

**County of Jefferson**  
**Office of the County Administrator**



**Historic Courthouse**  
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November 10, 2021

To: The Honorable Members of the Board of Legislators

In accordance with Section 152 of County Law, this shall serve as notice that a ***Special Session of the Board of Legislators will be held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.*** in the Chambers of the Board of Legislators, 195 Arsenal Street, Watertown, NY.

The item to be considered is:

1. Resolution No. 270 Authorizing the County of Jefferson's Participation in the Proposed Settlement of Opioid-Related Claims Against McKesson, Cardinal Health, AmerisourceBergen, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, and Their Related Corporate Entities

If you need additional information relative to the Board Session agenda items, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Hagemann  
Clerk of the Board

RFH:tlr

Enc.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS**  
**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_**

Authorizing the County of Jefferson's Participation in the Proposed Settlement of Opioid-Related Claims Against McKesson, Cardinal Health, AmerisourceBergen, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, and Their Related Corporate Entities

By Legislator: \_\_\_\_\_

Whereas, The Opioid epidemic that has cost thousands of human lives across the country also impacts Jefferson County, New York by adversely impacting the delivery of emergency medical, law enforcement, criminal justice, mental health and substance abuse services, and other services by Jefferson County's various departments and agencies, and

Whereas, Jefferson County has been required and will continue to be required to allocate substantial taxpayer dollars, resources, staff energy and time to address the damage the opioid epidemic has caused and continues to cause the residents of Jefferson County, and

Whereas, Jefferson County has filed suit against McKesson, Cardinal Health, AmerisourceBergen, and Janssen Pharmaceuticals, along with certain of their related entities for their role in the distribution, manufacture, and sale of the pharmaceutical opioid products that have fuel the opioid epidemic that has harmed Jefferson County, and

Whereas, The County's suit seeks recovery of the public funds previously expended and to be expended in the future to abate the consequences and harms of the opioid epidemic, and

Whereas, Settlement proposals have been negotiated that will cause McKesson, Cardinal Health, AmerisourceBergen, Janssen to pay up to \$26 billion nationwide to resolve opioid-related claims against them, and

Whereas, Jefferson County's outside opioid litigation counsel has recommended that the County participate in the settlements in order to recover its share of the funds that the settlement would provide, and

Whereas, The County Attorney has reviewed the available information about the proposed settlements and concurs with the recommendation of outside counsel.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, That the Board of Legislators hereby approves the County's participation in the proposed settlement of opioid-related claims against McKesson, Cardinal Health, AmerisourceBergen, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, and their related corporate entities, and directs the County Attorney and/or outside litigation counsel to execute the documents necessary to effectuate the County's participation in the settlements, including the required release of claims against settling entities.

Seconded by Legislator: \_\_\_\_\_