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Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison
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Minnesota Opioid State-Subdivision Agreement Overview

What It Is

The Minnesota Memorandum of Agreement (MN MOA) governs how Minnesota will distribute settlement funds from two national settlements with opioid distributors McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen and opioid manufacturer Johnson & Johnson. These settlements could bring more than \$296 million to Minnesota over an 18-year period to support state and local efforts to fight the opioid epidemic.¹

How It Works

Enables Minnesota to maximize resources to fight the epidemic. For Minnesota to receive the maximum payout under the two national settlements, cities and counties must join the state and sign on to the MN MOA and the settlement agreements. To maximize resources flowing to communities on the front lines of the epidemic, the MN MOA directs settlement funds as follows:

- 75 percent to local governments, including all counties and 33 cities.
- 25 percent to the state, to be overseen and distributed by the Opioid Epidemic Response Advisory Council.

Dedicates funds to addressing the opioid epidemic. The Attorney General's Office convened an expert panel of local, state, and community providers with experience and expertise in public health and delivery of health care services to determine the best and most effective use of the settlement funds. The panel selected a comprehensive list of future opioid abatement and remediation programs to which these settlement funds must be dedicated.

Why It Matters

Personal Cost. More than 5,400 Minnesotans have died of opioid overdoses since 2000. The epidemic has torn families apart and ravaged communities, particularly American Indian populations and communities of color. Individuals, families, and communities continue to suffer, as the COVID-19 pandemic has caused a surge in both fatal and nonfatal overdose deaths.

Accountability. Opioid manufacturers and distributors created and fueled the opioid epidemic with irresponsible and misleading marketing and inadequate monitoring of these dangerous products. In addition to potentially over \$296 million to fight the epidemic, settlements with the three largest drug distributors in the country, as well as one of the largest manufacturers, will shine a light on these companies' conduct and help make sure nothing like this ever happens again.

¹ The MN MOA also governs how opioid abatement funds from the bankruptcy resolutions with Purdue Pharma and Mallinckrodt are distributed within Minnesota. The \$296 million figure does not include payments from the Purdue Pharma and Mallinckrodt bankruptcies, which are not yet finalized.