1	RESOLUTION NO.	
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3	A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC IN THE	
4	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND IN ARKANSAS; AND TO	
5	ENGAGE IN LITIGATION AS A MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL	
6	LEGAL DEFENSE PROGRAM AGAINST THOSE ENTITIES AND	
7	PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SOCIETAL CRISIS; AND FOR	
8	OTHER PURPOSES.	
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10	WHEREAS, our Nation and the State of Arkansas have suffered substantially by virtue of the	
11	addiction and dependency on opioids, both legally prescribed and criminally secured; and,	
12	WHEREAS, on October 26, 2017, the President of the United States of America declared the opioid	
13	crisis to be a "public health emergency," and;	
14	WHEREAS, Arkansas' hospitals and rehabilitation centers cannot keep pace with the flood of	
15	victims; and,	
16	WHEREAS, Arkansas has been ranked as the No. 2 state in the Nation in per capita prescriptions of	
17	opioid medications in 2016; and,	
18	WHEREAS, in 2013, the cost of prescription opioid dependence, abuse and overdose was \$78.5	
19	Billion Dollars for the nation as a whole: and,	
20	WHEREAS, in 2015 an estimated 12.131 billion dosage units (pills) were prescribed nationally	
21	equating to 97.36 pills per household; and,	
22	WHEREAS, based upon the number of opioid prescription issued in 2016 it has been estimated that	
23	every man, woman and child, regardless of age would have 37.5 pills in hand at any given time; and,	
24	WHEREAS, drug overdose fatalities in 2016 across the nation numbered 64,000 people while traffic	
25	fatalities for the same period number approximately, 40,200; and,	
26	WHEREAS, municipal governments have born a substantial financial and societal burden fighting	
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 	 WHEREAS, in 2013, the cost of prescription opioid dependence, abuse and overdose was \$78. Billion Dollars for the nation as a whole: and, WHEREAS, in 2015 an estimated 12.131 billion dosage units (pills) were prescribed nationally equating to 97.36 pills per household; and, WHEREAS, based upon the number of opioid prescription issued in 2016 it has been estimated that every man, woman and child, regardless of age would have 37.5 pills in hand at any given time; and, WHEREAS, drug overdose fatalities in 2016 across the nation numbered 64,000 people while traffic fatalities for the same period number approximately, 40,200; and, 	

1	NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY			
2	OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:			
3	Section 1. There is an acute need to address the opioid crisis in this State.			
4	Section 2. Joining the efforts of other MLDP members to bring litigation against those responsible			
5	for this and as advised by the MLDP, the City Manager, the Mayor and the City Attorney are hereby			
6	authorized to execute any necessary paperwork to bring the City in to this litigation. ¹			
7	Section 3. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or			
8	word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or			
9	adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution which shall remain in full force and			
10	effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the			
11	resolution.			
12	Section 4. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with			
13	the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency			
14	14 ADOPTED: January 2, 2018.	ADOPTED: January 2, 2018.		
15	15 ATTEST: APPROVED	:		
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¹ All facts and figures cited herein were provided by the office of the Arkansas Drug Director and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.