

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
EASTERN DIVISION

IN RE: NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION  
OPIATE LITIGATION

This Document Relates to:

ALL SUBDIVISION ACTIONS

MDL 2804

Case No. 1:17-md-2804

**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT  
AMONG PARTICIPATING  
SUBDIVISIONS AND REMNANT  
DEFENDANTS**

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This Settlement Agreement, including all exhibits or related agreements attached hereto or referenced herein (collectively, the “*Agreement*”), is dated February 23, 2026, by and between the Remnant Defendants and the Participating Subdivisions (as those terms are defined below). Upon satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Section IV.C. and Section IV.D., this Agreement will be binding on all Participating Subdivisions and Remnant Defendants. This Agreement will then be filed as part of a request for a Consent Judgment with the Court pursuant to the terms set forth in Section IV.E. This Agreement is intended by the Settling Parties to fully, finally, and forever resolve, discharge, and settle the Released Claims (as that term is defined herein), upon and subject to the terms and conditions herein.

## **I. Definitions**

As used in this Agreement, the following terms have the meanings specified below:

- A. “*Action(s)*” means a lawsuit purportedly brought by or on behalf of any Litigating Subdivision against one or more Remnant Defendants coordinated under or parallel to MDL No. 2804, *In re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation*, No. 1:17-md-2804-DAP (N.D. Ohio) (hereinafter “*MDL No. 2804*”), in any court, including but not limited to, the actions listed in **Exhibit A**.
- B. “*Agreement*” means this agreement, as set forth above. For the avoidance of doubt, this Agreement is inclusive of all exhibits or related agreements attached hereto or referenced herein.
- C. “*Alleged Harms*” means the alleged past, present, and future financial, societal, and public nuisance harms and related expenditures arising out of the alleged misuse and abuse of Products, non-exclusive examples of which are described in the documents listed on **Exhibit B**, that have allegedly arisen as a result of the physical and bodily injuries sustained by individuals suffering from opioid-related addiction, abuse, death, and other related diseases and disorders, and that have allegedly been caused by the Released Entities.
- D. “*Allocated Amount*” means the portion of Opioid Remediation Funds that a Subdivision will receive pursuant to the Plan of Allocation if it becomes a Participating Subdivision.
- E. “*Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses*” means payment to plaintiffs’ counsel of attorneys’ fees and reimbursable costs and charges (including expert and consulting fees) and includes the common benefit obligations due under the MDL Court’s common benefit-related orders. Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses shall be paid from the Settlement Funds pursuant to the provisions of Section VI.B.1.c. and Section VIII. of this Agreement.
- F. “*Claim(s)*” means any past, present or future cause of action, claim for relief, cross-claim or counterclaim, theory of liability, demand, derivative claim, request, assessment, charge, covenant, damage, debt, lien, loss, penalty, judgment, right, obligation, dispute, suit, contract, controversy, agreement, *parens patriae* claim, promise, performance, warranty, omission, or grievance of any nature whatsoever,

whether legal, equitable, statutory, regulatory or administrative, whether arising under federal, state or local common law, statute, regulation, guidance, ordinance or principles of equity, whether filed or unfiled, whether asserted or unasserted, whether known or unknown, whether accrued or unaccrued, whether foreseen, unforeseen or unforeseeable, whether discovered or undiscovered, whether suspected or unsuspected, whether fixed or contingent, and whether existing or hereafter arising, in all such cases, including, but not limited to, any request for declaratory, injunctive, or equitable relief, compensatory, punitive, or statutory damages, absolute liability, strict liability, restitution, abatement, subrogation, contribution, indemnity, apportionment, disgorgement, reimbursement, attorney fees, expert fees, consultant fees, fines, penalties, expenses, costs or any other legal, equitable, civil, administrative, or regulatory remedy whatsoever.

- G. “*Claim-Over*” means a Claim asserted by a Non-Released Entity against a Released Entity on the basis of contribution, indemnity, or other claim-over on any theory relating to a Non-Party Covered Conduct Claim asserted by a Releasor.
- H. “*Compensatory Restitution Amount*” means the aggregate amount paid by the Remnant Defendants hereunder other than amounts paid as attorneys’ fees and costs or identified pursuant to Section VII.A.2. as being used to pay attorney’s fees, investigation costs or litigation costs. For purposes of Section VI. and Section X.V., each Remnant Defendant’s portion of the Compensatory Restitution Amount shall be the portion of the Opioid Remediation Fund equal to the portion of the Pooled Settlement Amount that the Remnant Defendant contributed.
- I. “*Consent Judgment*” means the judgment that the Settling Parties will mutually agree to and submit to the MDL Court for entry pursuant to Section IV.E.
- J. “*Covered Conduct*” means any actual or alleged act, failure to act, negligence, statement, error, omission, breach of any duty, conduct, event, transaction, agreement, misstatement, misleading statement or other activity of any kind whatsoever, occurring at any time up to and including the Effective Date (and any past, present, or future consequence of any such act, failure to act, negligence, statement, error, omission, breach of duty, conduct, event, transaction, agreement, misstatement, misleading statement or other activity, occurring at any time up to and including the Effective Date) arising from or relating to (1) compounding, counseling and documentation relating to any Product or class of Products; (2) the discovery, development, manufacture, packaging, repackaging, marketing, promotion, advertising, labeling, recall, withdrawal, distribution, delivery, monitoring, reporting, supply, sale, prescribing, dispensing, physical security, warehousing, use or abuse of, or operating procedures relating to, any Product, or any system, plan, policy or advocacy relating to any Product or class of Products, including, but not limited to, any unbranded promotion, marketing, programs, or campaigns relating to any Product or class of Products; (3) the characteristics, properties, risks, or benefits of any Product; (4) the reporting, disclosure, non-reporting or nondisclosure to federal, state or other regulators of orders placed by

or with any Released Entity; or (5) diversion control programs or suspicious order monitoring.

- K. “*Designated Subdivision*” means the Subdivision designated in writing by Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel to undertake the acts and obligations provided for in Section X.V.
- L. “*Effective Date*” means the date that the Consent Judgment entered by the MDL Court pursuant to Section IV.E. becomes a Final Judgment.
- M. “*Final Judgment*” means the Consent Judgment when it has become final and non-appealable. The Consent Judgment shall be deemed to be the Final Judgment on (a) the day following the expiration of the deadline for appealing the entry by the MDL Court of the Consent Judgment (or for appealing any ruling on a timely motion for reconsideration of such Consent Judgment, whichever is later), if no such appeal is filed; or (b) if an appeal of the Consent Judgment is filed (i) the date upon which all appellate courts with jurisdiction (including the United States Supreme Court by petition for certiorari) affirm such Consent Judgment, or deny any such appeal or petition for certiorari, such that no further appeal is possible, or (ii) if no appeal is filed from the appellate court decision obtained pursuant to clause (i), the day following the expiration of the deadline for filing a petition for certiorari to the United States Supreme Court. Any appeal or other proceeding pertaining solely to any order adopting or approving a Plan of Allocation and/or to any order issued with respect to an application for Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses consistent with this Agreement shall not in any way delay or preclude the Consent Judgment from becoming Final, *provided* that any such appeal or proceeding has no impact on any other aspect of the Settlement or this Agreement.
- N. “*Later Litigating Subdivision*” means any Subdivision, regardless of its population, in any state, that first files a lawsuit bringing a Released Claim against a Released Entity after the Preliminary Agreement Date.
- O. “*Litigating Subdivision*” means (1) any (a) General Purpose Government (including, but not limited to, a municipality, county, county subdivision, city, town, township, parish, village, borough, gore, or any other entities that provide municipal-type government), School District, or Special District within a State; and (b) any other subdivision or subdivision official or sub-entity of or located within a State (whether political, geographical or otherwise, whether functioning or non-functioning, regardless of population overlap, and including, but not limited to, Nonfunctioning Governmental Units and public institutions);<sup>1</sup> (2) that

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<sup>1</sup> “General Purpose Government,” “School District,” and “Special District” shall correspond to the “five basic types of local governments” recognized by the U.S. Census Bureau and match the 2017 list of Governmental Units. The three (3) General Purpose Governments are county, municipal, and township governments; the two (2) special purpose governments are School Districts and Special Districts. “Fire District,” “Health District,” “Hospital District,” and “Library District” shall correspond to categories of Special Districts recognized by the U.S. Census Bureau. References to a State’s Subdivisions or to a Subdivision “in,” “of,” or “within” a State include Subdivisions

has brought any lawsuit, including but not limited to lawsuits filed in state court or federal court including those centralized in MDL 2804 or MDL 2996, prior to the Preliminary Agreement Date; in a direct, *parens patriae*, or any other capacity; against any defendant; that alleges or seeks to recover for harms allegedly caused by Covered Conduct. **Exhibit C** is an agreed list of all Litigating Subdivisions. **Exhibit C** will be updated (including with any corrections) periodically, and a final version of **Exhibit C** will be attached hereto as of the Reference Date.

- P. “*MDL Court*” means the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio Eastern Division, Case No. 1:17-md-2804, Judge Dan Aaron Polster, or his duly-appointed successor.
- Q. “*Non-Litigating Subdivision*” means a Subdivision that is not a Litigating Subdivision.
- R. “*Non-Participating Subdivision*” means any Subdivision that is not a Participating Subdivision.
- S. “*Non-Party Covered Conduct Claim*” means a Claim against any Non-Released Entity involving, arising out of, or related to Covered Conduct (or conduct that would be Covered Conduct if engaged in by a Released Entity).
- T. “*Non-Party Settlement*” means a settlement by any Releasor that settles any Non-Party Covered Conduct Claim and includes a release of any Non-Released Entity.
- U. “*Non-Released Entity*” means an entity that is not a Released Entity.
- V. “*Notice*” means the notice advising Subdivisions of their rights with respect to this Settlement Agreement in accordance with Section IV.B.
- W. “*Notice and Administrative Costs*” means the reasonable sum of money to be paid out of the Settlement Funds for Notice and related administrative costs, including escrow fees, Taxes, or Tax Expenses. For purposes of calculating a Remnant Defendant’s portion of the Settlement Fund or Opioid Remediation Fund under Section VI. and Section X.V., the Notice and Administrative Costs will be deemed to be divided and paid equally by the Remnant Defendants except as provided in Section I.YY. and Section I.AA.
- X. “*Notice and Claims Administrator*” means the notice and claims administrator(s) to be selected by Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel with the consent of the Remnant Defendants.

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located within the State even if they are not formally or legally a sub-entity of the State; *provided, however*, that a “Health District” that includes any of the following words or phrases in its name shall not be considered a Subdivision: mosquito, pest, insect, spray, vector, animal, air quality, air pollution, clean air, coastal water, tuberculosis, and sanitary.

