

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBJECT: Authorization to Participation in National Purdue Pharma, L.P. Settlement (National Prescription Opiate Litigation)

DATE: August 8, 2025

☒ **RECOMMENDATION**

☐ **POLICY DISCUSSION**

☐ **STATUS REPORT**

☐ **OTHER**

BUDGET INFORMATION:

ANNUAL-

CAPITAL-

PRESENTED BY: Brandalin Carnes

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: August 18, 2025

PURPOSE: To request Commission approval to bind Habersham County by the State of Georgia and Local Governments Memorandum of Understanding Concerning the National Settlement with Purdue and to Authorize the Chairman to sign the MOU, the subdivision participation forms, and any other documents necessary to participate in and receive funds from the Purdue Settlement as part of the National Prescription Opiate Litigation.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY: According to data from the CDC, over 1 million Americans have died of opioid involved overdoses since 1999. This increase in opioid-involved death is often described as having come in waves, with the initial wave being attributed to the misuses and diversion of prescription opioids (e.g. OxyContin), the second wave being attributed to the increased availability of heroin, and the third wave being attributed to the misuse of pharmaceutical fentanyl and increased availability of illicit, non-pharmaceutical fentanyl. In response to the opioid crisis, federal, state and local governments took actions that included enacting several laws intended to expand the availability of substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery services. They have also buttressed these efforts by pursuing a substantial number of civil lawsuits against entities along the prescription opioid supply chain, alleging that these entities engaged in various conduct such as misleading promotion or inadequate control of prescription opioids which fueled the crisis. Habersham County has been a participant in several of these lawsuits and will be receiving funding from these settlements that are to be used to remediate the effects of the opioid crisis. Habersham County has been contacted regarding a new settlement with Purdue Pharma, L.P. Participation in this settlement requires the County to agree to be bound by the "State of Georgia and Local Governments: Memorandum of Understanding Concerning National Settlement with Purdue" as well as the submission of a subdivision participation form in order for Habersham County to receive any funds from the settlement. County Attorney Donnie Hunt recommended completing the necessary paperwork to participate in the settlement.

FACTS AND ISSUES: Approval to bound by the MOU and to authorize the Chairman to sign the MOU and the subdivision participation form is necessary to participate in and receive funds from the settlement with Purdue as part of the National Prescription Opiate Litigation. These funds can be used for approved purposes to mitigate the opioid crises through treatment services and prevention programs.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve recommendation
 - 2) Deny recommendation
 - 3) Commission defined alternative
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-

RECOMMENDED SAMPLE MOTION: “Motion to approve binding Habersham County by the State of Georgia and Local Governments Memorandum of Understanding Concerning the National Settlement with Purdue and to Authorize the Chairman to sign the MOU, the subdivision participation forms, and any other documents necessary to participate in and receive funds from the Purdue Settlement as part of the National Prescription Opiate Litigation. “

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Brandalin Carnes

Director: _____

**ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMENTS:**_____

_____ **DATE:** _____

County Manager

***TO LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS:
THIS NOTICE CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT A NEW
NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT.***

PURDUE PHARMA L.P. & SACKLER FAMILY SETTLEMENT OVERVIEW

A proposed nationwide settlement agreement has been reached with Purdue (and certain of its affiliates) and the Sackler family concerning alleged misconduct related to opioids.

The proposed settlement is being implemented in connection with Purdue's bankruptcy proceedings, and consists of, among other things, a settlement of Purdue's claims against the Sacklers and certain other parties (referred to as the "Estate Settlement"), and a settlement of direct claims against the Sacklers held by States, local governments and other creditors (the "Direct Settlement", and together with the Estate Settlement, the "Settlement"). The Settlement contemplates that the Sacklers will be paying an aggregate of \$6.5 billion in 16 payments over 15 years, including \$1.5 billion on the settlement's Effective Date (expected to be in 2026), though some amounts are subject to discounted prepayments. These amounts are in addition to amounts available from the Purdue estate including amounts available on the Effective Date (expected to be around \$900 million) and amounts that may be paid in the future.

The Settlement also contains injunctive relief governing opioid dispensing practices and requires the successor-in-interest of Purdue Pharma L.P. to implement safeguards to prevent diversion of prescription opioids, and also restrict certain Sacklers from directly or indirectly engaging in the manufacturing or sale of opioids, as detailed in the Settlement.

