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3M Corporation Pays Additional \$7M to Columbus as Part of Forever Chemical Lawsuit Settlement

*Second installment puts total settlement payments to city at over \$10 million
with more anticipated*

COLUMBUS, OH—Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein today announced that the 3M Corporation transferred \$7.1 million to the City. The funds are the second installment of a settlement agreement from a lawsuit the City filed against major chemical companies who produced dangerous compounds known as forever chemicals, which have been found in the environment and everyday household items and have been linked to numerous health issues. To date, Columbus has received over \$11 million in settlement funds from this lawsuit with more installments anticipated.

“Corporations that knowingly produce dangerous or defective products that threaten public health and safety should be held accountable. The City has now recouped more than \$11 million from 3M alone, and we anticipate more installments as this settlement unfolds and more corporations are held accountable for their negligence,” said Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein.

[In its lawsuit](#), Columbus joined numerous other cities to argue companies that produced forever chemicals knew of the dangers and failed to warn consumers and the public about the risks associated with these chemicals. Over time, these chemicals can build up in the body as well as the environment, which may cause health problems or contaminate soil, air and/or water sources.

Klein noted that Columbus Water and Power operates a fully staffed Water Quality Assurance Laboratory, which closely monitors the city’s water supply to ensure it is safe, and has been monitoring forever chemical levels for years. The City’s water currently meets or exceeds all drinking water standards, however future technology upgrades to the City’s water infrastructure, which serves Columbus and more than 20 local suburbs, may be required. A portion of settlement funds may be set aside to make any necessary improvements, as determined by City Council and the administration.

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