

National Opioid Settlement: Kroger Co.

Watsonville city, CA

Rubris Reference Number: CL-789817

***TO LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS:
THIS NOTICE CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT A NEW
NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT.***

KROGER CO. SETTLEMENT OVERVIEW

A proposed nationwide settlement agreement (“Settlement”) has been reached that would resolve the legal claims of states and local political subdivisions against regional supermarket pharmacy Kroger Co. related to alleged misconduct related to opioids.

The Settlement requires Kroger Co. to pay over a billion dollars to abate the opioid epidemic. Of this amount, approximately \$1.2 billion will be used by participating states and subdivisions to remediate and abate the impacts of the opioid crisis. Depending on participation by states and subdivisions, the Settlement requires payments over eleven years after its effective date.

The Settlement also contains injunctive relief governing opioid dispensing practices and requires Kroger Co. to implement safeguards to prevent diversion of prescription opioids.

The proposed settlement has two key participation steps.

First, each eligible state decides whether to participate in each Settlement. A list of participating states for each settlement can be found at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com>.

Second, eligible subdivisions within each participating state decide whether to participate in the Settlement. The more subdivisions that participate, the more funds flow to that state and its subdivisions. Any subdivision that does not participate cannot directly share in any of the settlement funds, even if the subdivision’s state is settling and other participating subdivisions are sharing in settlement funds. If the state does not participate, the subdivisions in that state are not eligible to participate in the Settlement.

WHO IS RUBRIS INC. AND WHAT IS THE IMPLEMENTATION ADMINISTRATOR?

The Settlement provides that an Implementation Administrator will provide notice and manage the collection of participation forms. Rubris Inc. is the Implementation Administrator for this new Settlement and was also retained for the prior national opioid settlements.

WHY IS YOUR SUBDIVISION RECEIVING THIS NOTICE?

Your state has elected to participate in the Settlement, and therefore your subdivision may participate in that Settlement. This notice is also sent directly to counsel for such subdivisions if the Implementation Administrator has their information.

If you are represented by an attorney with respect to opioid claims, please contact them. **Subdivisions can participate in the Settlement whether or not they filed a lawsuit or are represented.**

WHERE CAN YOU FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Detailed information about the Settlement, including each settlement agreement, may be found at: <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com>. This website also includes information about how the Settlement are being implemented in most states and how funds will be allocated within your state.

You are encouraged to review the settlement agreement terms and discuss the terms and benefits with your counsel, your Attorney General's Office, and other contacts within your state. Information and documents regarding the Settlement and your state allocation can be found on the settlement website at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com>.

Your subdivision will need to decide whether to participate in the proposed Settlement, and subdivisions are encouraged to work through this process before the **September 11, 2024**, deadline.

HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT?

The Settlement requires that you take affirmative steps to "opt in" to the Settlement.

In the next few weeks, you will receive documentation and instructions from the Implementation Administrator or, in some cases, your Attorney General's Office. In order to participate in a settlement, a subdivision must sign and return the required Participation Form.

Please add the following email addresses to your "safe" list so emails do not go to spam / junk folders: dse_na3@docusign.net and opioidsparticipation@rubris.com. Please monitor your email for the Participation Form and instructions.

All required documentation must be signed and returned on or before **September 11, 2024**.