The proposed settlement has two key participation steps now that **all eligible states and territories elected to participate in the Direct Settlement.**

First, eligible subdivisions within each participating state decide whether to participate in the Direct Settlement. The Direct Settlement is documented in the Governmental Entity and Shareholder Direct Settlement Agreement, which is commonly referred to as the "GESA". The more subdivisions that participate, the more funds flow to that state and its subdivisions. Any subdivision that does not participate cannot directly share in any of the Direct Settlement funds, even if the subdivision's state is settling and other participating subdivisions are sharing in settlement funds.

YOU MUST PARTICIPATE IN THE DIRECT SETTLEMENT BY RETURNING YOUR PARTICIPATION FORM IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE BENEFITS OF THE SETTLEMENT.

Second, concurrently with the solicitation of eligible subdivisions to participate in the Direct Settlement, votes will be solicited for approval of Purdue Pharma L.P.'s bankruptcy plan, which plan will provide distributions in respect of the Estate Settlement. NOT ALL SUBDIVISIONS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT WILL RECEIVE PACKAGES TO VOTE ON THE PLAN.

Please note that this is NOT a solicitation or a request for subdivisions to submit votes on the Purdue bankruptcy plan. This settlement package only pertains to a decision to participate in the Direct Settlement with the Sacklers.

If you receive a package to vote on the plan you should follow the applicable instructions for voting. PLEASE NOTE THAT VOTING ON THE PLAN IS SEPARATE FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE DIRECT SETTLEMENT. **IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO VOTE ON THE PLAN IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE BENEFITS OF THE SETTLEMENT.**

WHO IS RUBRIS INC. AND WHAT IS THE IMPLEMENTATION ADMINISTRATOR?

The Direct Settlement provides that an Implementation Administrator will provide notice and manage the collection of participation forms. Rubris Inc. is the Implementation Administrator for the Direct Settlement and was also retained for the prior national opioid settlements.

WHY IS YOUR SUBDIVISION RECEIVING THIS NOTICE?

Your state has elected to participate in the Settlement, and therefore your subdivision may participate in the Direct Settlement. This notice is also being sent directly to counsel for such subdivisions if the Implementation Administrator has their information.

If you are represented by an attorney with respect to opioid claims, please contact them. **Subdivisions can participate in the Settlement whether or not they filed a lawsuit or are represented.**

WHERE CAN YOU FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Detailed information about the Settlement, including each settlement agreement, may be found at: <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/purdue-sacklers-settlements/>. This website will be updated to include information about how the Settlement is being implemented in most states and how funds will be allocated within your state.

You are encouraged to review the terms of the settlement agreements and discuss the terms and benefits with your counsel, your Attorney General's Office, and other contacts within your state.

Your subdivision will need to decide whether to participate in the proposed Settlement, and subdivisions are encouraged to work through this process before the **September 30, 2025** deadline.

HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT?

The Settlement requires that you take affirmative steps to "opt in" to the Settlement.

In the next few weeks, you will receive documentation and instructions from the Implementation Administrator. In order to participate in the settlement, a subdivision must sign and return the required documentation.

Please add the following email addresses to your "safe" list so emails do not go to spam / junk folders: dse_na3@docusign.net and opioidsparticipation@rubris.com. Please monitor your email for the Participation Form and instructions.

All required documentation must be signed and returned on or before **September 30, 2025**.

EXHIBIT K
Subdivision Participation and Release Form

Governmental Entity:	State:
Authorized Official:	
Address 1:	
Address 2:	
City, State, Zip:	
Phone:	
Email:	

The governmental entity identified above (“*Governmental Entity*”), in order to obtain and in consideration for the benefits provided to the Governmental Entity pursuant to that certain Governmental Entity & Shareholder Direct Settlement Agreement accompanying this participation form (the “*Agreement*”)¹, and acting through the undersigned authorized official, hereby elects to participate in the Agreement, grant the releases set forth below, and agrees as follows.

