



NEWS RELEASE

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Town of Zionsville joins fight against opioid distributors

Mayor Tim Haak has announced the Town of Zionsville will join a public nuisance lawsuit against wholesale drug distributors in an effort to hold accountable the companies responsible for dumping millions of dollars' worth of prescription opiates into the community and making the opioid epidemic possible.

The Town has filed suit against the country's three largest wholesale drug distributors – AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson Corporation. These three companies, with combined annual revenues of \$400 billion and profits in the billions of dollars, together control more than 80 percent of the market for prescription opioids.

The Town is working with a consortium of law firms to hold pharmaceutical drug manufacturers and wholesale distributors accountable for failing to do what they were charged with doing under the federal Controlled Substances Act – monitor, identify and report suspicious activity in the size and frequency of opioid shipments to pharmacies and hospitals. The Town will be obligated to pay no taxpayer dollars under this arrangement.

"Wholesale drug distributors have failed in their legal obligation to monitor, report and halt suspicious shipments of opioids," said Mayor Tim Haak. "Zionsville is joining other Indiana communities to hold these manufacturers and distributors accountable so we can protect the health and safety of our residents."

The law firms working on the lawsuit include: Baron & Budd; Levin, Papantonio, Thomas, Mitchell, Rafferty & Proctor; Greene Ketchum Bailey Farrell & Tweel; Hill, Peterson, Carper, Bee & Deitzler; McHugh Fuller Law Group; and Taft Stettinius & Hollister, LLP.

Zionsville joins 23 other area communities including, but not limited to: the cities of Noblesville, Westfield, Fort Wayne, Greenwood, Muncie, Terre Haute, Evansville and more.

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