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PRESS RELEASE

Council approves hiring outside counsel to recover opioid epidemic costs

News release from Alderman Michael J. Murphy

By Ald. Michael Murphy - Oct 15th, 2019 12:18 pm

Today the Common Council voted unanimously in favor of legislation that authorizes the City Attorney to hire outside counsel for litigation to recover expenses incurred by the city from the opioid crisis.

File #190817, sponsored by Alderman **Michael J. Murphy**, authorizes the City Attorney to retain the firm of Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC, of New York City to represent the City of Milwaukee in state or federal court in regard to potential opioid litigation.

Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC, has extensive experience representing municipalities and counties in excess of 250 cases seeking damages and remedies in regard to the opioid epidemic in various state courts and in the multi-district litigation pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Case No. 1:17-md-02804. Under the legislation the city would pay the firm “only from and in the event of a successful recovery by trial or settlement in the City’s favor.”

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The Council previously approved legislation (File #190458) to explore litigation options and to possibly file suit against drug

makers, distributors, and other parties that may be responsible for damages incurred by the City of Milwaukee due to the creation and perpetuation of the opioid epidemic.

Alderman Murphy, co-chair of the City-

County Heroin, Opioid and Cocaine Task Force, said he is pleased with the Council action today. "Opioid addiction has been a costly plague for the City of Milwaukee and retaining outside counsel to explore possible litigation helps the City explore the option of seeking damages from drug-makers. Thousands of governmental entities throughout the United States are filing lawsuits against those companies and distributors engaged in marketing prescription opioids and we are now represented by counsel to look at whether we should also move in that direction," he said.

More about the Opioid Crisis

- [Council approves hiring outside counsel to recover opioid epidemic costs](#) - Ald. Michael Murphy - Oct 15th, 2019
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- [Wisconsin Not Settling With OxyContin Manufacturer](#) - Brady Carlson - Oct 2nd, 2019
- [Milwaukee Experiencing Unprecedented Number of Drug Overdoses](#) - Isiah Holmes - Sep 25th, 2019
- [Kaul Rejects Settlement with Oxycontin](#) - Melanie Conklin - Sep 12th, 2019
- [Opioid Settlement Could Aid County](#) - Isiah Holmes - Sep 4th, 2019
- [U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin Announces Nearly \\$5.2 Million in Federal Funding to Reduce Opioid Overdoses in Wisconsin](#) - U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin - Sep 3rd, 2019
- [Inside State's First 24/7 Opioid Treatment Center](#) - Isiah Holmes - Aug 29th, 2019

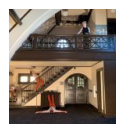


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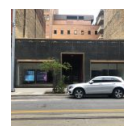
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