1. The Governmental Entity is aware of and has reviewed the Agreement, and agrees that by executing this Participation and Release Form, the Governmental Entity elects to participate in the Agreement and become a Participating Subdivision as provided therein.
2. The Governmental Entity shall promptly after the Effective Date, and prior to the filing of the Consent Judgment, dismiss with prejudice any Shareholder Released Claims and Released Claims that it has filed. With respect to any Shareholder Released Claims and Released Claims pending in *In re National Prescription Opiate Litigation*, MDL No. 2804, the Governmental Entity authorizes the Plaintiffs’ Executive Committee to execute and file on behalf of the Governmental Entity a Stipulation of Dismissal with Prejudice substantially in the form found at <https://nationalopiodsettlement.com>.
3. The Governmental Entity agrees to the terms of the Agreement pertaining to Participating Subdivisions as defined therein.
4. By agreeing to the terms of the Agreement and becoming a Releasor, the Governmental Entity is entitled to the benefits provided therein, including, if applicable, monetary payments beginning following the Effective Date.
5. The Governmental Entity agrees to use any monies it receives through the Agreement solely for the purposes provided therein.
6. The Governmental Entity submits to the jurisdiction of the court in the Governmental Entity’s state where the Consent Judgment is filed for purposes limited to that court’s role as and to the extent provided in, and for resolving disputes to the extent provided in, the

¹ Capitalized terms used in this Exhibit K but not otherwise defined in this Exhibit K have the meanings given to them in the Agreement or, if not defined in the Agreement, the Master Settlement Agreement.

Agreement. The Governmental Entity likewise agrees to arbitrate before the National Arbitration Panel as provided in, and for resolving disputes to the extent otherwise provided in, the Agreement.

7. The Governmental Entity has the right to enforce the Agreement as provided therein.
8. The Governmental Entity, as a Participating Subdivision, hereby becomes a Releasor for all purposes in the Agreement, including without limitation all provisions of Article 10 (Release), and along with all departments, agencies, divisions, boards, commissions, districts, instrumentalities of any kind and attorneys, and any person in his or her official capacity whether elected or appointed to serve any of the foregoing and any agency, person, or other entity claiming by or through any of the foregoing, and any other entity identified in the definition of Subdivision Releasor, to the maximum extent of its authority, for good and valuable consideration, the adequacy of which is hereby confirmed, the Shareholder Released Parties and Released Parties are, as of the Effective Date, hereby released and forever discharged by the Governmental Entity and its Subdivision Releasors from: any and all Causes of Action, including, without limitation, any Estate Cause of Action and any claims that the Governmental Entity or its Subdivision Releasors would have presently or in the future been legally entitled to assert in its own right (whether individually or collectively), notwithstanding section 1542 of the California Civil Code or any law of any jurisdiction that is similar, comparable or equivalent thereto (which shall conclusively be deemed waived), whether existing or hereinafter arising, in each case, (A) directly or indirectly based on, arising out of, or in any way relating to or concerning, in whole or in part, (i) the Debtors, as such Entities existed prior to or after the Petition Date, and their Affiliates, (ii) the Estates, (iii) the Chapter 11 Cases, or (iv) Covered Conduct and (B) as to which any conduct, omission or liability of any Debtor or any Estate is the legal cause or is otherwise a legally relevant factor (each such release, as it pertains to the Shareholder Released Parties, the “Shareholder Released Claims”, and as it pertains to the Released Parties other than the Shareholder Released Parties, the “Released Claims”). For the avoidance of doubt and without limiting the foregoing: the Shareholder Released Claims and Released Claims include any Cause of Action that has been or may be asserted against any Shareholder Released Party or Released Party by the Governmental Entity or its Subdivision Releasors (whether or not such party has brought such action or proceeding) in any federal, state, or local action or proceeding (whether judicial, arbitral, or administrative) (A) directly or indirectly based on, arising out of, or in any way relating to or concerning, in whole or in part, (i) the Debtors, as such Entities existed prior to or after the Petition Date, and their Affiliates, (ii) the Estates, (iii) the Chapter 11 Cases, or (iv) Covered Conduct and (B) as to which any conduct, omission or liability of any Debtor or any Estate is the legal cause or is otherwise a legally relevant factor.
9. As a Releasor, the Governmental Entity hereby absolutely, unconditionally, and irrevocably covenants not to bring, file, or claim, or to cause, assist or permit to be brought, filed, or claimed, or to otherwise seek to establish liability for any Shareholder Released Claims or Released Claims against any Shareholder Released Party or Released Party in any forum whatsoever, subject in all respects to Section 9.02 of the Master Settlement Agreement. The releases provided for herein (including the term “Shareholder Released

Claims” and “Released Claims”) are intended by the Governmental Entity and its Subdivision Releasors to be broad and shall be interpreted so as to give the Shareholder Released Parties and Released Parties the broadest possible release of any liability relating in any way to Shareholder Released Claims and Released Claims and extend to the full extent of the power of the Governmental Entity to release claims. The Agreement shall be a complete bar to any Shareholder Released Claim and Released Claims.

