City Attorney Zach Klein secures $2.28 million more for Columbus in "forever chemical" lawsuit settlement

Corporations have now paid out over $13 million to the City with more settlement funds anticipated

COLUMBUS, OH— Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein today announced the City received $2.28 million more in settlement funds from its lawsuit against several major chemical companies for their negligence in the production of forever chemicals. The latest transfer from major chemical producer DuPont now puts the City's total settlement funds at over $13 million, with more expected as the case continues.

> **"Columbus ratepayers shouldn't be on the hook for any infrastructure upgrades that may be needed down the line due to the negligence of these corporations who knowingly produced dangerous forever chemicals,"** said Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein. **"Companies like DuPont made the mess, and now it's time to pay up. So far, we've delivered $13 million to the City with more likely on the way."**

In its lawsuit, the City joined hundreds of other cities in arguing that companies like DuPont knowingly produced forever chemicals despite the dangers and failed to warn consumers and the public about the risks associated with these chemicals. Over time, forever chemicals can build up in the body and environment, which may cause health problems or contaminate soil, air and/or water sources.

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 chemical levels for years. The City's water currently meets or exceeds all drinking water standards, however future tech upgrades to the City's infrastructure, which serves Columbus and more than 20 local suburbs, may be required. A portion of settlement funds may be set aside for these improvements.

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