- Y. “*Opioid Remediation*” means care, treatment, and other programs and expenditures (including reimbursement for past such programs or expenditures except where this Agreement restricts the use of funds solely to future Opioid Remediation) designed to (1) address the misuse and abuse of Products, (2) treat or mitigate opioid use or related disorders, or (3) mitigate other alleged effects of the opioid abuse crisis, including on those injured as a result of the opioid abuse crisis. **Exhibit D** provides a non-exhaustive list of expenditures that qualify as being paid for Opioid Remediation.<sup>2</sup>
- Z. “*Opioid Remediation Fund*” means the component of the Settlement Funds described in Section VI.C.
- AA. “*Opioid Remediation Funds*” means the Settlement Funds, less the payments set forth in Section VI.B.1.
- BB. “*Participating Subdivision*” means a Subdivision that meets the requirements for becoming a Participating Subdivision under Section IV.C.
- CC. “*Participation Report*” means the list of Subdivisions that returned a fully executed Subdivision Settlement Participation Form by the Subdivision Settlement Participation Form Submission Deadline created by the Notice and Claims Administrator.
- DD. “*Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel*” means the MDL 2804 Co-Lead Counsel, Liaison Counsel, and members of the MDL Court-appointed Settlement Negotiating Committee.
- EE. “*Plan of Allocation*” means the plan or formula of allocation of the Opioid Remediation Fund set forth in **Exhibit E** that a Subdivision will receive pursuant to Section VI.C, if it becomes a Participating Subdivision. For the avoidance of doubt and notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, no Non-Participating Subdivision will receive any amount from the Settlement Fund, regardless of whether such Subdivision is included on **Exhibit E**.
- FF. “*Pooled Settlement Amount*” means \$97,625,000.00.
- GG. “*Preliminary Agreement Date*” means the date this Agreement is fully executed and fully executed copies of this Agreement have been delivered to counsel for all Remnant Defendants and Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel.
- HH. “*Product*” means any chemical substance, whether used for medicinal or nonmedicinal purposes, and whether natural, synthetic, or semi-synthetic, or any finished pharmaceutical product made from or with such substance, that is: (1) an opioid or opiate, as well as any product containing any such substance; (2) a benzodiazepine, carisoprodol, or gabapentin; or (3) a combination or “cocktail” of

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<sup>2</sup> Opioid Remediation includes amounts paid to satisfy any future demand by another governmental entity to make a required reimbursement in connection with the past care and treatment of a person related to the Alleged Harms.

chemical substances prescribed, sold, bought, or dispensed to be used together that includes opioids or opiates. “Product” shall include, but is not limited to, any substance consisting of or containing buprenorphine, codeine, fentanyl, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, meperidine, methadone, morphine, oxycodone, oxymorphone, tapentadol, tramadol, opium, heroin, carfentanil, diazepam, estazolam, quazepam, alprazolam, clonazepam, oxazepam, flurazepam, triazolam, temazepam, midazolam, carisoprodol, gabapentin, or any variant of these substances or any similar substance.

- II. “*Reference Date*” means the date by which each Remnant Defendant must inform the Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel of its determination whether the condition in Section IV.D.1. has been satisfied. The Reference Date shall be thirty (30) days after counsel for Remnant Defendants receive the Participation Report, unless it is extended by written agreement of the Remnant Defendants and Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel.
- JJ. “*Related Agreements*” means the related but individual agreements between each Remnant Defendant and Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel, on behalf of all Participating Subdivisions, setting forth each Remnant Defendant’s share of the Pooled Settlement Amount.
- KK. “*Released Claims*” means any and all Claims, including Unknown Claims, that directly or indirectly are based on, arise out of, or in any way relate to or concern Covered Conduct occurring prior to the Effective Date. Without limiting the foregoing, Released Claims include any Claims that have been, are, or could be asserted against one or more Released Entities by any Participating Subdivision or Releasor in any federal, state, or local action or proceeding (whether judicial, arbitral, or administrative) directly or indirectly based on, arising out of, or relating to, in whole or in part, Covered Conduct (whether or not such Releasor has brought such action or proceeding). Released Claims also include all Claims against Released Entities asserted in any proceeding to be dismissed pursuant to this Agreement, whether or not such claims relate to Covered Conduct. The Settling Parties intend that this term be interpreted broadly. For the avoidance of doubt, Released Claims do not include Claims of private individuals. It is the intent of the Parties that Claims by private individuals be treated in accordance with applicable law. Released Claims is also used herein to describe claims brought by a non-party Subdivision that would have been Released Claims if they had been brought by a Releasor against a Released Entity.
- LL. “*Released Entities*” means, with respect to Released Claims, the Remnant Defendants and:
  - 1. all past and present subsidiaries, divisions, predecessors, successors, and assigns (in each case, whether direct or indirect) of each Remnant Defendant;



2. all past and present subsidiaries and divisions (in each case, whether direct or indirect) of any entity described in subsection (1);
3. the respective past and present officers, directors, members, trustees, and employees of any of the foregoing (each for actions that occurred during and related to their work for, affiliation or employment with, any of the Remnant Defendants or the foregoing entities);
4. all past and present joint ventures (whether direct or indirect) of each Remnant Defendant or its subsidiaries, including in any Remnant Defendant's or its subsidiary's capacity as a participating member in such joint venture;
5. all direct or indirect parents and shareholders of the Remnant Defendants (solely in their capacity as parents or shareholders of the applicable Remnant Defendant with respect to Covered Conduct); and
6. any insurer of any Remnant Defendant or any person or entity otherwise described in subsections (1)-(5) (solely in its role as insurer of such person or entity and subject to the last sentence of Section IX.B.2.).

An illustrative list of joint ventures, subsidiaries and affiliates and predecessor entities for each Remnant Defendant is set forth in **Exhibit F**. Any person or entity described in subsections (3)-(6) shall be a Released Entity solely in the capacity described in such clauses and shall not be a Released Entity with respect to its conduct in any other capacity. With respect to joint ventures (including predecessor entities), only entities listed on **Exhibit F** are Released Entities. Current or former Defendants in In re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation, No. 1: 17-md-2804 (N.D. Ohio) ("MDL") or in other pending litigation asserting a Claim for Covered Conduct not identified in **Exhibit F** are not considered Released Entities, provided, however, that any Remnant Defendant entities that fall within clauses (1)-(5) above against whom Released Claims are brought in the MDL on or after the Preliminary Agreement Date shall be considered Released Entities even if not listed on **Exhibit F**. For the avoidance of doubt, any entity acquired, or joint venture entered into, by a Remnant Defendant after the Effective Date is not a Released Entity.

- MM. "*Releasors*" means, with respect to Released Claims, (1) each Participating Subdivision and, (2) without limitation and to the maximum extent of the power of each Participating Subdivision to release Claims, (a) the Participating Subdivision's departments, agencies, divisions, boards, commissions, subdivisions, 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 (b) any person or entity acting in a *parens patriae*, sovereign, quasi-sovereign, private attorney general, *qui tam*, taxpayer, or other capacity seeking relief on behalf of or generally applicable to the general public with

respect to a Participating Subdivision, whether or not any of them participate in this Agreement. The inclusion of a specific reference to a type of entity in this definition shall not be construed as meaning that the entity is not a Participating Subdivision. In addition to being a Releasor as provided herein, a Participating Subdivision shall also provide the Subdivision Settlement Participation Form referenced in Section IV.C. providing for a release to the fullest extent of the Participating Subdivision's authority.

- NN. "*Remnant Defendants*" means Associated Pharmacies, Inc., American Associated Pharmacies, J M Smith Corporation, Louisiana Wholesale Drug Company, Inc., Morris & Dickson Co., North Carolina Mutual Wholesale Drug Company, Inc., United Natural Foods, Inc. (including without limitation its direct and indirect subsidiaries SuperValu, Inc., Advantage Logistics Southwest, Inc., Advantage Logistics USA West, L.L.C., Advantage Logistics USA East, L.L.C., and UNFI Distribution Company, LLC) collectively, and all their past and present subsidiaries (excluding, in the case of United Natural Foods, Inc., New Albertsons, Inc. (a former subsidiary of SuperValu, Inc.)), divisions, predecessors, successors, and assigns (in each case, whether direct or indirect). Each individually is a "Remnant Defendant." For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Agreement releases or is intended to release Albertsons Companies, Inc. or any of its subsidiaries.
- OO. "*Settlement*" means the settlement of the Released Claims between the Settling Parties on the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.
- PP. "*Settlement Fund*" means the interest-bearing account to be established and controlled by the Settlement Fund Administrator as set forth in Section III.
- QQ. "*Settlement Funds*" means the Pooled Settlement Amount plus any interest that may accrue on the Pooled Settlement Amount from the date the Remnant Defendants pay the Pooled Settlement Amount in the Settlement Fund or any portion thereof.
- RR. "*Settlement Fund Administrator*" means the agent to be selected as set forth in Section III.D.
- SS. "*Settlement Participation Form Submission Deadline*" means sixty (60) days after the Preliminary Agreement Date, unless it is extended by written agreement of the Remnant Defendants and Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel.
- TT. "*Settling Parties*" means, collectively, the Participating Subdivisions and Remnant Defendants.
- UU. "*State*" means any state of the United States of America including their respective agencies, departments, and instrumentalities.
- VV. "*State-Subdivision Agreement*" means an agreement that a State reaches with the Subdivisions in that State regarding the allocation, distribution, and/or use of

funds allocated to its Subdivisions under this Agreement. Preexisting agreements addressing funds other than those allocated pursuant to this Agreement shall qualify if adopted pursuant to the terms of a national opioid settlement or by statute.

