**ONE WASHINGTON MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN WASHINGTON MUNICIPALITIES**

Whereas, the people of the State of Washington and its communities have been harmed by entities within the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain who manufacture, distribute, and dispense prescription opioids;

Whereas, certain Local Governments, through their elected representatives and counsel, are engaged in litigation seeking to hold these entities within the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain of prescription opioids accountable for the damage they have caused to the Local Governments;

Whereas, Local Governments and elected officials share a common desire to abate and alleviate the impacts of harms caused by these entities within the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain throughout the State of Washington, and strive to ensure that principals of equity and equitable service delivery are factors considered in the allocation and use of Opioid Funds; and

Whereas, certain Local Governments engaged in litigation and the other cities and counties in Washington desire to agree on a form of allocation for Opioid Funds they receive from entities within the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain.

Now therefore, the Local Governments enter into this Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") relating to the allocation and use of the proceeds of Settlements described.

## A. Definitions

As used in this MOU:

1. "Allocation Regions" are the same geographic areas as the existing nine (9) Washington State Accountable Community of Health (ACH) Regions and have the purpose described in Section C below.

2. "Approved Purpose(s)" shall mean the strategies specified and set forth in the Opioid Abatement Strategies attached as Exhibit A.

3. "Effective Date" shall mean the date on which a court of competent jurisdiction, including any bankruptcy court, enters the first Settlement by order or consent decree. The Parties anticipate that more than one Settlement will be administered according to the terms of this MOU, but that the first entered Settlement will trigger allocation of Opioid Funds in accordance with Section B herein, and the formation of the Regional Abatement Advisory Councils in Section E.

4. "Litigating Local Government(s)" shall mean Local Governments that filed suit against any Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participant pertaining to the Opioid epidemic prior to September 1, 2020.

5. “Local Government(s)” shall mean all counties, cities, and towns within the geographic boundaries of the State of Washington.

6. “National Settlement Agreements” means the national opioid settlement agreements dated July 21, 2021 involving Johnson & Johnson, and distributors AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson as well as their subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, and directors named in the National Settlement Agreements, including all amendments thereto.

7. “Opioid Funds” shall mean monetary amounts obtained through a Settlement as defined in this MOU.

8. “Opioid Abatement Council” shall have the meaning described in Section C below.

9. “Participating Local Government(s)” shall mean all counties, cities, and towns within the geographic boundaries of the State that have chosen to sign on to this MOU. The Participating Local Governments may be referred to separately in this MOU as “Participating Counties” and “Participating Cities and Towns” (or “Participating Cities or Towns,” as appropriate) or “Parties.”

10. “Pharmaceutical Supply Chain” shall mean the process and channels through which controlled substances are manufactured, marketed, promoted, distributed, and/or dispensed, including prescription opioids.

11. “Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participant” shall mean any entity that engages in or has engaged in the manufacture, marketing, promotion, distribution, and/or dispensing of a prescription opioid, including any entity that has assisted in any of the above.

12. “Qualified Settlement Fund Account,” or “QSF Account,” shall mean an account set up as a qualified settlement fund, 468b fund, as authorized by Treasury Regulations 1.468B-1(c) (26 CFR §1.468B-1).

13. “Regional Agreements” shall mean the understanding reached by the Participating Local Counties and Cities within an Allocation Region governing the allocation, management, distribution of Opioid Funds within that Allocation Region.

14. “Settlement” shall mean the future negotiated resolution of legal or equitable claims against a Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participant when that resolution has been jointly entered into by the Participating Local Governments. “Settlement” expressly does not include a plan of reorganization confirmed under Title 11of the United States Code, irrespective of the extent to which Participating Local Governments vote in favor of or otherwise support such plan of reorganization.

15. "Trustee" shall mean an independent trustee who shall be responsible for the ministerial task of releasing Opioid Funds that are in QSF account to Participating Local Governments as authorized herein and accounting for all payments into or out of the trust.