10. To the maximum extent of the Governmental Entity’s power, the Shareholder Released Parties and the Released Parties are, as of the Effective Date, hereby released and discharged from any and all Shareholder Released Claims and Released Claims of the Subdivision Releasors.
11. The Governmental Entity hereby takes on all rights and obligations of a Participating Subdivision as set forth in the Agreement.
12. In connection with the releases provided for in the Agreement, each Governmental Entity expressly waives, releases, and forever discharges any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States or other jurisdiction, or principle of common law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to § 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

General Release; extent. A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

A Releasor may hereafter discover facts other than or different from those which it knows, believes, or assumes to be true with respect to the Shareholder Released Claims or such other Claims released pursuant to this release, but each Governmental Entity hereby expressly waives and fully, finally, and forever settles, releases and discharges, upon the Effective Date, any and all Shareholder Released Claims or such other Claims released pursuant to this release that may exist as of such date but which Releasors do not know or suspect to exist, whether through ignorance, oversight, error, negligence or through no fault whatsoever, and which, if known, would materially affect the Governmental Entities’ decision to participate in the Agreement.

13. Nothing herein is intended to modify in any way the terms of the Agreement, to which Governmental Entity hereby agrees. To the extent any portion of this Participation and Release Form not relating to the release of, or bar against, liability is interpreted differently from the Agreement in any respect, the Agreement controls.
14. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein or in the Agreement, (x) nothing herein shall (A) release any Excluded Claims or (B) be construed to impair in any way the rights and obligations of any Person under the Agreement; and (y) the Releases set forth herein shall be subject to being deemed void to the extent set forth in Section 9.02 of the Master Settlement Agreement.

I have all necessary power and authorization to execute this Participation and Release Form on behalf of the Governmental Entity.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

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State of Georgia and Local Governments: Memorandum of Understanding Concerning National Settlement with Purdue

Foreword

This Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Georgia *ex rel.* Chris Carr, Attorney General (the “State”), and certain Georgia Local Government entities (“LGs”) concerns the harms visited upon Georgia’s citizens and the State itself by certain manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies (“Opioid Defendants”) of prescription opioids.

To address these harms, the State and certain LGs separately initiated litigation meant to hold Opioid Defendants accountable.

On December 31, 2021, the State entered into settlements with Opioid Defendants McKesson Corporation, AmerisourceBergen Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., Johnson & Johnson, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Janssen Pharmaceutica, Inc. (together, the “National Distributor and J&J Settlements”).

Thereafter, the State and participating LGs entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to memorialize an agreement that would enable them to maximize the monetary help received from the National Distributor and J&J Settlements to address harms visited upon Georgia’s citizens and the State itself in the opioid crisis (the “2022 MOU”).

On June 17, 2025 the Governmental Entity Settlement Agreement was filed in In re: Purdue Pharma, L.P. et al., Case No. 19-23649-shl in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, Doc. 7592, (the “Purdue Opioid Settlement” or “Opioid Settlement”) that the State of Georgia and LGs are eligible to join.

During May 2025, the State opted into the Opioid Settlement. The LGs have until September 30, 2025 to opt in to the Opioid Settlement.

This Memorandum of Understanding (“Memorandum” or “2025 MOU”) aims to memorialize an agreement between the State and certain LGs that will enable them to maximize the monetary funds received from the Opioid Settlement to remediate the harms caused by the opioid crisis. The processes outlined in this Memorandum in large part replicate processes required under the 2022 MOU.

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Except where the terms are different, the processes used in administration of the 2022 MOU shall be utilized for administration as required under this Memorandum.