- WW. “*Subdivisions*” means (1) all formal and legally recognized sub-entities and sub-entity officials (acting in an official capacity on behalf of a sub-entity) of a State that have a population of 30,000 or more (as recognized in the most recent U.S. Census), (2) all Litigating Subdivisions, and, for the avoidance of doubt, (3) all plaintiffs listed on Exhibit A. For the avoidance of doubt, “Subdivisions” includes sub-entities and sub-entity officials that meet the above criteria, and that provide general governance for a defined area, including a county, parish, city, town, village, or similar entity. Unless otherwise specified, “Subdivisions” includes all functional counties and parishes and other functional levels of sub-entities of a State that provide general governance for a defined area, as well as all Special Districts and historic, non-functioning sub-entities that are also Litigating Subdivisions.
- XX. “*Subdivision Settlement Participation Form*” means the document or online form, in the form attached as **Exhibit G** to this Agreement, that Participating Subdivisions must execute and return to the Claims Administrator to participate in the Settlement and receive a payment pursuant to this Agreement and the Plan of Allocation, and which shall (1) make such Participating Subdivisions signatories to this Agreement, (2) include a full and complete release of any and all of such Subdivision’s claims, and (3) require the prompt dismissal with prejudice of any Released Claims that have been filed by any such Participating Subdivisions.
- YY. “*Taxes*” means taxes (including any estimated taxes, interest, or penalties) arising with respect to the income earned by the Settlement Fund, including, without limitation, any taxes or tax detriments that may be imposed upon the Remnant Defendants, their counsel, or any Released Entity with respect to any income earned by the Settlement Fund for any period during which the Settlement Fund does not qualify as a qualified settlement fund for federal or state income tax purposes. For purposes of calculating a Remnant Defendant’s portion of the Settlement Fund or Opioid Remediation Fund under Section VI. and Section X.V., Taxes will be deemed to be divided and paid by the Remnant Defendants in proportion to the amounts they contributed to the Pooled Settlement Amount.
- ZZ. “*Tax Expense*” means all expenses and costs incurred in connection with the operation and implementation of Section III., including, without limitation, expenses of tax attorneys and/or accountants (including the Settlement Fund Administrator) and mailing and distribution costs and expenses relating to filing (or failing to file) the returns described in Section III.E. For purposes of calculating a Remnant Defendant’s portion of the Settlement Fund or Opioid Remediation Fund under Section VI. and Section X.V., the Tax Expense will be deemed to be divided and paid equally by all Remnant Defendants.

- AAA. “*Termination Refund*” means the amount of the Settlement Funds to be returned to a Remnant Defendant that elects to terminate this Agreement pursuant to Section V.C. The Termination Refund shall be the portion of the Settlement Fund equal to the portion of the Pooled Settlement Amount contributed by the Remnant Defendant, plus all interest and/or earnings thereon, less its portion of any Notice and Administrative Costs, including any Taxes or Tax Expenses, that have been paid, incurred, or are due and owing as of the date the notice of termination is given.
- BBB. “*Unknown Claims*” means any Released Claim that a Participating Subdivision or Releasor does not know or suspect to exist in their favor at the time of the release of the Released Entities that, if known by them, might have affected their settlement with and release of the Released Entities.

## **II. Representations and Warranties**

A. **Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel’s Representations and Warranties.** Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel represents and warrants to the Remnant Defendants as follows:

1. Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel believes the Settlement is fair, reasonable, adequate, and beneficial to the Subdivisions and that participation in the Settlement would be in their best interests.
2. Because Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel believes that the Settlement is in the best interests of the Subdivisions, Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel will use their best reasonable efforts to encourage and assist the Subdivisions to participate in this Settlement.

B. **Participating Subdivisions’ Representations and Warranties.** By electing to become a party to this Agreement, each Participating Subdivision represents and warrants to the Remnant Defendants as follows:

1. each Participating Subdivision has received legal advice from its attorneys regarding the advisability of entering into this Agreement and the legal consequences of this Agreement;
2. each Participating Subdivision is not relying on any statement, representation, omission, inducement, or promise by Remnant Defendants, except those expressly stated in this Agreement;
3. each Participating Subdivision has, with the assistance of its attorneys, investigated the law and facts pertaining to the Released Claims and the Settlement;
4. each Participating Subdivision has carefully read, and knows and understands, the full contents of this Agreement and is voluntarily entering into this Agreement after having consulted with its attorneys;

5. each Participating Subdivision has all necessary authority to enter into this Agreement and release all Released Claims on behalf of itself and all other entities that are Releasers by virtue of their relationship or association with it;
6. each Participating Subdivision has authorized the execution and performance of its Participation Agreement, and has authorized the person signing this Agreement on its behalf to do so;
7. upon execution of its respective Participation Agreement, each Participating Subdivision accepts, agrees to, and ratifies the terms of this Agreement; and
8. no portion of any relief under this Agreement to which any of the Participating Subdivisions may be entitled has been assigned, transferred, or conveyed by or for any of the Participating Subdivisions to any other person or entity.

C. **Remnant Defendants' Representations and Warranties.** Remnant Defendants represent and warrant to Participating Subdivisions as follows:

1. each of the Remnant Defendants has received legal advice from its attorneys regarding the advisability of entering into this Agreement and the legal consequences of this Agreement;
2. none of the Remnant Defendants is relying on any statement, representation, omission, inducement, or promise by Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel or any Subdivision, except those expressly stated in this Agreement;
3. each of the Remnant Defendants, with the assistance of its attorneys, has investigated the law and facts pertaining to the Released Claims and the Settlement;
4. each of the Remnant Defendants has carefully read, and knows and understands, the full contents of this Agreement and is voluntarily entering into this Agreement after having consulted with its attorneys; and
5. each of the Remnant Defendants has all necessary authority to enter into this Agreement, has authorized the execution and performance of this Agreement, and has authorized the person signing this Agreement on its behalf to do so.

### **III. Settlement Fund**

A. **Settlement Payment.** The Remnant Defendants shall pay into the Settlement Fund the Pooled Settlement Amount in consideration of the covenants, agreements, and releases

set forth in this Agreement. The Pooled Settlement Amount shall be allocated and used only as specified in Section VII.

1. Payments of the Pooled Settlement Amount to the Settlement Fund will be allocated among the Remnant Defendants in accordance with each Remnant Defendant's agreed portion as separately negotiated and agreed to by each Remnant Defendant with Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel in the Related Agreements. A Remnant Defendant's sole responsibility for payments under this Agreement and any related agreements (including without limitation the Fee Agreement attached hereto as **Exhibit H**) shall be to pay its respective portion of the Pooled Settlement Amount. The obligations of the Remnant Defendants in this Agreement are several and not joint. No Remnant Defendant shall be responsible for any portion of another Remnant Defendant's share.
2. The Remnant Defendants shall pay into the Settlement Fund by wire transfer their respective portion of the Pooled Settlement Amount within forty-five (45) days of the later of (1) receipt of a fully executed copy of this Settlement Agreement, or (2) the Remnant Defendants' receipt of the information and instructions required to effectuate the wire transfer.
3. The Settlement Funds will be held in escrow in the Settlement Fund until the Effective Date. If the Effective Date does not occur as to one or more Remnant Defendants, the Settlement Fund Administrator will return to each Remnant Defendant for which the Effective Date did not occur, its portion of the Pooled Settlement Amount with accrued interest less that Remnant Defendant's portion of (1) any Notice and Administrative Costs incurred, and (2) any Taxes and Tax Expense due or becoming due.
4. Upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, the Pooled Settlement Amount shall not be subject to reduction and no funds may be returned to any Remnant Defendant, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement.

**B. Nature of Payment.** Each of the Remnant Defendants and Participating Subdivisions acknowledges and agrees that notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, including but not limited to, the scope of the Released Claims:

1. It has entered into this Agreement to avoid the delay, expense, inconvenience, and uncertainty of further litigation;
2. (a) The Participating Subdivisions sought compensatory restitution (within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. § 162(f)(2)(A)) as damages for the Alleged Harms allegedly suffered by the Participating Subdivisions; (b) the Compensatory Restitution Amount is no greater than the amount, in the aggregate, of the Alleged Harms allegedly suffered by the Participating Subdivisions; and (c) the portion of the Compensatory Restitution Amount received by each Participating Subdivision is no greater than the amount

of the Alleged Harms allegedly suffered by such Participating Subdivision;

3. The payment of the Compensatory Restitution Amount by the Remnant Defendants constitutes, and is paid for, compensatory restitution (within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. § 162(f)(2)(A)) for alleged damage or harm (as compensation for alleged damage or harm arising out of and/or because of alleged bodily injury) allegedly caused by the Remnant Defendants;
4. The Compensatory Restitution Amount is being paid as compensatory restitution (within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. § 162(f)(2)(A)) in order to restore, in whole or in part, the Participating Subdivisions to the same position or condition that they would be in had the Participating Subdivisions not suffered the Alleged Harms; and
5. For the avoidance of doubt: (a) no portion of the Compensatory Restitution Amount represents reimbursement to any Participating Subdivision or other person or entity for the costs of any investigation or litigation, (b) the entire Compensatory Restitution Amount is properly characterized as described in Section III.B., and (c) no portion of the Compensatory Restitution Amount constitutes disgorgement or is properly characterized as the payment of statutory or other fines, penalties, multiple or treble damages, punitive damages, or other punitive assessments.

C. **No Other Payments.** Other than payment under Section III.A. of this Agreement, the Remnant Defendants shall have no obligations to make any further or additional payment of any sort or kind in connection with this Agreement or the Settlement.

D. **The Settlement Fund and Administrator.**

1. Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel shall arrange for the Settlement Fund to be established at Huntington Bank, with Law Office of Joseph C. Tann, PLLC and Winbridge Partners, LLC serving as the Settlement Fund Administrator subject to an escrow agreement mutually acceptable to Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel and Remnant Defendants, and such escrow to be administered under the MDL Court's continuing supervision and control. The Settlement Fund Administrator will act as an independent and neutral third party in the performance of its functions including administering and disbursing funds from the Settlement Fund and the Opioid Remediation Fund. To the extent that there is any ambiguity or inconsistency when this Agreement and the escrow agreement are read together, the terms of this Agreement shall control.
2. The Settlement Fund Administrator shall invest the Pooled Settlement Amount deposited pursuant to Section III.A. in U.S. agency or treasury securities or other instruments backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government or an agency thereof, or fully insured by the U.S.

government or an agency thereof and shall reinvest the proceeds of these instruments as they mature in similar instruments at their then-current market rates; *provided, however*, that the Settlement Fund Administrator will not invest in any instruments that a “*qualified settlement fund*,” within the meaning of Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1, *et seq.*, is not permitted to invest in, pursuant to the Treasury regulations, or any modification in Internal Revenue Service (“*IRS*”) guidelines, whether set forth in IRS rulings, other IRS pronouncements or otherwise. All risks related to the investment of the Settlement Funds shall be borne by the Settlement Fund, and any losses in the Settlement Fund shall be borne by the Settlement Fund and shall not be recoverable from the Remnant Defendants. The Remnant Defendants shall have no responsibility for, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to the investment decisions or the actions of the Settlement Fund Administrator or any transactions executed by the Settlement Fund Administrator related to the investment of the Settlement Funds.

3. The Settlement Fund Administrator shall not, and Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel shall not instruct the Settlement Fund Administrator to, disburse the Settlement Funds, except as provided in this Agreement or by order of the MDL Court. For the avoidance of doubt, the Settlement Fund Administrator is authorized, and Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel is authorized to instruct the Settlement Fund Administrator, to execute such transactions as are consistent with the terms of this Agreement or as directed by the MDL Court, including but not limited to execute transactions prior to the Effective Date to enable payment of Notice and Administrative Costs as incurred.
4. All funds held in the Settlement Fund shall be deemed and considered to be *in custodia legis* of the MDL Court, and shall remain subject to the jurisdiction of the MDL Court, until such time as such funds are distributed pursuant to this Agreement and/or further order(s) of the MDL Court.

