

## **\$2.8 BILLION SETTLEMENT REACHED IN BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD ANTITRUST CASE**

***'Monumental: Beasley Allen helps secure the largest antitrust settlement in the history of the U.S. healthcare industry.'***

**Montgomery, AL** (October 15, 2024) - A historic \$2.8 billion settlement was announced on October 14, 2024, by the Provider side settlement team in the Blue Cross Blue Shield MDL, a long-running antitrust lawsuit representing healthcare providers nationwide. A dedicated committee, including Beasley Allen's Dee Miles, negotiated this landmark settlement over several years.

The settlement involves all Blue Cross and Blue Shield entities across the country and includes a \$2.8 billion cash payment and significant investments in system improvements.

The settlement aims to resolve claims that the Blues violated antitrust laws by dividing markets and fixing prices. It also introduces important changes to the BlueCard Program, improving how claims are processed and payments are made to providers, reducing administrative burdens and inefficiencies.

Additionally, the settlement provides healthcare providers more opportunities to contract with the Blues. To ensure compliance, a monitoring committee will oversee the changes for five years.

Over the past twelve years, the providers' lawyers, led by a team of this nation's best lawyers, have spent approximately \$100 million, most of which was used to develop the most extensive collection of healthcare claims data in any case in history and for leading healthcare antitrust economists to evaluate that data and to develop econometric models for the case.

Beasley Allen's Dee Miles, along with Rebecca Gilliland and Jessi Haynes, played vital roles in the discovery phase, uncovering critical documents and testimony that led to this landmark settlement. "Our firm played a key role in the success of this litigation, and we are thrilled with the result," said Dee Miles, Consumer Fraud section head for the firm. "We look forward to implementing this settlement and delivering the long-desired relief to healthcare providers across the country."

The Court is expected to review the Motion for Preliminary Approval in November. A formal notice will be sent to all class members at a later date determined by the Court.

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