I. Definitions

Capitalized terms shall have the same definitions as in the 2022 MOU with the exception of:

- a. “Legislative Bar” means O.C.G.A. § 10-13B-1 *et seq.*
- b. “Local Government Opioid Funds” means the funds allocated to local governments pursuant to Section II of this Memorandum.
- c. “Opioid Funds” means the total monetary amounts obtained through the Purdue Opioid Settlement as defined in this 2025 MOU which are allocated to Georgia and its Participating Local Governments under the Purdue Opioid Settlement.
- d. “Opioid Settlement” or “Purdue Opioid Settlement” means the Governmental Entity Settlement Agreement dated June 17, 2025 filed in In re: Purdue Pharma, L.P. et al., Case No. 19-23649-shl in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, Doc. 7592.
- e. “Parties” shall mean the State and the Participating Local Governments.
- f. “Participating Local Governments” shall mean:
 - (i.) all litigating subdivisions listed on Exhibit “C” of the Opioid Settlement, and
 - (ii.) nonlitigating subdivisions listed on Exhibit “G” of the Opioid Settlementthat choose to sign on to the Opioid Settlement and this Memorandum.
- g. “Released Entities” means the entities defined as such in the Opioid Settlement.

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- h. “State Opioid Funds” means the funds allocated to the State pursuant to Section II of this Memorandum.
- i. “Trust” means the Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust, approved by the Gwinnett County Superior Court on February 16, 2023.
- j. “Trustee” means the Trustee of the Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust.

II. Allocation between State and Local Governments

- a. The Participating Local Governments shall collectively receive 25% of the Opioid Funds as their full allocation of Local Government Opioid Funds for all claims past and future of the Participating Local Governments. Local Government Opioid Funds shall be paid to a Settlement Fund Administrator as defined in the Opioid Settlement and distributed pursuant to the Opioid Settlement, with the following additional conditions:
 - (i) If a county which is a Participating Local Government under this Memorandum has a sheriff who is a Litigating Subdivision listed in the Opioid Settlement, at least 9.45% of the Opioid Funds paid to that county under the terms of the Opioid Settlement in which the sheriff agreed to participate shall be allocated to that county’s sheriff to be used for Approved Purposes;
 - (ii.) If a county which is a Participating Local Government under this Memorandum has a hospital which is a Litigating Subdivision listed in the Opioid Settlement, at least 2% of the Opioid Funds paid to that county under the terms of the Opioid Settlement in which the hospital agreed to participate shall be allocated to the hospital to be used for Approved Purposes; and
 - (iii.) If a county which is a Participating Local Government under this Memorandum has a school district which is a Litigating Subdivision listed in the Opioid Settlement, at least 1% of the Opioid Funds paid to that county under the terms of the Opioid Settlement in which the school district agreed to participate shall

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be allocated to the school district to be used for Approved Purposes.

- b. The State shall receive 75% of the Opioid Funds as its full allocation of State Opioid Funds.
- c. Of the State's 75% share, after the payment of litigation fees and costs owed to the State's outside counsel pursuant to the agreement entered into on September 10, 2018 or as may be amended, 60% of the remaining funds shall be transferred by the receiving state agency through the Office of Planning and Budget to the State Treasury and spent at the direction of the State Legislature for Approved Purposes by appropriation and in compliance with the terms of the Opioid Settlement and this Memorandum. The remaining 40% after payment of fees and costs shall be transferred to the Trust by the receiving state agency and shall be expended by the Trustee on a regional basis ("Regional Distribution") as set forth in the Declaration of Trust, the 2022 MOU, and this 2025 MOU.
 - (i.) For purposes of the Regional Distribution under the Opioid Settlements, the Regions shall be the same as established pursuant to the 2022 MOU, including Qualifying Block Grantees.
 - (ii.) Each Qualifying Block Grantee shall receive its allocation of the Regional Distribution via a direct block grant so long as it certifies that it has sufficient infrastructure to provide opioid abatement services.
 - (iii.) The Trustee shall use the same allocation model as used under the 2022 MOU for the Regional Distribution.
 - (iv.) The Regional Advisory Councils established pursuant to the 2022 MOU shall have the same duties and responsibilities in connection with the funds allocated to the Trust pursuant to this 2025 MOU as under the 2022 MOU, including reporting requirements and making themselves available to consult with the Government Participation Mechanism and with Participating

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Local Governments to best determine how funds will be spent for opioid remediation within the established Regions. In every instance the Trustee shall retain final authority over Regional Distributions.