**E. Taxes.**

1. The Settlement Fund shall be, and shall be treated by the Settling Parties and the Settlement Fund Administrator as being at all times, a “qualified settlement fund” within the meaning of Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1 (and corresponding or similar provisions of state, local, or foreign law, as applicable), and the MDL Court shall have continuing jurisdiction over the Settlement Fund, pursuant to Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1(c)(1), and over the Settlement Fund Administrator as its administrator. The Settlement Fund Administrator shall not take any action or tax position inconsistent with such treatment. In addition, the Settlement Fund Administrator shall timely make such elections as necessary or advisable and do all things necessary to carry out the provisions of this Section III., and shall, in any



event, make any available “*relation-back election*” (as defined in Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1(j)(2) (and corresponding or similar elections under state, local, or foreign law, as applicable)), back to the earliest permitted date. Such elections shall be made in compliance with the procedures and requirements contained in such regulations. It shall be the responsibility of the Settlement Fund Administrator to timely and properly prepare and deliver the necessary documentation for signature by all necessary parties, and thereafter to cause the appropriate filing to occur. The Settling Parties agree to take any other reasonable actions as shall be necessary to ensure that the Settlement Fund qualifies as a qualified settlement fund for federal and state income tax purposes including but not limited to requesting the MDL Court to formally (i) approve the Settlement Fund as a “qualified settlement fund” within the meaning of Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1, and (ii) confirm its continuing jurisdiction over the Settlement Fund and the Opioid Remediation Fund. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, the Settlement Fund Administrator shall not on behalf of or in connection with the Settlement Fund request a private letter ruling, technical advice memorandum or any other ruling or guidance from the Internal Revenue Service or any other taxing authority on any matter without consulting with and obtaining the prior written consent of each Remnant Defendant.

2. For the purpose of § 468B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(k)(3) (and any corresponding or similar provisions of state, local or foreign law, as applicable), the qualified settlement fund “administrator” shall be the Law Office of Joseph C. Tann, PLLC and Winbridge Partners, LLC. Plaintiffs’ Settlement Counsel shall cooperate with and cause the Settlement Fund Administrator to, and the Settlement Fund Administrator shall satisfy the administrative requirements imposed by Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2 (and any similar provisions of state, local or foreign law, as applicable) by, for example: (i) obtaining employer identification numbers and providing the same in an IRS Form W-9 to the Remnant Defendants; (ii) satisfying any information reporting or withholding requirements imposed with respect to the Settlement Fund, including with respect to any distributions from the Settlement Fund; (iii) timely and properly filing or causing to be filed all informational and other tax returns or filings necessary or advisable with respect to the Settlement Fund (including, without limitation, the returns described in Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(k)) and paying any taxes reported thereon; (iv) sending copies of all such tax returns and filings to the Remnant Defendants; and (v) providing instructions for the release of sufficient funds from the Settlement Fund to pay all Taxes owed by the Settlement Fund in accordance with Section III. and Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2 and any applicable state, local or other tax laws. Such returns, as well as the relation-back election described in Section III.E.1., shall be consistent with the provisions of this Section III.E.2. and in all events shall reflect that all Taxes as defined in Section I.YY. on the income earned by the

Settlement Fund shall be paid out of the Settlement Funds as provided in Section III.E.3. Each Released Entity shall provide to the administrator and the IRS the statement described in Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-3(e)(2) no later than February 15th of the year following each calendar year in which such Released Entity made its transfer to the Settlement Fund. The Released Entities shall have no responsibility or liability for the Settlement Fund's tax returns or other filings.

3. The following shall be paid out of the Settlement Funds: (i) all Taxes (including any estimated taxes, interest, or penalties) arising with respect to the income earned by the Settlement Fund, including, without limitation, any taxes or tax detriments that may be imposed upon the Remnant Defendants, their counsel, or any Released Entity with respect to any income earned by the Settlement Fund for any period during which the Settlement Fund does not qualify as a qualified settlement fund for federal or state income tax purposes (collectively, "*Taxes*"), and (ii) all Tax Expenses. In all events, neither the Remnant Defendants nor any other Released Entity nor their counsel shall have any liability or responsibility for any Taxes or Tax Expenses. With funds from the Settlement Fund, the Settlement Fund Administrator shall indemnify and hold harmless the Remnant Defendants and any other Released Entity and their counsel for all Taxes and Tax Expenses (including, without limitation, Taxes payable by reason of any such indemnification). Further, all Taxes and Tax Expenses shall be treated as, and considered to be, a cost of administration of the Settlement Fund and shall timely be paid by the Settlement Fund Administrator out of the Settlement Funds without prior order from the MDL Court. The Settlement Fund Administrator shall be obligated (notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary) to withhold from any funds necessary to pay such amounts, including the establishment of adequate reserves for any Taxes and Tax Expenses (as well as any amounts that may be required to be withheld under Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(1)(2)) (and any corresponding or similar provisions of state, local or foreign law, as applicable). Neither the Remnant Defendants nor any Released Entity nor their counsel is responsible therefor, nor shall they have any liability therefor. The Settling Parties agree to cooperate with the Settlement Fund Administrator, each other, their tax attorneys, and their accountants to the extent reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this Section III.E.3, and with respect to any tax claim, dispute, investigation, audit, examination, contest, litigation, or other proceeding relating to this Agreement.

#### **IV. Implementing the Agreement**

A. **Stay.** Following the Preliminary Agreement Date, Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel and Remnant Defendants shall promptly jointly inform the MDL Court and jointly undertake reasonable best efforts to stay the Actions as to the Remnant Defendants.

B. **Notice to the Subdivisions.** No later than seven (7) calendar days after the Preliminary Agreement Date, the Notice and Claims Administrator shall send individual written Notice of the opportunity to participate in this Agreement and the requirements of participation to all Subdivisions. The form and manner of Notice agreed upon by the Parties shall be provided by the Notice and Claims Administrator to the Subdivisions. The notice shall include a Subdivision Settlement Participation Form and shall provide prominent notice of the Subdivision Settlement Participation Form Submission Deadline. Nothing contained herein shall preclude Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel from providing further notice to or otherwise contacting any Subdivision about becoming a Participating Subdivision, including beginning any of the activities described in this paragraph prior to the Preliminary Agreement Date.

C. **Participation by Subdivisions.**

1. A Subdivision may become a Participating Subdivision by returning an executed Subdivision Settlement Participation Form to the Notice and Claims Administrator specifying (1) that the Subdivision agrees to the terms of this Agreement, (2) that the Subdivision releases all Released Claims against all Released Entities, (3) that the Subdivision agrees to use monies it receives from the Opioid Remediation Fund, if any, pursuant to the applicable requirements of Section VII., *provided, however*, that Non-Litigating Subdivisions may only use monies originating from the Opioid Remediation Fund for purposes that qualify as Opioid Remediation, and (4) the Subdivision submits to the jurisdiction of the MDL Court for purposes limited to the MDL Court's role under this Agreement. The required Subdivision Settlement Participation Form is attached as **Exhibit G.**
2. The eligibility of entities that submit Subdivision Settlement Participation Forms to participate in the Settlement as Participating Subdivisions will be subject to confirmation by the Notice and Claims Administrator.
3. Subdivision Settlement Participation Forms shall be deemed valid only for the entity named in the request.
4. Subdivision Settlement Participation Forms shall be deemed timely if received by the Notice and Claims Administrator no later than the Subdivision Settlement Participation Form Submission Deadline, or otherwise as agreed in writing by Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel and the Remnant Defendants.
5. A Subdivision that has not submitted a Settlement Participation Form, and is thus a Non-Participating Subdivision, shall not directly receive any portion of the Opioid Remediation Funds. The Remnant Defendants reserve all of their legal rights and defenses with respect to Non-Participating Subdivisions.

6. Within ten (10) calendar days of the Subdivision Settlement Participation Form Submission Deadline, as extended by written agreement, the Notice and Claims Administrator shall deliver to Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel and Remnant Defendants the Participation Report.
7. Within fifteen (15) calendar days of delivering the Participation Report, the Notice and Claims Administrator shall deliver to Remnant Defendants copies of all Subdivision Settlement Participation Forms.

**D. Notice by Remnant Defendants.**

1. After receiving the Participation Report, each Remnant Defendant will individually determine on or before the Reference Date whether there is sufficient Subdivision participation and sufficient resolution or dismissal of the Claims of the Litigating Subdivisions to proceed with this Agreement. The determination shall be in the sole discretion of the Remnant Defendant and may be based on any criteria or factors deemed relevant by the Remnant Defendant.
2. On or before the Reference Date, each Remnant Defendant shall inform Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel of its determination pursuant to Section IV.D.1. If one or more Remnant Defendants determine to proceed, those Parties will proceed to file the motion for a Consent Judgment and the obligations in the Subdivision Settlement Participation Form will become effective and binding as of the Effective Date. If one or more Remnant Defendants determine not to proceed, those Remnant Defendants shall serve notice of their decision to terminate this Agreement as to them only in accordance with Section V.C.

**E. Entry of Consent Judgment.**

1. Within fourteen (14) days after the Reference Date (or the next business day thereafter), the Settling Parties shall submit an appropriate motion to the MDL Court reporting upon the Settlement as specified herein, including the Participation Report, and jointly requesting that the MDL Court:
  - a. enter a final consent judgment dismissing the Actions coordinated under MDL No. 2804 with prejudice as to the Remnant Defendants and, except as provided for in this Agreement, without costs or attorneys' fees;
  - b. direct Participating Subdivisions to dismiss the other Actions not coordinated under MDL No. 2804 with prejudice as to the Remnant Defendants and, except as provided for in this Agreement, without costs or attorneys' fees;

- c. discharge and release the Released Entities from all Released Claims;
  - d. permanently bar and enjoin the institution and prosecution by Participating Subdivisions of any other action against the Released Entities in any forum asserting any claims related in any way to the Released Claims;
  - e. reserve and continue exclusive jurisdiction over the Settlement, including the Settlement Fund, Opioid Remediation Fund, the Settlement Fund Administrator, the Notice and Claims Administrator, and all future proceedings concerning the administration, consummation, and enforcement of this Agreement;
  - f. determine pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 54(b) that there is no just reason for delay and direct entry of a final judgment as to the Participating Subdivisions and the Remnant Defendants; and
  - g. confirm such other and further provisions consistent with the terms of this Agreement to which the Settling Parties expressly consent in writing.
- 2. In connection with the filing of the motion for a Consent Judgment, Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel will also request that the MDL Court approve the proposed Plan of Allocation, as altered by subsequent agreement, if any, pursuant to Section VII.B.3, and apply the MDL Court's prior common benefit Orders to the Settlement Funds.
  - 3. Participating Subdivisions shall be subject to and bound by the provisions of this Agreement, the releases contained herein, and the Final Judgment.

