

**STARKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION 2021- 008**

**MULTI-STATE OPIOID LITIGATION:
REPRESENTATION, OPT-OUT REVIEW**

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF STARKE COUNTY, INDIANA (the "COMMISSIONERS"), after consultation with the County Attorney and review of recent communication from Atty. J. Burton LeBlanc on behalf of the firm currently representing Starke County, a named party in the Multi-State Opioid litigation, to wit: Baron and Budd, P.C. firm of Dallas, TX find that the recent enactment of Ind. Code 4-6-15 has caused, or may cause, significant changes in the status of this important litigation.

The Commissioners note that Atty. LeBlanc advised in favor of addition of Indianapolis based law firm Cohen & Malad as counsel for Starke County to assist the Commissioners in determining whether to opt-out of inclusion in any litigation pursued by the Attorney General of Indiana under IC 4-6-15, and if so, for assistance in effectively executing an opt-out. The Commissioners are advised that June 23, 2021 is the deadline for execution of an opt-out.

The Commissioners are advised that inclusion of Cohen & Malad will not incur any costs nor will it affect Starke County's share of any settlement or award in this litigation.

WHEREFORE the Board of Commissioners of Starke County Indiana, RESOLVES to APPROVE the addition of Cohen & Malad and directs the County Attorney to promptly convey their approval to Cohen & Malad and to initiate with them a review of the advisability of an opt-out for Starke County, and if it is deemed appropriate to plan and effectuate an opt-out for final decision by the Board at their regular June 7, 2021 public meeting.

RESOLUTION adopted by the following vote:

Board of Commissioners of Starke County, Indiana

VOTE

Absent

Charles Chesak, President

YES


Bryan Cavender, Vice President

YES


Mark Gourley, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Rachel Osterreich, Auditor
Of Starke County Indiana