



Office of

Attorney's Matters 03/05/2024

# INDIAN RIVER COUNTY ATTORNEY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Indian River County Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator

FROM: William K. DeBaal, County Attorney

DATE: February 27, 2024

SUBJECT: Additional Allotment of Opioid Class Action Lawsuit Settlement Payout from Manufacturers Settlement

**BACKGROUND.** Please recall that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) heard presentations at its January 9, 2024, meeting from parties interested in receiving allotments from the Manufacturers Settlement. At that meeting, the Board allotted funds as follows:

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Indian River County Sheriff	\$350,000	for improvements to the treatment wing
Substance Awareness Center	\$200,000	consisting of \$150,000 for jail treatment program and \$50,000 for a needs assessment study
IRC Mental Health Collaborative	\$40,000	for education, training and public awareness
19 <sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Drug Court	\$305,000	for in and out-patient treatment
Treasure Coast Homeless Council	\$282,000	for housing out-patient and jail release housing
Total	\$1,177,000	

Initially it was thought that the County would receive about \$1,100,000 from the Manufacturers Settlement, but the final payout figure was increased to \$1,276,139.70. The Board did not award the full amount of the FY 2023-24 payout, leaving a surplus of \$99,139.70. Since that time staff has learned that the payouts from the Manufacturers Settlement funds and the awards allotted to the local entities can "roll over" to the next fiscal year and will not be swept up or deducted from future annual payouts.

The Public Safety Council for Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse ("Council") held its regularly scheduled quarterly meeting on February 23, 2024. The Council discussed recommending allotment of the surplus amount of \$99,139.70 left over from the Manufacturers Settlement. A representative from the Substance Awareness Center stated

that her organization was awarded \$50,000 for a needs assessment study and \$150,000 for a jail treatment program. She also stated that the needs assessment study had already begun and that with an additional allotment of \$60,000, the study could be expedited and a dashboard could be added that could be accessed by all recipients of the Manufacturers Settlement allotments. After a brief discussion, the Council recommended the Board allot an additional \$60,000 to the Substance Awareness Council to expedite the needs awareness study and to add the dashboard. The Council also chose to recommend to rollover the remaining balance of \$39,139.70 to FY 2024-25, as the payout from the Manufacturer's Settlement will be about 50% less than the FY 2023-24 payout.

**RECOMMENDATION.** The County Attorney's Office recommends that the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners discuss the recommended allotments made by the Public Safety Council for Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse and allot the funds as the Board deems appropriate.

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