16. The "Washington State Accountable Communities of Health" or "ACH" shall mean the nine (9) regions described in Section C below.

## B. Allocation of Settlement Proceeds for Approved Purposes

1. All Opioid Funds shall be held in a QSF and distributed by the Trustee, for the benefit of the Participating Local Governments, only in a manner consistent with this MOU. Distribution of Opioid Funds will be subject to the mechanisms for auditing and reporting set forth below to provide public accountability and transparency.

2. All Opioid Funds, regardless of allocation, shall be utilized pursuant to Approved Purposes as defined herein and set forth in Exhibit A. Compliance with this requirement shall be verified through reporting, as set out in this MOU.

3. The division of Opioid Funds shall first be allocated to Participating Counties based on the methodology utilized for the Negotiation Class in *In Re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation*, United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Case No. 1:17-md-02804-DAP. The allocation model uses three equally weighted factors: (1) the amount of opioids shipped to the county; (2) the number of opioid deaths that occurred in that county; and (3) the number of people who suffer opioid use disorder in that county. The allocation percentages that result from application of this methodology are set forth in Exhibit B. In the event any county does not participate in this MOU, that county's percentage share shall be reallocated proportionally amongst the Participating Counties by applying this same methodology to only the Participating Counties.

4. Allocation and distribution of Opioid Funds within each Participating County will be based on regional agreements as described in Section C.

## C. Regional Agreements

1. For the purpose of this MOU, the regional structure for decision-making related to opioid fund allocation will be based upon the nine (9) pre-defined Washington State Accountable Community of Health Regions (Allocation Regions). Reference to these pre-defined regions is solely for the purpose of

drawing geographic boundaries to facilitate regional agreements for use of Opioid Funds. The Allocation Regions are as follows:

- King County (Single County Region)
- Pierce County (Single County Region)
- Olympic Community of Health Region (Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap Counties)
- Cascade Pacific Action Alliance Region (Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Thurston, Lewis, and Wahkiakum Counties)
- North Sound Region (Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties)
- SouthWest Region (Clark, Klickitat, and Skamania Counties)
- Greater Columbia Region (Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Kittitas, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima Counties)
- Spokane Region (Adams, Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, and Stevens Counties)
- North Central Region (Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan Counties)

2. Opioid Funds will be allocated, distributed and managed within each Allocation Region, as determined by its Regional Agreement as set forth below. If an Allocation Region does not have a Regional Agreement enumerated in this MOU, the default mechanism for allocation, distribution and management of Opioid Funds described in Section C.4.a will apply.

3. King County's Regional Agreement is reflected in Exhibit C to this MOU.

4. All other Allocation Regions that have not specified in this MOU a methodology for allocating, distributing and managing Opioid Funds, will apply the following default methodology:

a. Opioid Funds shall be allocated within each region by taking the allocation for a Participating County from Exhibit B and apportioning those funds between that Participating County and its Participating Cities and Towns. Exhibit B also sets forth the allocation to Participating Counties and the Participating Cities or Towns within the Counties based on a default allocation formula. As set forth above in B.3, to determine the allocation to a county, this formula utilizes: (1) the amount of opioids shipped to the county; (2) the number of opioid deaths that occurred in that county; and (3) the number of people who suffer opioid use disorder in that county. To determine the allocation within a county, the formula utilizes historical federal data showing how the specific Counties and the Cities and Towns within the Counties have made opioids epidemic-related expenditures in the past. This is the same methodology used in the National Settlement Agreements for county and intra-county allocations. A Participating County, and the Cities and Towns within it may enter into

a separate intra-county allocation agreement to modify how the Opioid Funds are allocated amongst themselves, provided the modification is in writing and agreed to by all Participating Local Governments in the County. Such an agreement shall not modify any of the other terms or requirements of this MOU.

b. 10% of the Opioid Funds received by the Region will be reserved, on an annual basis, for administrative costs related to the OAC. The OAC will provide an annual accounting for actual costs and any reserved funds that exceed actual costs will be reallocated to Participating Local Governments within the Region.