## **V. Conditions of Settlement; Effect of Disapproval, Cancellation, or Termination**

### **A. Occurrence of Effective Date.**

- 1. Upon the Effective Date, any and all remaining interest or right of the Remnant Defendants that have elected to proceed with the Settlement, in or to the Settlement Funds, if any, shall be absolutely and forever extinguished except as provided by this Agreement, and the Settlement Funds (less any Notice and Administrative Costs, Taxes, Tax Expenses, or Attorneys' Fees and Expenses paid) shall be transferred from the Settlement Fund to the Opioid Remediation Fund, and from the Settlement Fund Administrator to the Notice and Claims Administrator as successor Settlement Fund Administrator, within ten (10) business days of the Notice and Claims Administrator notifying Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel

it is ready to distribute the Opioid Remediation Funds, which must be after the Effective Date.

2. Upon the Effective Date, the Participating Subdivisions shall dismiss the Actions with prejudice as to the Released Entities, including all Actions listed on **Exhibit A**, as provided for in the Consent Judgment.

**B. Failure of Effective Date to Occur.** In the event that the Effective Date does not occur for any reason as to one or more Remnant Defendants, including for the reasons set forth in Sections IV.C., then this Agreement shall be cancelled and terminated as to those Remnant Defendants for which the Effective Date does not occur only, unless the affected Settling Parties mutually agree in writing to proceed with this Agreement.

**C. Termination.**

1. Prior to the Effective Date, this Agreement may be terminated by a Remnant Defendant as to it (but not as to any other Remnant Defendant) by serving on Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel and counsel for the other Remnant Defendants a written notice of termination within ten (10) calendar days (or such longer time as may be agreed between Remnant Defendants and Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel) after any of the following occurrences:
  - a. the Remnant Defendant provides written notice of its election not to proceed under Section IV.D.2.;
  - b. a Consent Judgment approving this Agreement without modification of any of this Agreement's terms has not been entered by the MDL Court on or before one hundred eighty (180) calendar days after the Preliminary Agreement Date;
  - c. this Agreement or the Consent Judgment has been disapproved by the MDL Court (or, in the event of an appeal from or review of a decision of the MDL Court to approve this Agreement and the Consent Judgment, by the court hearing such appeal or conducting such review), and the time to appeal from such disapproval has expired, or, in the event of an appeal from such disapproval, the appeal has been dismissed or the disapproval has been affirmed by the court of last resort to which such appeal has been taken and such dismissal or disapproval has become no longer subject to further appeal (including, without limitation, review by the United States Supreme Court); or
  - d. the Effective Date does not otherwise occur within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days after the Preliminary Agreement Date.
2. If this Agreement is terminated by one or more Remnant Defendants pursuant to Section V.C.1.:

- a. Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel must notify the Settlement Fund Administrator and/or the Notice and Claims Administrator of those Remnant Defendants' decision to terminate this Agreement within seven (7) days of receiving written notice of such termination and instructions from those Remnant Defendants required to effectuate the wire transfer for the Termination Refund;
- b. the Settlement Fund Administrator and/or the Notice and Claims Administrator shall transfer the Termination Refund to those Remnant Defendants within seven (7) days of receiving written notice from Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel; and
- c. upon receipt of the Termination Refund, this Agreement and all of its terms (except Section X.L. and any other non-admissibility provisions, which shall continue in full force and effect) shall be canceled and terminated, and this Agreement and all orders issued pursuant to this Agreement shall become null and void and of no effect as between the Participating Subdivisions and the terminating Remnant Defendants only. The Participating Subdivisions and those Remnant Defendants shall be returned to the status quo that existed in the Actions immediately prior to their entry into this Settlement Agreement (subject to appropriate extensions of deadlines to enable the Actions to proceed), and the Participating Subdivisions and the terminating Remnant Defendants shall retain all of their respective rights and defenses as of immediately prior to their entry into this Settlement Agreement. The Participating Subdivisions and those Remnant Defendants shall then proceed in all respects as if this Agreement and any related orders had not been executed.

## **VI. Notice and Claims Administrator**

A. **Selection of Notice and Claims Administrator.** Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel shall nominate, subject to the consent of the Remnant Defendants, an entity to serve as Notice and Claims Administrator that meets the following requirements:

1. The Notice and Claims Administrator will be bound by an agreement mutually acceptable to Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel and Remnant Defendants.
2. The Notice and Claims Administrator will act as an independent and neutral third party in the performance of its functions including administering and disbursing funds from the Settlement Fund and the Opioid Remediation Fund.

3. The Notice and Claims Administrator may not be an entity that has acted as counsel for, or otherwise represented, a party in claims relating to Products.
4. The Notice and Claims Administrator shall have the authority to perform all actions consistent with the terms of this Agreement that the Notice and Claims Administrator deems to be reasonably necessary to effectuate the notice. Subject to the Parties' approval, the Notice and Claims Administrator may retain any entity that the Notice and Claims Administrator deems to be reasonably necessary to provide assistance in effectuating Notice to the Participating Subdivisions.
5. The Notice and Claims Administrator's role generally shall include, consistent with the terms of this Agreement, administration of the proposed Settlement, including receiving, preserving, reviewing, analyzing, and approving Participation Forms, including all supporting documentation, as well as distributing and overseeing distribution of the Opioid Remediation Fund according to the Plan of Allocation.
6. Any successor to the initial Notice and Claims Administrator shall be subject to the consent of all Settling Parties, shall fulfill the same functions from and after the date of succession, and shall be bound by the determinations made by the predecessor(s) to date.
7. The Notice and Claims Administrator shall have no authority to alter in any way the Settling Parties' or Participating Subdivisions' rights and obligations under this Agreement.
8. The Remnant Defendants and Released Entities shall have no involvement with or responsibility for supervising the Notice and Claims Administrator and are not subject to the authority of the Notice and Claims Administrator.
9. All fees, costs, and expenses incurred in the administration and/or work by the Notice and Claims Administrator, including fees, costs, and expenses of the Notice and Claims Administrator, as well as the costs of distributing the Notice, shall be paid from the Settlement Funds. Remnant Defendants shall have no obligation to pay any such fees, costs, and expenses other than the Pooled Settlement Amount.

**B. Distribution of Settlement Fund.**

1. The Notice and Claims Administrator shall administer the claims submitted by Participating Subdivisions and shall oversee distribution of the Settlement Funds, including distribution of amounts in the Opioid Remediation Fund to Participating Subdivisions pursuant to the Plan of Allocation. Subject to the terms of this Agreement and any order(s) of the



MDL Court, as may be necessary or as circumstances may require, the Settlement Funds shall be applied as follows:

- a. to pay Taxes and Tax Expenses on the Settlement Funds (but not on any individual distributions to Participating Subdivisions made pursuant to the Plan of Allocation);
  - b. to pay Notice and Administrative Costs (including escrow fees and costs);
  - c. to pay the Attorneys' Fees and Expenses, as set forth in and pursuant to the provisions of Section VII of this Agreement; and
  - d. to distribute the balance, which constitutes the "Opioid Remediation Funds," to Participating Subdivisions as allowed by this Agreement and the Plan of Allocation.
2. No amount may be disbursed from the Settlement Fund until the Effective Date, except that: (a) Notice and Administrative Costs (including escrow fees and costs) may be paid from the Settlement Fund as they become due, and (b) Taxes and Tax Expenses on the Settlement Funds may be paid from the Settlement Fund as they become due.

C. **Distribution of Opioid Remediation Fund.** Upon the Effective Date and thereafter, and in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, the Plan of Allocation, and any further order(s) of the MDL Court, the Opioid Remediation Funds shall be distributed to Participating Subdivisions as provided by Section VI.B.1.d.

## **VII. Use and Allocation of Opioid Remediation Fund.**

### **A. Use of Opioid Remediation Funds.**

1. It is the intent of the Parties that the payments disbursed from the Opioid Remediation Fund to Participating Subdivisions be for Opioid Remediation as set forth in **Exhibit D: List of Opioid Remediation Uses**, all of which are compensatory and remedial in nature consistent with the restitution characterization under 26 U.S.C. § 162(f)(2)(A). In no event may less than ninety-five percent (95%) of the Opioid Remediation Funds be spent on Opioid Remediation.
2. While disfavored by the Parties, a Participating Subdivision set forth on **Exhibit C** may use monies from the Opioid Remediation Fund (that have not been restricted by this Agreement solely to future Opioid Remediation) for purposes that do not qualify as Opioid Remediation. If, at any time, a Participating Subdivision set forth on **Exhibit C** uses any monies from the Opioid Remediation Fund for a purpose that does not qualify as Opioid Remediation, such Participating Subdivision set forth on **Exhibit C** shall identify such amounts and report to the Notice and

Claims Administrator and the Remnant Defendants how such funds were used, including if used to pay attorneys' fees, investigation costs, litigation costs, or costs related to the operation and enforcement of this Agreement, respectively. It is the intent of the Parties that the reporting under this Section VII.A.2. shall be available to the public. For the avoidance of doubt, (a) any amounts not identified under this Section VII.A.2. as used to pay attorneys' fees, investigation costs, or litigation costs shall be included in the Compensatory Restitution Amount for purposes of Section III.B., and (b) Participating Subdivisions not listed on **Exhibit C** may only use monies from the Opioid Remediation Fund for purposes that qualify as Opioid Remediation.

**B. Allocation of Opioid Remediation Fund.** The allocation of the Opioid Remediation Fund allows for different approaches to be taken in different states, such as through a State-Subdivision Agreement. The Notice and Claims Administrator will, for each Participating Subdivision, apply the terms of this Agreement and any relevant State-Subdivision Agreement or voluntary redistribution of funds as set out below before disbursing the funds.

1. A State-Subdivision Agreement may govern the operation and use of amounts allocated to the Participating Subdivisions of a particular State so long as the terms do not conflict with Section VII.A. and the funds are held in a segregated account until distributed for their intended purposes.
2. In the absence of an applicable State-Subdivision Agreement, the Opioid Remediation Fund will be used solely for future Opioid Remediation and the Opioid Remediation Funds will be distributed for their intended purposes by the Notice and Claims Administrator to Participating Subdivisions included on **Exhibit E** pursuant to the Plan of Allocation. Section VII.B.3. shall govern amounts that would otherwise be distributed to Non-Participating Subdivisions listed in **Exhibit E**. For the avoidance of doubt and notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, no Non-Participating Subdivision will receive any amount from the Opioid Remediation Fund, regardless of whether such Subdivision is included on **Exhibit E**. Also, no State will receive any amount from the Opioid Remediation Fund.
3. Any portion of the Opioid Remediation Fund allocated pursuant to Section VII.B. and the Plan of Allocation to a Subdivision that is a Non-Participating Subdivision will be re-allocated among Participating Subdivisions as later agreed between Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel and Remnant Defendants. For avoidance of doubt, any amount allocated to a Participating Subdivision under this Section VII.B.3. must be used as provided by Section VII.A.

