



# MATTHEW J. PLATKIN

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## *Attorney General*



*Resolution Secures Millions of Dollars to the State for Prevention,  
Treatment, and Recovery; Requires Unprecedented Public Disclosure*

**For Immediate Release: July 8, 2021**

**Office of The Attorney General**

– Gurbir S. Grewal, Attorney General

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overall resolution will be approximately 2.75 percent of the funds available to the States for distribution from the bankruptcy proceeding, in an amount likely to exceed an estimated \$110 million.

The resolution will also make public tens of millions of Sackler family and Purdue Pharma documents related to their role in the opioid epidemic.

Filed in bankruptcy court Wednesday evening and still subject to the court's approval, the agreement announced today requires unprecedented disclosure about the role Purdue and the Sacklers played in creating and sustaining the opioid epidemic.

Among other things, it requires Purdue and the Sacklers to make public more than 30 million documents, including attorney-client privileged communications about the original FDA approval of Purdue's flagship opioid painkiller OxyContin, as well as tactics used by Purdue to promote opioids. It also requires the Sackler defendants to make one of the largest payments that individuals have paid to resolve a law enforcement action in U.S. history.

"With their reckless push to drive up profits by saturating society with highly-addictive opioid painkillers, the Sacklers and Purdue Pharma harmed millions of individuals and families in New Jersey and across the country," said Attorney General Grewal. "As I've said previously, these defendants were morally bankrupt before they ever declared actual



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diverted opioids, and about the billions of dollars Purdue paid out to the Sacklers.

In addition to the total \$4.325 billion to be paid out to jurisdictions that sued Purdue Pharma and the Sacklers, thousands of individual victims of Purdue's misconduct will also receive compensation as part of the bankruptcy process.

Under the terms of the resolution, the Sacklers will be permanently banned from the opioid business and Purdue will be sold or wound down by the end of 2024.

The resolution also requires the Sacklers to relinquish control of family foundations presently holding \$175 million in assets to the trustees of a foundation dedicated to abating the opioid epidemic. Further, the Sackler family will be prohibited from requesting or permitting any new naming rights in connection with charitable or similar donations or organizations for the next nine years.

New Jersey's lawsuits, filed in October 2017 and May 2019, accused Purdue Pharma and the Sackler defendants of seeking to become unimaginably rich by deceptively promoting their company's opioid pain medications as rarely addictive, seeking to flood the market with Purdue's opioid pain products by encouraging risky prescribing practices, and by targeting vulnerable new patient populations such as the elderly.



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Practice Group, and Assistant Attorney General Kevin Cooper and Janine Matton, handled the Purdue and Sackler matters on behalf of the State.

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