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ATTORNEY GENERAL STEVE MARSHALL APPLAUDS PRESIDENT TRUMP'S INITIATIVE TO STOP OPIOID ABUSE

(MONTGOMERY) -- Attorney General Steve Marshall issued the following statement today praising President Donald Trump for introducing his Initiative to Stop Opioid Abuse and Reduce Drug Supply and Demand:

"I want to thank President Trump for his dedication to fight the terrible blight of opioid abuse in America. Opioid abuse is an epidemic that ignores cultural and political boundaries; it affects all of us -- and thus demands a response that includes all of us.

"While I am still reviewing the specifics of President Trump's initiative, I am heartened to see that his outline includes many of the recommendations of Alabama's Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council; recommendations such as improved prescription monitoring, increased access to treatment and recovery support for persons suffering from opioid addiction, and legislation targeting low-dosage, super-lethal drugs like fentanyl.

"My hope is that, in the coming months, President Trump and Attorney General Sessions will work side-by-side with state and local officials to turn these ideas into reality. Together, we can conquer what the President has rightly called the 'Crisis Next Door.'"

On August 8, 2017, Governor Kay Ivey named Attorney General Marshall co-chair of the Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council, a Council that the Governor established to "develop and submit a strategic action plan to the Governor by December 31, 2017, that establishes recommendations for policy, regulatory and legislative actions to address the overdose crisis in Alabama." That Council issued its 74-page Action Plan on December 31, 2017.

On February 6, 2018, Attorney General Marshall filed a lawsuit against Purdue Pharma L.P., a major manufacturer and seller of prescription opioid pain medications. Alabama ranks first in the nation for the number of painkiller prescriptions per capita. The State's lawsuit alleges that Purdue deceptively marketed their opiates to physicians and consumers, thereby causing over-prescriptions that have resulted in addictions and deaths throughout Alabama. AG Marshall and his litigation team are presently engaged in court-ordered settlement conferences with Purdue and other opioid manufacturers and distributors.

[Link](#) to President Trump's Opioid Initiative

[Link](#) to Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addition Council's Action Plan

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