**C. No Liability for Distribution of Settlement Fund or Opioid Remediation Fund.** Neither the Released Entities nor their counsel shall have any responsibility for, or liability whatsoever with respect to, the distribution of the Settlement Fund or Opioid

Remediation Fund; administering the Plan of Allocation; the Settlement Fund's or Opioid Remediation Fund's qualification as a "qualified settlement fund"; the payment or withholding of Taxes or Tax Expenses; the distribution of Settlement Funds or Opioid Remediation Funds; or any losses incurred in connection with any such matters. The Releasors hereby fully, finally, and forever release, relinquish, and discharge the Released Entities and their counsel from any and all such liability. No entity shall have any claim against Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel, the Notice and Claims Administrator, or any Released Entity based on the distributions made in accordance with this Agreement, the Plan of Allocation, or further orders of the MDL Court.

**D. Balance Remaining in Settlement Fund or Opioid Remediation Fund.** If there is any balance remaining in the Settlement Fund or Opioid Remediation Fund (whether by reason of tax refunds, uncashed checks, or otherwise), such balance shall be deemed as Opioid Remediation Funds and distributed in accordance with the Plan of Allocation and Section VII., and shall be used and expended solely for the purpose set forth in **Exhibit D**, or further order of the MDL Court (but not to the Remnant Defendants).

### **VIII. Attorneys' Fees and Expenses**

The Agreement on Attorneys' Fees and Expenses is set forth in **Exhibit H** and incorporated herein by reference. The Released Entities shall have no responsibility for or liability whatsoever with respect to any payment for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses or to any other entity or person that may assert a claim for any attorneys' fee, expense, or costs, except as set forth in the Agreement on Attorneys' Fees and Expenses in **Exhibit H**.

### **IX. Releases and Dismissal**

**A. No Future Actions Following Release.** As of the Effective Date, the Released Entities are fully, finally, and forever released and discharged from all of the Releasors' Released Claims. Each Releasor hereby absolutely, unconditionally, and irrevocably covenants not to bring, file, or claim, or to cause, assist in bringing or permit to be brought, filed, or claimed, or to otherwise seek to establish liability for any Released Claims against any Released Entity in any forum whatsoever, whether on its own behalf, or as part of any putative, purported, or certified class. The releases provided for in this Agreement are intended by the Settling Parties to be broad and shall be interpreted so as to give the Released Entities the broadest possible bar against any liability relating in any way to Released Claims. This Agreement shall be a complete bar to any Released Claim. Other than as set forth herein, this Agreement does not include any provisions for injunctive relief. Participating Subdivisions shall look solely to the Settlement Funds for settlement and satisfaction against the Released Entities of all claims that are released hereunder. The MDL Court shall have continuing and exclusive jurisdiction to enforce the terms and provisions of this Agreement and any and all of its Orders made in connection with Settlement approval, notice, administration, and implementation.

#### **B. Claim-Over and Non-Party Settlement.**

1. It is the intent of the Parties that:

- a. Released Entities should not seek contribution or indemnification (other than pursuant to an insurance or other third-party contract), from other parties for their payment obligations under this Agreement;
- b. The payments made under this Agreement shall be the sole payments made by the Released Entities to the Releasors involving, arising out of, or related to Covered Conduct (or conduct that would be Covered Conduct if engaged in by a Released Entity);
- c. Claims by Releasors against non-Parties should not result in additional payments by Released Entities, whether through contribution, indemnification or any other means; and
- d. this Agreement meets the Uniform Contribution Among Tortfeasors Act and any similar state law or doctrine that reduces or discharges a released party's liability to pay other parties.

The provisions of this Section IX.B. are intended to be implemented consistent with these principles. This Agreement and the releases and dismissals provided for herein are made in good faith.

- 2. No Released Entity shall seek to recover for amounts paid under this Agreement based on indemnification, contribution, or any other theory from a manufacturer, pharmacy, hospital, pharmacy benefit manager, health insurer, third-party vendor, trade association, distributor, or health care practitioner; *provided that* a Released Entity shall be relieved of this prohibition with respect to any entity that asserts a Claim-Over against it. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing herein shall prohibit a Released Entity from recovering amounts owed pursuant to insurance or other third-party contracts.
- 3. To the extent that, on or after the Effective Date, any Releasor enters into a Non-Party Settlement, including in any bankruptcy case or through any plan of reorganization (whether individually or as a class of creditors), the Releasor will seek to include (or in the case of a Non-Party Settlement made in connection with a bankruptcy case, will cause the debtor to include), unless prohibited from doing so under applicable law, in the Non-Party Settlement a prohibition on contribution or indemnity of any kind substantially equivalent to that required from Remnant Defendants in Section IX.B.2. or a release from such Non-Released Entity in favor of the Released Entities (in a form equivalent to the releases contained in this Agreement) of any Claim-Over. The obligation to obtain the prohibition and/or release required by this subsection is a material term of this Agreement.
- 4. In the event that any Releasor obtains a judgment against a Non-Released Entity that does not contain a prohibition like that described in Section

IX.B.2., or any Releasor files a Non-Party Covered Conduct Claim against a Non-Released Entity in bankruptcy or a Releasor is prevented for any reason from obtaining a prohibition/release in a Non-Party Settlement as provided in Section IX.B.2., and such Non-Released Entity asserts a Claim-Over against a Released Entity, the Released Entity shall be relieved of the prohibition in Section IX.B.2. with respect to that Non-Released Entity and that Releasor and the Remnant Defendants shall take the following actions to ensure that the Released Entities do not pay more with respect to the Covered Conduct to Releasors or to Non-Released Entities than the amounts owed under this Agreement by the Remnant Defendants:

- a. The Remnant Defendants shall notify that Releasor of the Claim-Over within sixty (60) days of the assertion of the Claim-Over or within sixty (60) days of the Effective Date, whichever is later.
- b. The Remnant Defendants and that Releasor shall meet and confer concerning the means to hold the Released Entities harmless from the Claim-Over and ensure that the Released Entities are not required to pay more with respect to the Released Claims than the amounts owed by Remnant Defendants under this Agreement.
- c. That Releasor and the Remnant Defendants shall take steps sufficient and permissible under applicable law to hold the Released Entities harmless from the Claim-Over and ensure the Released Entities are not required to pay more with respect to the Covered Conduct than the amounts owed by Remnant Defendants under this Agreement. Such steps may include, where permissible:
  - (i) The Releasor supporting a motion to dismiss or such other appropriate motion as may be filed by the Released Entities in response to any Claim filed in litigation or arbitration;
  - (ii) Reduction of that Releasors' Claim and any judgment it has obtained or may obtain against such Non-Released Entity by whatever amount or percentage is necessary to extinguish such Claim-Over under applicable law, up to the amount that releasor has obtained, may obtain, or has authority to control from such Non-Released Entity;
  - (iii) Placement into escrow of funds paid by the Non-Released Entities such that those funds are available to satisfy the Claim-Over;
  - (iv) Return of monies paid by Remnant Defendants to that Releasor under this Agreement to permit satisfaction of a

judgment against or settlement with the Non-Released Entity to satisfy the Claim-Over;

- (v) Payment of monies to Remnant Defendants by that Releasor to ensure they are held harmless from such Claim-Over, up to the amount that Releasor has obtained, may obtain, or has authority to control from such Non-Released Entity;
- (vi) Credit to the Remnant Defendants under this Agreement to reduce the overall amounts to be paid under this Agreement such that they are held harmless from the Claim-Over; and
- (vii) Such other actions as that Releasor and the Remnant Defendants may devise to hold the Released Entities harmless from the Claim-Over.

d. The actions of that Releasor and Remnant Defendants taken pursuant to paragraph (c) must in combination, ensure Remnant Defendants are not required to pay more with respect to Covered Conduct than the amounts owed by Remnant Defendants under this Agreement.

5. To the extent that the Claim-Over is based on a contractual indemnity, the obligations under Section IX.B.3. shall extend solely to a Non-Party Covered Conduct Claim against a pharmacy, distributor, clinic, hospital or other purchaser or dispenser of Products, a manufacturer that sold Products, a consultant, and/or a pharmacy benefit manager or other third-party payor. Each Remnant Defendant shall notify the Participating Subdivisions, to the extent permitted by applicable law, in the event that any of these types of Non-Released Entity assert a Claim-Over arising out of contractual indemnity against it.

C. **Litigation Bar.** The Settling Parties contemplate and agree that this Agreement may be pleaded as a bar to a lawsuit, and an injunction may be obtained, preventing any action from being initiated or maintained in any case sought to be prosecuted on behalf of any Releasors with respect to the Released Claims.

D. **General Release.** The Releasors acknowledge that, by executing this Agreement, and for the consideration received hereunder, it is their intention to release, and they are releasing, all Released Claims, even Unknown Claims. In connection with the releases provided for in this Agreement, each Releasor expressly, knowingly, and voluntarily 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 Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

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 AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.

Releasors likewise expressly, knowingly, and voluntarily waive any rights under Section 20-7-11 of the South Dakota Codified Laws, which provides:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.

The Releasors acknowledge that they have been advised by Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel of the contents and effects of California Civil Code § 1542, and hereby expressly waive and release with respect to the Released Claims any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by California Civil Code § 1542 or by any equivalent, similar, or comparable law or principle of law in any jurisdiction, including, but not limited to Section 20-7-11 of the South Dakota Codified Laws. 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 Released Claims, but each Releasor hereby expressly waives, and fully, finally, and forever settles, releases, and discharges, upon the Effective Date, any and all Released Claims 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 Releasors' decision to enter into or participate in this Agreement.

E. **Assigned Interest Waiver.** To the extent that any Releasor has any direct or indirect interest in any rights of a third party that is a debtor under the Bankruptcy Code as a result of a claim arising out of Covered Conduct by way of assignment or otherwise, including as a result of being the beneficiary of a trust or other distribution entity, to assert claims against a Remnant Defendant (whether derivatively or otherwise), under any legal or equitable theory, including for indemnification, contribution, or subrogation, such Releasor waives the right to assert any such claim, or to receive a distribution or any benefit on account of such claim and such claim, distribution, or benefit shall be deemed assigned to such Remnant Defendant.

F. **Res Judicata.** Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to reduce the scope of the *res judicata* or claim preclusive effect that the Settlement gives rise to under applicable law.

