

**ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD
OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 18-06-08

ADAMHS Board Independent Lawsuit Against Opioid Manufacturers

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County filed suit against prescription opioid manufacturers in October of 2017, for the role the companies played in the current opioid epidemic, overdose deaths and increasing addiction rates and the suit is the first in a series of bellwether trials set to begin in March of 2019, and names some of the largest and most powerful companies in the pharmaceutical industry, including Purdue Pharma LP, Teva Pharmaceuticals, Cephalon, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen Corps; and,

WHEREAS, The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County, which is mentioned in the Cuyahoga County lawsuit for expending millions of dollars to provide opioid addiction treatment and recovery services, has been advised by the legal team representing the County to file a separate lawsuit to recoup damages beyond what are listed in the Cuyahoga County lawsuit, including expenditures for staffing and compensatory time for planning and monitoring treatment and recovery support services, advertising, prevention and education campaigns and events and other financial strains placed on the Board to address increased community needs; and,

WHEREAS, Plevin & Gallucci Company, LPA, part of the legal team representing Cuyahoga County in the suit filed against prescription opioid manufacturers, has informed the ADAMHS Board Chief Executive Officer that the Cuyahoga County Executive and the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor are both in agreement that the ADAMHS Board should also file its own lawsuit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- The ADAMHS Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the legal team to file a separate and independent lawsuit against prescription opioid manufacturers.
- The ADAMHS Board of Directors authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a contract with Plevin & Gallucci Company, LPA, to serve as legal representation and file the lawsuit against the prescription opioid manufacturers, indicating that Plevin & Gallucci Company, LPA, will only be paid 25% of any monetary settlement the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County may receive from the outcome of the lawsuit.

On the motion of Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D., seconded by Katie Kern-Pilch, the foregoing resolution was adopted.

AYES: R. Blue, E. Caraballo, R. Fowler, B. Gohlstin, P. Jones, K. Kern-Pilch, S. Killpack, E. Kirkland, M. Rodas, S. Rosenbaum, H. Shannon, H. Snider, M. Step, E. Thoms

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

DATE ADOPTED: June 27, 2018