

## STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

**NEWS RELEASE** 

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CONTACT: Suzie Weigel 701.328.2210 snweigel@nd.gov

## ATTORNEY GENERAL DREW WRIGLEY URGES CONSUMERS TO CHECK ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPENSATION FOR INFLATED GENERIC DRUG PRICES

**BISMARCK**, **ND** - Attorney General Drew Wrigley is urging consumers to check their eligibility for compensation for certain generic drug purchases as he joins 50 states and territories in seeking preliminary approval for a \$39.1 million settlement with generic drug manufacturer Apotex over conspiracy to inflate prices and limit competition.

Attorney General Wrigley and the multistate coalition previously announced the settlement in principle with Apotex last fall along with a \$10 million settlement with Heritage Pharmaceuticals. At the time of that announcement, the settlement with Apotex was conditioned on the signatures of all necessary states and territories. Those signatures have been obtained, and the coalition has filed the settlement today in U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut in Hartford.

If you purchased a generic prescription drug <u>listed here</u> between May 2009 and December 2019, you may be eligible for compensation. To determine your eligibility, call 1-866-290-0182 (Toll-Free), email <u>info@AGGenericDrugs.com</u>, or visit <u>www.AGGenericDrugs.com</u>.

The settlement agreements resolve allegations that both Apotex and Heritage engaged in widespread, long-running conspiracies to artificially inflate and manipulate prices, reduce competition, and unreasonably restrain trade for numerous generic prescription drugs. As part of the settlement agreements, both Apotex and Heritage have agreed to cooperate in the ongoing multistate litigations against 30 corporate defendants and 25 individual executives. Both companies have further agreed to injunctive relief to prevent future misconduct and a series of internal reforms to ensure fair competition and compliance with antitrust laws.

North Dakota is among a coalition of nearly all states and territories filing three antitrust complaints, starting first in 2016. Each complaint addresses a different set of drugs and defendants and lays out an interconnected web of collusion and conspiracies that promoted illegal agreements that raised prices for generic drugs and enforced an ingrained culture of collusion among generic drug manufactures.

"We are working hard to return money to North Dakota consumers who paid too much for their medications because of the collusion and conspiracies in some segments of the pharmaceutical industry," Wrigley said. North Dakotans can help in the effort of identifying those who should receive compensation by checking whether they are eligible to receive compensation for generic drug purchases.