G. **Effectiveness.** The releases set forth in this Agreement shall not be impacted in any way by any dispute that exists, has existed, or may later exist between or among the Releasors. Nor shall such releases be impacted in any way by any current or future law, regulation, ordinance, or court or agency order limiting, seizing, or controlling the distribution or use of the Settlement Funds or any portion thereof, by the enactment of future laws or the reinterpretation of existing law, or by any seizure of the Settlement Funds or any portion thereof.

H. **Cooperation.** The Settling Parties agree to use their best efforts and to cooperate to cause this Agreement and the Consent Judgment to become effective, to obtain all necessary approvals, consents and authorizations, if any, and to execute all documents and to take such other action as may be appropriate in connection herewith. Consistent with the foregoing, the Settling Parties agree that they will not directly or indirectly assist or encourage any challenge to this Agreement or the Consent Judgment by any other person, and will support the integrity and enforcement of the terms of this Agreement and the Consent Judgment. Upon the Effective Date, Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel will also reasonably cooperate with the Remnant Defendants to secure the prompt dismissal of any and all Released Claims in the Actions and in any later-filed litigation implicated by the releases, covenants not to sue, and/or claim bars set forth herein.

I. **Liens.** Each Participating Subdivision agrees to be responsible for any liens, interests, actions, or claims asserted by any third party, in a derivative manner, for or against the portion of Opioid Remediation Funds allocated to that Participating Subdivision, including, without limitation, any derivative actions or claims asserted by any financial institutions, lenders, insurers, agents, representatives, successors, predecessors, assigns, attorneys, bankruptcy trustees, and any and all other entities that may claim through them in a derivative manner.

J. **Claims Excluded from Release.** Notwithstanding the foregoing, the releases provided herein shall not release claims of governmental entities that do not participate in the Settlement; claims arising solely from conduct by the Remnant Defendants that occurs after the Effective Date; claims against the Remnant Defendants other than the Released Claims; or claims alleging a breach of this Agreement or seeking to enforce this Agreement.

## **X. Miscellaneous Provisions**

A. **Population of Subdivisions.** The population figures for Subdivisions shall be the published U.S. Census Bureau's population estimates for July 1, 2019, released May 2020. These population figures shall remain unchanged during the term of this Agreement.

B. **No Admission of Liability or Wrongdoing.** The Parties agree to settle the Released Claims and to execute this Agreement solely to compromise and settle protracted, complicated, and expensive litigation. The Remnant Defendants do not admit liability or wrongdoing. Neither this Agreement nor the Consent Judgment shall be considered, construed or represented to be (1) an admission, concession or evidence of liability or wrongdoing or (2) a waiver or any limitation of any defense otherwise available to the Remnant Defendants.

C. **Voluntary Settlement.** Each Settling Party warrants and represents that it negotiated the terms of this Agreement in good faith, without any degree or duress or compulsion, and after consultation with competent legal counsel. The Settling Parties agree that throughout the course of the litigation of the Action, the Settling Parties and their counsel vigorously prosecuted their claims and/or defenses consistent with the applicable rules of procedure.

D. **Authorization to Enter Settlement Agreement.** The undersigned representatives of Remnant Defendants represent they are fully authorized to enter into and execute this Agreement on behalf of Remnant Defendants. Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel represent that they



are, pursuant to MDL Court appointment, expressly authorized to take all action required or permitted to be taken pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms and enter into and execute this Agreement and any modifications or amendments to this Agreement, on behalf of the Participating Subdivisions, that they deem appropriate.

E. **Integrated Agreement.** Except for any amendments, alterations, or modifications provided for under Section X.G., this Agreement, including its exhibits and any other attachments, and the Related Agreements, embodies the entire agreement and understanding between and among the Settling Parties relating to the subject matter hereof and supersedes (1) all prior agreements and understandings relating to such subject matter, whether written or oral, and (2) all purportedly contemporaneous oral agreements and understandings relating to such subject matter. It is understood by the Settling Parties that, except for the matters expressly represented herein, the facts or law with respect to which this Agreement is entered into may turn out to be other than or different from the facts now known to each party or believed by such party to be true. Each Settling Party therefore expressly assumes the risk of the facts or law turning out to be so different, and agrees that this Agreement shall be in all respects effective and not subject to termination by reason of any such different facts or law.

F. **Exhibits.** The exhibits to this Agreement are as follows all of which are incorporated by reference, *provided that* the descriptions of the exhibits below are for reference only and do not alter any other term of this Agreement:

**Exhibit A – List of Actions.** Lists lawsuits brought in state or federal court by or on behalf of Litigating Subdivisions against Remnant Defendants, coordinated under or parallel to MDL No. 2804.

**Exhibit B – Documents Describing Alleged Harms.** References non-exclusive examples of alleged past, present, and future financial, societal, and public nuisance harms and related expenditures.

**Exhibit C – List of Litigating Subdivisions.** Lists of all Litigating Subdivisions.

**Exhibit D – List of Opioid Remediation Uses.** Provides a non-exhaustive list of expenditures that qualify as being paid for Opioid Remediation. It includes core strategies and approved uses for settlement funds, such as naloxone distribution, medication-assisted treatment, prevention programs, and more.

**Exhibit E – Plan of Allocation.** The plan or formula for allocation of the Opioid Remediation Fund among Participating Subdivisions.

**Exhibit F – List of Remnant Defendants’ Joint Ventures, Subsidiaries, Affiliates, and Predecessor Entities.** Lists joint ventures, subsidiaries, affiliates, and predecessor entities of the Remnant Defendants.

**Exhibit G – Subdivision Settlement Participation Form.** Form that Participating Subdivisions must execute and return to participate in the settlement and receive payment.

**Exhibit H – Agreement on Attorneys' Fees, Costs, and Expenses.** Details the agreement regarding the allocation and payment of attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses from the settlement funds, including the structure of the Attorney Fee Fund, Common Benefit Fund, and Contingency Fee Fund.

G. **Amendment.** The terms and provisions of this Agreement may not be altered, amended, or modified except in writing signed by all Settling Parties.

H. **Execution in Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts and by different signatories on separate counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which shall together be one and the same agreement. One or more counterparts of this Agreement may be delivered by facsimile or electronic transmission with the intent that it or they shall constitute an original counterpart hereof. One or more counterparts of this Agreement may be signed by electronic signature. Counsel for the Settling Parties to this Agreement shall exchange among themselves original or scanned counterparts and a complete, assembled executed counterpart shall be filed with the MDL Court.

I. **Construction.** None of the Settling Parties shall be considered to be the drafter of this Agreement or of any of its provisions for the purpose of any statute, case law, or rule of interpretation or construction that would or might cause any provision to be construed against the drafter of this Agreement. The headings of the provisions of this Agreement are not binding and are for reference only and do not limit, expand, or otherwise affect the contents or meaning of this Agreement.

J. **Each Party to Bear Its Own Costs and Fees.** Except as otherwise provided herein, each Settling Party shall bear its own attorneys' fees and other litigation expenses and costs.

K. **Federal Rule of Evidence 408.** The Settling Parties agree that this Agreement, its terms and the negotiations surrounding this Agreement shall be governed by Federal Rule of Evidence 408 and shall not be admissible or offered or received into evidence in any suit, action, or other proceeding, except as provided in this Agreement, upon the written agreement of the Settling Parties hereto, pursuant to an order of a court of competent jurisdiction, or as shall be necessary to give effect to, or to declare or enforce the rights of the Settling Parties with respect to, any provision of this Agreement.

L. **Use of Agreement as Evidence.** Neither this Agreement nor the Settlement, nor any act performed, statement made, or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of this Agreement or the Settlement: (a) is, may be deemed to be, or may be used as an admission or evidence of the validity of any Released Claims, any allegation made in any Action, or any wrongdoing or liability of Remnant Defendants; or (b) is, may be deemed to be, or may be used as an admission or evidence of any liability, fault, or omission of the Released Entities in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in any court, administrative agency, or other tribunal. Neither this Agreement nor the Settlement, nor any act performed, statement made, or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of this Agreement or the Settlement shall be admissible in any proceeding for any purpose except to enforce the terms of the Settlement, and except that the Released Parties may file this Agreement and/or the Consent Judgment in any

action for any purpose, including, but not limited to, in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction, or any other theory of claim preclusion, issue preclusion, or similar defense or counterclaim. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement or otherwise, Remnant Defendants may file or use this Agreement and related materials in any action: (i) involving a determination regarding insurance coverage; (ii) involving a determination of the taxable income or tax liability of any Remnant Defendants; (iii) to support a claim for contribution and/or indemnification; or (iv) to support any argument or defense by a Remnant Defendant that the Pooled Settlement Amount provides a measure of compensation for asserted harms or otherwise satisfies the relief sought.

**M. Preservation of Records.** For five years following the Effective Date, (i) the Notice and Claims Administrator shall be required to keep, maintain, preserve, and otherwise refrain from altering, modifying, spoiling, deleting, removing, or destroying all records and data submitted in connection with any Participation Form; and (ii) each Participating Subdivision shall keep, maintain, preserve, and otherwise refrain from altering, modifying, spoiling, deleting, removing, or destroying all records and data supporting its Participation Form.

**N. Binding Effect.** This Agreement shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors and assigns of the Settling Parties.

**O. Notices.** All notices from or between the Settling Parties shall be in writing. Each such notice shall be given by: (a) email; (b) hand delivery; (c) registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage pre-paid; or (d) FedEx or similar overnight courier, to their representatives at the addresses set forth below or such other addresses as Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel or the Remnant Defendants may designate, from time to time, by giving notice to all Settling Parties in the manner described in this paragraph.

