$200,000 Settlement Reached in New York City Hepatitis A Lawsuit

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An official settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit filed against the New York City seafood restaurant responsible for exposing nearly 3,000 people to the hepatitis A virus (HAV) in 2013. Former customers of the eatery who got tested or vaccinated for the liver virus in the aftermath of the outbreak can apply online to receive a portion of the $200,000 settlement by December 16, 2016, Food Safety News reports.

According to the settlement, potential class members who may benefit from the lawsuit include anyone who ate or drank at the Bronx-based New Hawaii Sea Restaurant at 1475 Williamsbridge Road from September 7 to September 19, 2013, or were exposed to someone who did. To qualify, class members must show sufficient evidence that they received a blood test, immune globulin (IG) test or hepatitis A vaccination within 30 days of eating at the restaurant.

According to the New York City Department of Health, the 2013 outbreak is thought to have been caused by an employee who tested positive for hepatitis A while working at the restaurant. This particular settlement applies only to those who were potentially exposed to the food-borne illness. The four patrons of the restaurant who actually developed hepatitis A after eating at New Hawaii Sea are not included in this case.

More information about the lawsuit can be found at www.NewHawaiiHepA.com, a website set up by Marler Clark, the Seattle-based firm responsible for the suit. Marler Clark, which specializes in food safety litigation, has brought similar lawsuits against McDonald’s, Taco Bell, Subway and Costco in recent years.

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