III. Funds to be used for Approved Purposes; Clawback and Recoupment

- a. With the exception of administrative expenses as allowed under the Opioid Settlement, funds set aside for attorneys' fees and costs for State of Georgia outside counsel, and funds set aside for attorneys' fees for Local Government outside counsel pursuant to Section VI of this Memorandum, State Opioid Funds and Local Government Opioid Funds shall be used for Approved Purposes.
- b. Funds are to primarily (no less than 70 percent) be used for future abatement purposes. Funds used to reimburse the Parties for past abatement expenses may not be used to reimburse past Medicaid expenses or any other expense that would be subject to a federal clawback, recoupment, or similar mechanism.
- c. The State and Participating Local Governments shall work cooperatively to ensure the funds are spent within the spirit of this Memorandum and the Opioid Settlement, and shall further work cooperatively to actively defend the funds from federal clawback and/or recoupment, including, but not limited to, actively participating in any administrative procedure or other case or process related to defense of the funds from federal clawback and/or recoupment. In the event the federal government initiates and successfully claws back any Opioid Funds related to the Settlement, such amounts shall first be deducted from the total disbursements to be made to both the State and Local Governments in the calendar year the clawback claim is successfully made and shall thereafter be deducted from the total disbursements to be made in any subsequent calendar year if necessary. After such deduction, the allocation between the State and Participating Local Governments described in Section II of this Memorandum shall be applied to the remaining funds for the current calendar year or any subsequent calendar year if applicable. Deduction of amounts from the total disbursements shall include reimbursement of any amounts paid

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by the State or withheld from amounts due to the State as the result of a clawback and/or recoupment.

IV. Compliance and Reporting

- a. The Trustee shall provide an up-to-date accounting of payments into or out of the Trust and/or its subaccounts upon written request of the State or a Participating Local Government. The State, together with the Trustee, shall provide an annual report detailing: (1) the amounts received by the State and deposited into the State Treasury and the amounts remitted to the Trust; (2) the allocation of any awards approved, listing the recipient, amount awarded, programs funded, and disbursement terms; and (3) the amounts actually disbursed. The State and Trustee shall also include an assessment of how well resources have been used by the State and the Participating Local Governments to abate opioid addiction, overdose deaths, and the other consequences of the opioid crisis. The State shall publish its annual report and all Regional Advisory Council annual reports on its website.
- b. Expenses of the Trustee shall be deducted first from interest earned on funds held by the Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust, and then, if necessary, may be deducted from the corpus of Trust funds. Administrative expenses of the State shall be paid from or reimbursed out of State Opioid Funds as allowed under the terms of the Opioid Settlement.
- c. The Trustee and the State shall endeavor to keep such expenses reasonable in order to maximize the funding available for opioid abatement.
- d. Each Regional Advisory Council shall provide a report annually to the Trustee and Government Participation Mechanism detailing: (1) the amount received by each local government within the Region; (2) the allocation of any awards approved, listing the recipient, amount awarded, programs funded, and disbursement terms; and (3) the amounts actually disbursed and approved allocations. Each Participating Local Government within each Region shall provide any

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information necessary to facilitate such reporting to a single regional delegate selected by the Region to provide its annual report.

- e. If the State believes that any Participating Local Government has used funds for a non-approved purpose, it may request in writing the documentation underlying such alleged improper use of funds. If any ten (10) Participating Local Governments believe the State has used funds for a non-approved purpose, they may request jointly in writing the documentation underlying such alleged improper use of funds.
- f. The State and Participating Local Governments may object in writing to the Trustee to an allocation or expenditure on the basis that the allocation or Trust expenditure is inconsistent with Section III of this Memorandum or violates Section IV.c of this Memorandum regarding reasonable expenses of the Trustee.
- g. Any party to this Memorandum who receives a written request sent pursuant to IV.f or IV.e shall have 21 days to respond to such request, which may be extended by mutual consent.
- h. A party who makes a written request pursuant to IV.f may file an action in the Superior Court of Gwinnett County within one year of its objection seeking a determination as to the validity of the objection.
- i. If, after a written objection made pursuant to IV.e, it appears to the State that a Participating Local Government has spent funds on non-approved purposes, the State may seek and obtain an injunction in the Superior Court of Gwinnett County prohibiting the Participating Local Government from spending further funds on non-approved purposes, and ordering the return of monies spent on non-approved purposes. So long as any such action is pending, distribution of any funds to the relevant Participating Local Government shall be suspended and held in trust by the Trustee or national Settlement Fund Administrator and shall only resume after the action is resolved. Once the action is resolved, suspended payments to the Participating Local Government shall resume, less any amounts ordered returned that have not yet been returned as of the date of the resumption of suspended payments.