If directed to Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel, or Participating Subdivisions,  
address notice to:

Peter H. Weinberger  
SPANGENBERG SHIBLEY & LIBER  
1001 Lakeside Avenue East, Suite 1700  
Cleveland, OH 44114  
(216) 696-3232  
pweinberger@spanglaw.com

Jayne Conroy  
SIMMONS HANLY CONROY  
112 Madison Avenue, 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10016  
(212) 784-6400  
jconroy@simmonsfirm.com

Joseph F. Rice  
MOTLEY RICE  
28 Bridgeside Blvd.  
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464  
(843) 216-9000  
jrice@motleyrice.com

Paul T. Farrell, Jr., Esq.  
FARRELL & FULLER  
270 Munoz Rivera Ave., Suite 201  
San Juan, PR 00918  
(304) 654-8281  
paul@farrellfuller.com

If directed to the Remnant Defendants, address notice to:

**United Natural Foods, Inc.**

Kim J. Myrdahl  
Deputy General Counsel, Senior Vice President & Chief Compliance Officer  
United Natural Foods, Inc.  
Legal Department  
PO Box 990  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440  
kim.j.myrdahl@unfi.com

*With a copy (which shall not constitute notice) to:*

Joseph M. Vanek  
Greg Shinall  
Trevor K. Scheetz  
Sperling Kenny Nachwalter, LLC  
321 N. Clark St., 25th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60654  
jvanek@sperlingkenny.com  
shinall@sperlingkenny.com  
tscheetz@sperlingkenny.com

**J M Smith Corporation**

Robert M. Barrett  
General Counsel  
J M Smith Corporation  
9098 Fairforest Road  
Spartanburg, SC 29301  
rbarrett@jmsmith.com

*With a copy (which shall not constitute notice) to:*

John J. Haggerty  
Fox Rothschild LLC  
Stone Manor Corporate Ctr.  
2800 Kelly Road, Suite 200  
Warrington, PA 18975  
jhaggerty@foxrothschild.com

**Louisiana Wholesale Drug Company, Inc.**

Chad Gielen  
President  
Louisiana Wholesale Drug Co., Inc.  
2085 I-49 S. Service Rd.  
Sunset, LA 70584

*With a copy (which shall not constitute notice) to:*

Neil G. Vincent  
Allen & Gooch, ALC  
2000 Kaliste Saloom Road, Ste. 400  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70508  
neilvincent@allengooch.com

**Morris & Dickson Co., L.L.C.**

Jim Walden  
Walden Macht Haran & Williams LLP  
250 Vesey Street, 27th Floor  
New York, NY 10281  
jwalden@wmhwlaw.com

Russell Dickson  
General Counsel  
Morris & Dickson Co., L.L.C.  
PO Box 51367  
Shreveport, LA 71135  
rdickson@morrisdickson.com

**North Carolina Mutual Wholesale Drug Company, Inc.**

Clint Syvinski, Co-CEO  
Katie Zechman, Co-CEO  
North Carolina Mutual Wholesale Drug Co.

816 Ellis Rd.  
Durham, NC 27703  
csyvinski@mutualdrug.com  
kzechman@mutualdrug.com

*With a copy (which shall not constitute notice) to:*

Chris Graebe  
Morningstar Law Group  
434 Fayetteville St., Suite 2200  
Raleigh, NC 27601  
cgraebe@morningstarlawgroup.com

**Associated Pharmacies, Inc.; American Associated Pharmacies**

Clint King  
President  
Associated Pharmacies, Inc.  
211 Lonnie E. Crawford Blvd.  
Scottsboro, AL 35769  
clint@apirx.com

*With a copy (which shall not constitute notice) to:*

Carl S. Burkhalter  
S. Reeves Jordan  
Maynard Nexsen P.C.  
1901 Sixth Ave. N., Suite 1700  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
cburkhalter@maynardnexsen.com  
rejoordan@maynardnexsen.com

Any Settling Party may change or add the contact information of the persons designated to receive notice on its behalf by notice given (effective upon the giving of such notice) as provided in this Section X.O.

P. **Consent to Jurisdiction.** The Remnant Defendants, the Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel, and Participating Subdivisions (including all Releasers) hereby irrevocably submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the MDL Court only for the specific purpose of any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to the enforcement of this Agreement or the applicability of this Agreement. Solely for purposes of such suit, action, or proceeding, to the fullest extent that they may effectively do so under applicable law, the Remnant Defendants, the Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel, and the Participating Subdivisions and the Participating Subdivisions' Counsel irrevocably waive and agree not to assert, by way of motion, as a defense or otherwise, any claim or objection that they are not subject to the jurisdiction of the MDL Court or that the MDL Court is in any way an improper venue or an inconvenient forum. Nothing herein shall be construed as a submission to jurisdiction for any purpose other than any

suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to enforcement of this Agreement or the applicability of this Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing herein shall be construed as a submission to jurisdiction in any action involving a determination regarding insurance coverage.

**Q. Resolution of Disputes; Retention of Exclusive Jurisdiction.** Any disputes between or among the Remnant Defendants and any Participating Subdivision concerning matters contained in this Agreement, including the Plan of Allocation, shall, if they cannot be resolved by negotiation and agreement, be submitted to the MDL Court. The MDL Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction over the implementation and enforcement of the Settlement.

**R. Choice of Law.** This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and governed by, the applicable provisions of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Evidence, and the internal, substantive laws of the State of Ohio without giving effect to that State's choice of law principles.

**S. No Waiver.** No delay or omission by any Settling Party in exercising any rights under this Agreement will operate as a waiver of that or any other right. The waiver of any rights conferred hereunder shall be effective only if made by written instrument executed by the waiving Party or Parties. The waiver by any Party of any breach of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be or construed as a waiver of any other breach, whether prior, subsequent, or contemporaneous, nor shall such waiver be deemed to be or construed as a waiver by any other Party.

**T. Preservation of Privilege.** Nothing contained in this Agreement or any Consent Judgment, and no act required to be performed pursuant to this Agreement or any Consent Judgment, is intended to constitute, cause, or effect any waiver (in whole or in part) of any attorney-client privilege, work product protection, or common interest/joint defense privilege, and each Party and Participating Subdivision agrees that it shall not make or cause to be made in any forum any assertion to the contrary.

**U. Duty Not to Encourage Non-Participation.** Plaintiffs' Settlement Counsel agrees not to in any way encourage, promote, or solicit any Subdivision, or their counsel, to decline to participate in this Settlement, or seek any relief inconsistent with this Settlement.

**V. Tax Cooperation and Reporting.**

1. Upon request by any Remnant Defendant, the Participating Subdivisions agree to perform such further acts and to execute and deliver such further documents as may be reasonably necessary for the Remnant Defendant to establish the statements set forth in Section III.B. to the satisfaction of their tax advisors, their independent financial auditors, the Internal Revenue Service, or any other governmental authority, including as contemplated by Treasury Regulations Section 1.162-21(b)(3)(ii) and any subsequently proposed or finalized relevant regulations or administrative guidance.

2. Without limiting the generality of Section X.V.1., each Participating Subdivision shall cooperate in good faith with any Remnant Defendant with respect to any tax claim, dispute, investigation, audit, examination, contest, litigation, or other proceeding relating to this Agreement. The Settling Parties agree to cooperate in good faith to provide documentation and perform such further acts, reporting, or allocation to achieve maximum deductibility under the terms of this Agreement.
3. The Designated Subdivision, as defined in Section I.K., on behalf of all Participating Subdivisions, shall designate one of its officers or employees to act as the “appropriate official” within the meaning of Treasury Regulations Section 1.6050X-1(f)(1)(ii)(B) (the “*Appropriate Official*”). The Designated Subdivision shall direct and ensure that the Appropriate Official timely (a) files (i) at the time this Agreement becomes binding on the Settling Parties, an IRS Form 1098-F with respect to each of the Remnant Defendants and (ii) any legally required returns or amended returns with any applicable governmental authority, or any returns requested by the respective Remnant Defendant, and (b) provides to each of the Remnant Defendants a copy of (i) the IRS Form 1098-F filed with respect to such Remnant Defendant and (ii) any legally required written statement pursuant to any applicable law and any other document referred to in clause (a)(ii) above. Any such form, return, or statement shall be prepared and filed in a manner fully consistent with Section III.B.
4. The Participating Subdivisions agree that any return, amended return, or written statement filed or provided pursuant to Section X.V.3., and any similar document, shall be prepared and filed in a manner consistent with reporting each Remnant Defendant’s portion of the Pooled Settlement Amount as the “Total amount to be paid” pursuant to this Agreement in Box 1 of IRS Form 1098-F and each Remnant Defendant’s portion of the Compensatory Restitution Amount as “Restitution/remediation amount” in Box 2 of IRS Form 1098-F. If the Designated Subdivision or Appropriate Official shall be required to file any return, amended return, or written statement contemplated by this Section X.V. other than an IRS Form 1098-F, the Designated Subdivision shall direct and ensure that the Appropriate Official provides to each Remnant Defendant a draft of such return, amended return, or written statement in respect of such Remnant Defendant no later than sixty (60) calendar days prior to the due date thereof and shall accept and reflect any reasonable comments of such Remnant Defendant on the return, amended return, or written statement in respect of such Remnant Defendant.
5. For the avoidance of doubt, neither the Remnant Defendants nor the Participating Subdivisions make any warranty or representation to any Participating Subdivision or Releaser as to the tax consequences of any aspect of the Settlement or this Agreement.



W. **No Third-Party Beneficiaries.** Except as expressly provided in this Agreement, no portion of this Agreement shall provide any rights to, or be enforceable by, any person or entity that is not a Released Entity. No Participating Subdivision may assign or otherwise convey any right to enforce any provision of this Agreement.

X. **Confidentiality.** The terms of this Agreement shall remain confidential until Subdivision Settlement Participation Forms are submitted to Subdivisions pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, or the proposed order to establish qualified settlement funds is submitted to the MDL Court, whichever occurs first; *provided that*, prior to then the Settling Parties may disclose the terms of this Settlement to accountants, lenders, auditors, legal counsel, tax advisors, insurers, or consultants; or as part of any security or other disclosure required by law (as determined by a Settling Party and its counsel); or in response to a request by any governmental, judicial, or regulatory authority or otherwise required by applicable law or court order; and Participating Subdivisions may disclose the terms of the Settlement to any entity that has applied to serve as Notice and Claims Administrator, or Settlement Fund Administrator, who shall abide by the terms of this paragraph. Any formal press release by a Settling Party regarding this Settlement prior to entry of the Final Judgment shall be shared in advance with the other Settling Party, with a reasonable opportunity for comments and suggested changes.

\*\*\*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Settling Parties hereto, through their fully authorized representatives, have executed this Agreement as of the date set opposite their names.

**PLAINTIFFS' SETTLEMENT COUNSEL**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Settling Parties hereto, through their fully authorized representatives, have executed this Agreement as of the date set opposite their names.

**MORRIS & DICKSON CO., L.L.C.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Settling Parties hereto, through their fully authorized representatives, have executed this Agreement as of the date set opposite their names.

**UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Settling Parties hereto, through their fully authorized representatives, have executed this Agreement as of the date set opposite their names.

**LOUISIANA WHOLESALE DRUG  
COMPANY, INC.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Settling Parties hereto, through their fully authorized representatives, have executed this Agreement as of the date set opposite their names.

**J M SMITH CORPORATION**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Settling Parties hereto, through their fully authorized representatives, have executed this Agreement as of the date set opposite their names.

**ASSOCIATED PHARMACIES, INC.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATED  
PHARMACIES**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Settling Parties hereto, through their fully authorized representatives, have executed this Agreement as of the date set opposite their names.

**NORTH CAROLINA MUTUAL  
WHOLESALE DRUG COMPANY, INC.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_