

**RESOLUTION OF BUCKS COUNTY
ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS
SUPPORTING OPIOID LITIGATION**

WHEREAS, The Bucks County Association of Township Officials ("BCATO") is a county association of officials from twenty-nine (29) townships, formed under Section 1401 of the Second Class Township Code, [53 P.S. §66401]; and

WHEREAS, BCATO members consider and discuss issues pertinent to individual and regional township government, administration and policy; and

WHEREAS, Bucks County and municipalities within the County, are in the midst of an opioid crisis that is taking an enormous toll on the people and families, as well as impacting Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, and Health and Human Services with significant increased demand for services; and

WHEREAS, there has been an enormous fiscal impact to municipalities in Bucks County related to police services, health care costs, incarceration, emergency management services, child welfare, and public assistance; and

WHEREAS, beyond the fiscal impact, the human impact of this epidemic on the parents, spouses, children, siblings, and friends who have witnessed and experienced the suffering – and all too often the loss of life – of a loved one is beyond measure. The loss of the gifts and talents of those individuals to their families, communities, and employers remains forever; and

WHEREAS, treatment options for people with substance use disorders are limited, particularly for the under and uninsured; and

WHEREAS, In Bucks County, 232 lives were lost to drug-related deaths in 2017 up from 171 the previous year; and

WHEREAS, Bucks County and a number of individual municipalities within the County have filed lawsuits against prescription pain manufacturers, marketers and distributors in an effort to hold the same accountable for their role in the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, Bucks County and a number of individual municipalities within the County are conducting an ongoing investigation to evaluate whether manufacturers have engaged in unlawful practices in the marketing and sale of opioids; and

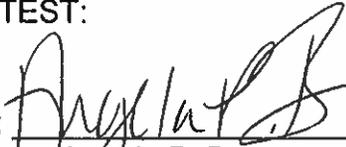
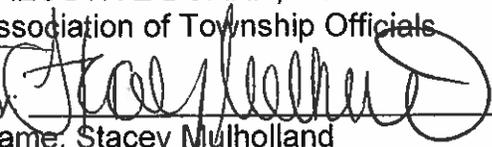
WHEREAS, BCATO strongly believes that individual municipalities may be entitled to recovery against painkiller manufacturers, marketers, and distributors and wishes to pursue Township recovery in the most efficient way possible; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Executive Board of the Bucks County Association of Township Officials, as follows:

1. BCATO supports litigation instituted by the County of Bucks, individual municipalities in the County and governments across the nation to bring the opioid crisis under control by seeking damages and other remedies against those who have created this crisis.
2. BCATO supports municipalities in Bucks County who choose to undertake legal action against, and seek compensation from, manufacturers, marketers, and distributors who have created this crisis.
3. A task force consisting of individuals appointed by the Executive Committee is hereby established for the purpose of collecting data concerning the economic and other impacts resulting from the manufacture, marketing and distribution

of opioids and to assist member municipalities in their efforts to hold manufacturers, marketers and distributors of opioids accountable.

RESOLVED, this 20th day of April, 2018.

<p>ATTEST:</p> <p>By: </p> <p>Name: <u>Angela P. Benner</u></p> <p>Title: <u>Executive Director</u></p>	<p>EXECUTIVE BOARD, The Bucks County Association of Township Officials</p> <p>By: </p> <p>Name: <u>Stacey Mulholland</u></p> <p>Title: <u>President</u></p>