the backyard, I could no longer run and struggled to participate in other physical activities.
4. I have spent years of my life away from school and family participating in clinical trials, desperately searching for something which could arrest my inevitable decline. My mother has devoted incredible and sustained effort to this cause since my diagnosis. From age eight to now, my family and I have been traveling around the country, from three months in Boston to years visiting Kansas City.
5. When I was 10, I participated in a clinical trial for a drug called Prosensa that required me to travel from Seattle to Vancouver every week for 48 weeks. I remember when we knew that all of this effort had been for a placebo, after a kid who went before me came out crying, saying the injection had felt like sharks biting his arm, and I, after being dragged into the exam room, felt nothing. After several phases of clinical testing, Prosensa was deemed ineffective for DMD, and my treatment was immediately

discontinued. Since then, I have participated in two other long-term clinical trials, both of which were unable to effectively slow my decline.

6. The summer before I started college at the University of Washington, I began a clinical trial for Deramiocel. My health at that time was going through a period of rapid decline, and I was losing the ability to walk. I also was exhausted from the time spent participating in clinical trials and close to giving up actively searching for a drug which could help me. At first, I was started on a placebo, but I was eventually put into what is called an "open label study" and started receiving the actual drug. I finally started active treatment in 2021, while I was preparing for my freshman year of college. At the time, I was still capable of everything I needed to get through the day – getting out of bed, getting dressed, taking a shower. I could live mostly independently. But we did not expect any of this to last. We even planned for someone to live in my dorm with me, figuring I would quickly need more help. That is how the trajectory of Duchenne muscular dystrophy works.

7. We never expected that four years later, I would be able to do every single one of the tasks I need to get through the day. I have not lost any arm function, and my ejection fraction is completely stable. I have been able to live almost completely independently in my dorm for all four years of college. That independence has given me the chance to have a true college experience, where I have gotten to build the friendships and connections that I will treasure for life. Now, I have just graduated from the University of Washington this past spring, and plan to go to graduate school this fall. I recently started my first relationship and plan to visit her at her study abroad program in Argentina. There is so much to look forward to.

8. I strongly believe that my continuing stability is a result of my treatment, and I will continue to be treated with Deramiocel.
9. It is critical that Deramiocel be made available and distributed to those with DMD because of the clear and significant evidence, whether looking at heart health or muscle strength, that it halts the decline of this debilitating disease.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

Dated: April 28 2026

Aidan Leffler

Aidan Leffler