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State AG Cooperation on Opioids: A Model for Protecting Consumers

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Attorneys general have been quick to compare ongoing opioid litigation to efforts in the late 1990s, when they led the charge to address public health concerns resulting from tobacco use. On the heels of a \$26 billion settlement offered by four companies alleged to have contributed to the opioid epidemic, it will be interesting to see what lessons states and companies have learned and where they go from here.

In this article published in *Reuters*, Troutman Pepper attorneys Stephen Piepgrass, Rachel Buck, and Chris Carlson discuss the following topics:

- Will the opioid settlement shift the expectation that proceeds be distributed to directly combat harms?
- What will be the localities' role?
- Looking forward — what's next?

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