



The Office of  
**Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison**

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January 14, 2020

Honorable Michael Nelson  
Chair, State Government Finance Division  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
585 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Honorable Mary Kiffmeyer  
Chair, State Government Finance and  
Policy and Elections Committee  
Minnesota State Senate  
95 University Avenue West  
Minnesota Senate Building, Room 3103  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Honorable Tony Albright  
Ranking Minority Member, State Government  
Finance Division  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
259 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Honorable Jim Carlson  
Ranking Minority Member, State  
Government Finance and Policy and  
Elections Committee  
Minnesota State Senate  
95 University Avenue West  
Minnesota Senate Building, Room 2207  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: Report Required Under Minn. Stat. § 15C.16**

Dear Chairs and Ranking Members:

As you know, the Minnesota False Claims Act (“MFCA”), section 15C.16, requires this Office to report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the Senate and House of Representative Committees with jurisdiction over state government finance by January 15 of each year on activities carried out under Chapter 15C during the prior calendar year. Pursuant to this requirement, I provide the following information:

- 60 complaints were received in 2019, where a claim was made that included, in part, Minn. Stat. § 15C.05. Most of these complaints were filed primarily under the Federal False Claims Act.
- In 2019, the Office obtained recoveries of \$3,194,888.78, with \$3,175,805.19 being disbursed to the Minnesota Department of Human Services (“DHS”) pursuant to federal Medicaid fraud provisions, and \$19,083.59 being disbursed to other various state agencies. There were 23 cases in which the Office either declined to intervene and/or the relators dismissed the case.

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- In 2019, 1,144 attorney hours and 863.9 non-attorney hours were spent on activities under the MFCA.<sup>1</sup>

Please be advised that this Office continues to be a member of the National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units (“NAMFCU”) and through this participation works in conjunction with other states and with the United States Department of Justice to pursue recoveries under the Federal False Claims Act.

Sincerely,



LIZ KRAMER  
Solicitor General

(651) 757-1010

cc: Legislative Reference Library

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<sup>1</sup> The Attorney General’s Office incurred additional time in pursuing the State of Minnesota’s claims (including a claim pursuant to Minnesota Statutes chapter 15C) against Purdue Pharma in its opioid-related litigation. *See State of Minnesota v. Purdue Pharma L.P., et al.*, Court File No. 27-CV-18-10788 (filed July 2, 2018 in Hennepin County District Court). This matter was initiated as an investigation in 2017, and litigation commenced in 2018. During 2019, approximately 1,200 hours of attorney and investigator time was devoted to this matter, but almost all of that time was related to other litigation and bankruptcy issues, and is not specifically attributable to prosecution of the State’s False Claims Act case. This matter is identified in this report pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 15C.16, subpart 3, because additional attorney and investigator time is anticipated to be necessary in the future related to the False Claims Act issue.