c. Cities and towns with a population of less than 10,000 shall be excluded from the allocation, with the exception of cities and towns that are Litigating Participating Local Governments. The portion of the Opioid Funds that would have been allocated to a city or town with a population of less than 10,000 that is not a Litigating Participating Local Government shall be redistributed to Participating Counties in the manner directed in C.4.a above.

d. Each Participating County, City, or Town may elect to have its share re-allocated to the OAC in which it is located. The OAC will then utilize this share for the benefit of Participating Local Governments within that Allocation Region, consistent with the Approved Purposes set forth in Exhibit A. A Participating Local Government's election to forego its allocation of Opioid Funds shall apply to all future allocations unless the Participating Local Government notifies its respective OAC otherwise. If a Participating Local Government elects to forego its allocation of the Opioid Funds, the Participating Local Government shall be excused from the reporting requirements set forth in this Agreement.

e. Participating Local Governments that receive a direct payment maintain full discretion over the use and distribution of their allocation of Opioid Funds, provided the Opioid Funds are used solely for Approved Purposes. Reasonable administrative costs for a Participating Local Government to administer its allocation of Opioid Funds shall not exceed actual costs or 10% of the Participating Local Government's allocation of Opioid Funds, whichever is less.

f. A Local Government that chooses not to become a Participating Local Government will not receive a direct allocation of Opioid Funds. The portion of the Opioid Funds that would have been allocated to a Local Government that is not a Participating Local Government shall be redistributed to Participating Counties in the manner directed in C.4.a above.

g. As a condition of receiving a direct payment, each Participating Local Government that receives a direct payment agrees to undertake the following actions:

i. Developing a methodology for obtaining proposals for use of Opioid Funds.

ii. Ensuring there is opportunity for community-based input on priorities for Opioid Fund programs and services.

iii. Receiving and reviewing proposals for use of Opioid Funds for Approved Purposes.

iv. Approving or denying proposals for use of Opioid Funds for Approved Purposes.

v. Receiving funds from the Trustee for approved proposals and distributing the Opioid Funds to the recipient.

vi. Reporting to the OAC and making publicly available all decisions on Opioid Fund allocation applications, distributions and expenditures.

h. Prior to any distribution of Opioid Funds within the Allocation Region, The Participating Local Governments must establish an Opioid Abatement Council (OAC) to oversee Opioid Fund allocation, distribution, expenditures and dispute resolution. The OAC may be a preexisting regional body or may be a new body created for purposes of executing the obligations of this MOU.

i. The OAC for each Allocation Region shall be composed of representation from both Participating Counties and Participating Towns or Cities within the Region. The method of selecting members, and the terms for which they will serve will be determined by the Allocation Region's Participating Local Governments. All persons who serve on the OAC must have work or educational experience pertaining to one or more Approved Uses.

j. The Regional OAC will be responsible for the following actions:

i. Overseeing distribution of Opioid Funds from Participating Local Governments to programs and services within the Allocation Region for Approved Purposes.

ii. Annual review of expenditure reports from Participating Local Jurisdictions within the Allocation

Region for compliance with Approved Purposes and the terms of this MOU and any Settlement.

iii. In the case where Participating Local Governments chose to forego their allocation of Opioid Funds:

(i) Approving or denying proposals by Participating Local Governments or community groups to the OAC for use of Opioid Funds within the Allocation Region.
(ii) Directing the Trustee to distribute Opioid Funds for use by Participating Local Governments or community groups whose proposals are approved by the OAC.
(iii) Administrating and maintaining records of all OAC decisions and distributions of Opioid Funds.

iv. Reporting and making publicly available all decisions on Opioid Fund allocation applications, distributions and expenditures by the OAC or directly by Participating Local Governments.

v. Developing and maintaining a centralized public dashboard or other repository for the publication of expenditure data from any Participating Local Government that receives Opioid Funds, and for expenditures by the OAC in that Allocation Region, which it shall update at least annually.

vi. If necessary, requiring and collecting additional outcome-related data from Participating Local Governments to evaluate the use of Opioid Funds, and all Participating Local Governments shall comply with such requirements.

vii. Hearing complaints by Participating Local Governments within the Allocation Region regarding alleged failure to (1) use Opioid Funds for Approved Purposes or (2) comply with reporting requirements.