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- j. Attorney's fees and costs are not recoverable in actions brought under this Section.

V. Litigation Bar

- a. All Parties expressly acknowledge that this 2025 MOU qualifies under O.C.G.A. § 10-13B-2(a)(4)(E) and that the Opioid Settlement is a state-wide opioid settlement as that term is defined in O.C.G.A. § 10-13B-2(4).

VI. Attorney's Fees; Costs and Expenses

- a. Section VII of the 2022 MOU is incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

VII. Future Agreements and Negotiations

- a. Nothing in this Memorandum shall bind the Parties concerning any future opioid settlements other than the ones expressly contemplated in (1) this Memorandum or (2) any amendments to this Memorandum made pursuant to Section VIII.b. Other than those Released Entities who are parties to the Opioid Settlement, the Parties are free to engage in settlement negotiations with any Opioid Defendants without prior consent or participation of any other party to this Memorandum.
- b. The Parties shall endeavor, insofar as is reasonably practicable, to keep each other apprised of future negotiations concerning future opioid settlements. Nothing in this provision shall require the parties to violate any duty, obligation, or promise of confidentiality, non-disclosure agreement, common interest agreement, court order concerning non-disclosure, or similar non-disclosure obligation concerning negotiations regarding future opioid settlements. For the avoidance of doubt, LGs shall not be required to disclose, among other things, any information relating to negotiations between groups of local governments and Opioid Defendants, and the State shall not be required to disclose, among other things, any information relating to negotiations between states or groups of states and Opioid Defendants.

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VIII. Miscellaneous

- a. This Memorandum shall be governed by Georgia law.
- b. The Parties may make amendments to this Memorandum as necessary. Amendments shall be in writing and shall require the consent of all Parties to this Memorandum. Proposed amendments shall be circulated to all Parties through designated contacts provided in their Acknowledgement, after which Parties shall have 30 days to agree or object to the proposed amendment. Parties who do not respond shall be deemed to have consented to the amendment for purposes of this Section VIII.b.
- c. Jurisdiction and venue regarding any disputes between or among the Parties concerning this Memorandum or the interpretation thereof shall lie in the Superior Court of Gwinnett County, Georgia.
- d. This Memorandum terminates automatically with respect to the Opioid Settlement in the event the Opioid Settlement is terminated by the parties to it.
- e. By entering into this Memorandum, a local government agrees to participate in the Opioid Settlement.
- f. If less than 65% of the litigating LGs participate in the Opioid Settlement, this Memorandum is voidable by the State.

* * * * *

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ATTACHED EXHIBITS:

**EXHIBIT 1: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE
 BOUND TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

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EXHIBIT 1

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT
TO BE BOUND BY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

WHEREFORE, the undersigned, as a duly-appointed representative of the below-referenced entity, acknowledges the following:

- _____ [NAME OF ENTITY] has received the **State of Georgia and Local Governments: Memorandum of Understanding Concerning National Settlement with Purdue Pharma, L.P. and other related entities as defined in the Purdue Opioid Settlement.**
- The undersigned is a duly-appointed representative of _____ [NAME OF ENTITY], and has the authority to execute this document and bind _____ [NAME OF ENTITY] to the Memorandum.
- _____ [NAME OF ENTITY] is either represented by legal counsel, or has the ability to obtain advice from legal counsel, concerning the contents and implication of the Memorandum.
- The undersigned, on behalf of _____ [NAME OF ENTITY], understands and acknowledges the terms of the Memorandum, and _____ [NAME OF ENTITY] agrees to be bound by its terms.
- No party is under duress or undue influence.

/s/ _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Entity: _____

Designated Contact for Purposes of Section VIII.b:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____