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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Prosecutor Mat Heck's Statement on Montgomery County's Settlement with Rite Aid in Opioid Litigation**

**DAYTON, OH (7/15/2022)** – Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck issued a statement today following the announcement of Rite Aid's settlement of opioid claims with Montgomery County.

Prosecutor Heck stated, "The purpose of the lawsuits against the opioid manufacturers, distributors, and retail pharmacies that dispense opioids is to hold these companies accountable for their actions and to receive funds to help abate the damage caused by the opioid crisis.

"This settlement with defendant Rite Aid will immediately provide Montgomery County with at least \$1,250,000 and as much as \$3,500,000. These funds will be used for drug treatment and prevention programs, public education, and for support and training for first responders in appropriate practices and precautions when dealing with fentanyl or other drugs.

"In March 2021, the Federal Court selected five cases nationwide for trial against the pharmacy defendants as "bellwether" cases and this settlement with Rite Aid was one of those cases. This lawsuit and settlement will serve as an example for the numerous other cases pending against the pharmacy defendants.

"We are pleased that we were able to reach this settlement agreement and receive this money for the benefit of the citizens of Montgomery County in combatting opioid addiction. My office will continue its litigation against the remaining defendants to obtain additional resources from those responsible for this epidemic to help us deal with this crisis."

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For more information, contact Greg Flannagan, Public Information Officer, at 937.225.5610 or [info@mcpo.com](mailto:info@mcpo.com)