5. Participating Local Governments may agree and elect to share, pool, or collaborate with their respective allocation of Opioid Funds in any manner they choose, so long as such sharing, pooling, or collaboration is used for Approved Purposes and complies with the terms of this MOU and any Settlement.

6. Nothing in this MOU should alter or change any Participating Local Government's rights to pursue its own claim. Rather, the intent of this MOU is to join all parties who wish to be Participating Local Governments to agree upon an allocation formula for any Opioid Funds

from any future binding Settlement with one or more Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants for all Local Governments in the State of Washington.

7. If any Participating Local Government disputes the amount it receives from its allocation of Opioid Funds, the Participating Local Government shall alert its respective OAC within sixty (60) days of discovering the information underlying the dispute. Failure to alert its OAC within this time frame shall not constitute a waiver of the Participating Local Government's right to seek recoupment of any deficiency in its allocation of Opioid Funds.

8. If any OAC concludes that a Participating Local Government's expenditure of its allocation of Opioid Funds did not comply with the Approved Purposes listed in Exhibit A, or the terms of this MOU, or that the Participating Local Government otherwise misused its allocation of Opioid Funds, the OAC may take remedial action against the alleged offending Participating Local Government. Such remedial action is left to the discretion of the OAC and may include withholding future Opioid Funds owed to the offending Participating Local Government or requiring the offending Participating Local Government to reimburse improperly expended Opioid Funds back to the OAC to be re-allocated to the remaining Participating Local Governments within that Region.

9. All Participating Local Governments and OAC shall maintain all records related to the receipt and expenditure of Opioid Funds for no less than five (5) years and shall make such records available for review by any other Participating Local Government or OAC, or the public. Records requested by the public shall be produced in accordance with Washington's Public Records Act RCW 42.56.001 *et seq*. Records requested by another Participating Local Government or an OAC shall be produced within twenty-one (21) days of the date the record request was received. This requirement does not supplant any Participating Local Government or OAC's obligations under Washington's Public Records Act RCW 42.56.001 *et seq*.

**D. Payment of Counsel and Litigation Expenses**

1. The Litigating Local Governments have incurred attorneys' fees and litigation expenses relating to their prosecution of claims against the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants, and this prosecution has inured to the benefit of all Participating Local Governments. Accordingly, a Washington Government Fee Fund ("GFF") shall be established that ensures that all Parties that receive Opioid Funds contribute to the payment of fees and expenses incurred to prosecute the claims against the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants, regardless of whether they are litigating or non-litigating entities.

2. The amount of the GFF shall be based as follows: the funds to be deposited in the GFF shall be equal to 15% of the total cash value of the Opioid Funds.

3. The maximum percentage of any contingency fee agreement permitted for compensation shall be 15% of the portion of the Opioid Funds allocated to the Litigating Local Government that is a party to the contingency fee agreement, plus expenses attributable to that Litigating Local Government. Under no circumstances may counsel collect more for its work on behalf of a Litigating Local Government than it would under its contingency agreement with that Litigating Local Government.

4. Payments from the GFF shall be overseen by a committee (the "Opioid Fee and Expense Committee") consisting of one representative of the following law firms: (a) Keller Rohrback L.LP.; (b) Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP; (c) Goldfarb & Huck Roth Riojas, PLLC; and (d) Napoli Shkolnik PLLC. The role of the Opioid Fee and Expense Committee shall be limited to ensuring that the GFF is administered in accordance with this Section.

