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CITY CLERK

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When making inquiries relative to
this matter, please refer to the
Council File No.: [18-0293](#)

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

May 2, 2018

Council File No.: [18-0293](#)

Council Meeting Date: May 01, 2018

Agenda Item No.: 25

Agenda Description: CONSIDERATION OF MOTION (KREKORIAN - WESSON) relative to authorization for the City Attorney to enter into a contract with the firm Robbins Geller Rudman and Dowd LLP for assistance with opioid pharmaceuticals litigation.

Council Action: MOTION (KREKORIAN - WESSON) - ADOPTED

Council Vote:

YES	BOB BLUMENFIELD
YES	MIKE BONIN
YES	JOE BUSCAINO
YES	GILBERT A. CEDILLO
YES	MITCHELL ENGLANDER
YES	MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
YES	JOSE HUIZAR
YES	PAUL KORETZ
ABSENT	PAUL KREKORIAN
YES	NURY MARTINEZ
YES	MITCH O'FARRELL
YES	CURREN D. PRICE
YES	MONICA RODRIGUEZ
YES	DAVID RYU
YES	HERB WESSON

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MOTION

The current opioid epidemic facing our country is a drug crisis of unprecedented proportion. Statistics produced by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, which serves as the public health officer for the City of Los Angeles, indicate that in 2016 there were 353 opioid overdose deaths, 719 opioid overdose emergency department visits and 4,631,087 opioid prescriptions written in Los Angeles County.

The City is directly impacted by the increasing prescription, usage and addiction of opioids – most poignantly through the death, physical debilitation and financial destruction of too many members of our community and their families. This crisis also places tremendous financial and human resource burdens on the City’s law enforcement, emergency response, public health and other services.

The City Attorney’s Office has determined that there is a valid basis for the City to bring a lawsuit challenging the actions of pharmaceutical manufacturers as being deceptive and fraudulent marketing practices in violation of federal and state laws. The City Attorney seeks to obtain Council's authority to retain Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP to assist in the representation of the City in this litigation. There will be no general fund expenditure as the Firm will be retained on a contingency fee basis.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council authorize the City Attorney to negotiate and execute a contract with the firm of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP to assist his office in any litigation filed on behalf of the City against pharmaceutical manufacturers or other businesses associated with the distribution of opioid pharmaceuticals.

ORIGINAL

Presented by: Paul Krekorian
PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

Seconded by: Steve Wenzel


APR 10 2018