January 15, 2025

VIA E-MAIL

Rep. Jim Nash, Chair State Government Finance and Policy Committee Minnesota House of Representatives St. Paul, MN 55155

Rep. Ginny Klevorn, DFL Lead State Government Finance and Policy Committee Minnesota House of Representatives St. Paul, MN 55155 Senator Tou Xiong, Chair State and Local Government Committee Minnesota State Senate St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Andrew Lange, Ranking member State and Local Government Committee Minnesota State Senate St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Report Required By Minn. Stat. § 15C.16

Dear Members:

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:

• In 2024, 26 complaints were received where a claim was made pursuant to the authority in Minnesota Statutes section 15C.05. Most of these complaints asserted claims primarily under the authority provided by the Federal False Claims Act.

- In 2024, the Office obtained recoveries in matters involving Chapter 15C claims of \$1,186,596.00. There were 27 cases in which the Office either declined to intervene or the relator dismissed the case. The Office intervened in one MFCA case in 2024; certain MFCA cases were resolved by civil settlement prior to an intervention decision by the Office.
- In 2024, 1,370.8 attorney hours and 1,089.2 non-attorney hours were spent on activities under the MFCA.¹

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

Sincerely,

JESSICA WHITNEY
Deputy Attorney General

(651) 300-7404 (Voice) (651) 296-9663 (Fax) jessica.whitney@ag.state.mn.us

cc: Legislative Reference Library

5978961-v1

_

¹ 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. Purdue Pharma entered bankruptcy in 2019 and the state's litigation was stayed. During 2024, approximately 164 hours of attorney time were devoted to this matter, with some of that time related to bankruptcy issues and not specifically attributable to prosecution of the State's MFCA claim. This matter is identified in this report pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 15C.16, subpart 3, because if the litigation stay is lifted, additional attorney and investigator time may be required related to the MFCA issue.