

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-548**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAW FIRM OF KANNER AND WHITELEY, LLC, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, TO EXECUTE A NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN PROPOSED DISTRIBUTOR AND JOHNSON AND JOHNSON NATIONWIDE OPIOID SETTLEMENTS AND TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF VINELAND TO REACH A TENTATIVE RESOLUTION THERETO, SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Vineland has heretofore retained the Law Firm of Kanner and Whiteley, LLC, New Orleans, Louisiana to represent the City of Vineland in litigation necessary to recover damages from the manufacturers and distributors of opioids among other responsible parties who have allegedly caused drug dependencies; and

**WHEREAS**, settlement discussions have been on going in New Jersey as well as other affected states nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to participate in certain discussions with Distributor and Janssen (Johnson and Johnson) it has been recommended by the Law Firm that the City opt in preliminarily in the proposed settlement subject to a final decision to participate in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council upon the recommendation of its Legal Counsel finds it to be in the best interest of the City to opt-in to the settlement discussions subject to a final determination by the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Vineland that the City by and through its attorney Kanner and Whiteley, LLC, shall opt-into the settlement discussions with three pharmaceutical distributors (McKesson, Cardinal and AmerisourceBergen) and Johnson and Johnson, an opioid manufacturer.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Law firm of Kanner and Whiteley, LLC are hereby authorized to register the City of Vineland on the national opioids settlement website to ensure that Vineland will receive continued updates on the settlement negotiations and to register to receive participation agreements for Distributor and Janssen Settlement Agreements.

Adopted:

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President of Council

ATTEST:

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City Clerk