

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-001

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
DRUG DEALER LIABILITY ACT LAWSUIT**

The Town of Bluff City Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting in regular session on the 19th day of April, 2021, a quorum being present and a majority voting in the affirmative, hereby RESOLVES as follows:

WHEREAS, Town of Bluff City, as well as other counties in Tennessee and in surrounding states, has experienced an epidemic related to the distribution and use of opioids by its citizens that has generated critical issues and problems for the Town of Bluff City, including but not limited to opioid addiction by the Town of Bluff City citizens, drug overdose deaths, the birth of drug dependent babies, a rise in criminal charges convictions for the illegal sale and use of opioids as well as other crimes resulting from the opioid abuse epidemic, including but not limited to burglary, theft, and fraud, and the loss of productivity of the citizens in the workplace, damage and destruction to the family unit, all resulting from the illegal sale, distribution, and use of opioids in the Town of Bluff City;

WHEREAS, District Attorney Barry Staubus is the duly elected District Attorney General for the 2nd Judicial District of the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, General Barry Staubus brought a lawsuit in 2017 through the law firm of Branstetter, Stranch & Jennings, PLLC to recover money for the Town of Bluff City under Tennessee's Drug Dealer Liability Act ("DDLA"), and that lawsuit is pending in Sullivan County Circuit Court;

The Town of Bluff City Board of Mayor and Alderman hereby RESOLVES that it fully supports the lawsuit, approves of the actions taken in the lawsuit thus far on its behalf, approves of the lawsuit going forward with the Town of Bluff City as the named plaintiff, and retains District Attorney Barry Staubus and the law firm of Branstetter, Stranch & Jennings, PLLC as counsel in this matter and any other opioid-related lawsuit.

Irene Wells

Irene Wells, Mayor

Attest:

Sharon Greene

Sharon Greene, City Recorder

Approved as
to form:

J. Paul Frye

J. Paul Frye, City Attorney