5. In the event that settling Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants do not pay the fees and expenses of the Participating Local Governments directly at the time settlement is achieved, payments to counsel for Participating Local Governments shall be made from the GFF over not more than three years, with 50% paid within 12 months of the date of Settlement and 25% paid in each subsequent year, or at the time the total Settlement amount is paid to the Trustee by the Defendants, whichever is sooner.

6. Any funds remaining in the GFF in excess of: (i) the amounts needed to cover Litigating Local Governments' private counsel's representation agreements, and (ii) the amounts needed to cover the common benefit tax discussed in Section C.8 below (if not paid directly by the Defendants in connection with future settlement(s), shall revert to the Participating Local Governments *pro rata* according to the percentages set forth in Exhibits B, to be used for Approved Purposes as set forth herein and in Exhibit A.

7. In the event that funds in the GFF are not sufficient to pay all fees and expenses owed under this Section, payments to counsel for all Litigating Local Governments shall be reduced on a *pro rata* basis. The Litigating Local Governments will not be responsible for any of these reduced amounts.

8. The Parties anticipate that any Opioid Funds they receive will be subject to a common benefit "tax" imposed by the court in *In Re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation*, United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Case No. 1:17-md-02804-DAP ("Common Benefit Tax"). If this occurs, the Participating Local Governments shall first seek to have the settling

defendants pay the Common Benefit Tax. If the settling defendants do not agree to pay the Common Benefit Tax, then the Common Benefit Tax shall be paid from the Opioid Funds and by both litigating and non-litigating Local Governments. This payment shall occur prior to allocation and distribution of funds to the Participating Local Governments. In the event that GFF is not fully exhausted to pay the Litigating Local Governments' private counsel's representation agreements, excess funds in the GFF shall be applied to pay the Common Benefit Tax (if any).

## E. General Terms

1. If any Participating Local Government believes another Participating Local Government, not including the Regional Abatement Advisory Councils, violated the terms of this MOU, the alleging Participating Local Government may seek to enforce the terms of this MOU in the court in which any applicable Settlement(s) was entered, provided the alleging Participating Local Government first provides the alleged offending Participating Local Government notice of the alleged violation(s) and a reasonable opportunity to cure the alleged violation(s). In such an enforcement action, any alleging Participating Local Government or alleged offending Participating Local Government may be represented by their respective public entity in accordance with Washington law.

2. Nothing in this MOU shall be interpreted to waive the right of any Participating Local Government to seek judicial relief for conduct occurring outside the scope of this MOU that violates any Washington law. In such an action, the alleged offending Participating Local Government, including the Regional Abatement Advisory Councils, may be represented by their respective public entities in accordance with Washington law. In the event of a conflict, any Participating Local Government, including the Regional Abatement Advisory Councils and its Members, may seek outside representation to defend itself against such an action.

3. Venue for any legal action related to this MOU shall be in the court in which the Participating Local Government is located or in accordance with the court rules on venue in that jurisdiction. This provision is not intended to expand the court rules on venue.

4. This MOU may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument. The Participating Local Governments approve the use of electronic signatures for execution of this MOU. All use of electronic signatures shall be governed by the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, C.R.S. §§ 24-71.3-101, *et seq.* The Parties agree not to deny the legal effect or enforceability of the MOU solely because it is in electronic form or because an electronic record was used in its formation. The Participating Local Government agree not to object to the admissibility of the MOU in the form of an electronic record, or a paper copy

of an electronic document, or a paper copy of a document bearing an electronic signature, on the grounds that it is an electronic record or electronic signature or that it is not in its original form or is not an original.

5. Each Participating Local Government represents that all procedures necessary to authorize such Participating Local Government's execution of this MOU have been performed and that the person signing for such Party has been authorized to execute the MOU.

**[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank – Signature Pages Follow]**

**This One Washington Memorandum of Understanding Between Washington Municipalities is signed this _____ day of _____, 2022 by:**

_____

**Name & Title** _____

**On behalf of** _____

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