

From: Jennifer C. Rey <jrey@hoganlawfirm.com> **On Behalf Of** countyattorney.sumtercounty.fl
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2023 3:35 PM
To: Arnold, Bradley <Bradley.Arnold@sumtercountyfl.gov>
Cc: countyattorney.sumtercounty.fl <countyattorney.sumtercounty.fl@hoganlawfirm.com>
Subject: FW: PFAS Litigation - Withlacoochee River Water Supply Authority

Brad,

As Sumter Co. doesn't operate a water system, there would not be a duplicate effort should the WRWSA desire to pursue this, and no basis to determine any damage or harm. The only other issue I see would be if any city utility has a potential claim or is pursuing a claim, but I am not aware of any such claims or actions. I would suggest placing the correspondence on the agenda for the BOCC, and have the member of the WRWSA address the issue for discussion.

Sincerely,

Jennifer

Jennifer C. Rey, Esq.



*We mean business*SM

20 S. Broad Street
Post Office Box 485
Brooksville, Florida 34605
(352) 799-8423 Telephone
(352) 799-8294 Facsimile
jennifer@hoganlawfirm.com
www.hoganlawfirm.com

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From: Arnold, Bradley <Bradley.Arnold@sumtercountyfl.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 1:02 PM
To: countyattorney.sumtercounty.fl <countyattorney.sumtercounty.fl@hoganlawfirm.com>
Subject: FW: PFAS Litigation - Withlacoochee River Water Supply Authority

Bradley Arnold
County Administrator
Board of Sumter County Commissioners
Tel: 352-689-4400
Fax: 352-689-4401
www.sumtercountyfl.gov

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From: Robert Batsel <RBatsel@lawyersocala.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2023 1:00 PM
To: Robert Batsel <RBatsel@lawyersocala.com>
Cc: James Hartley <jhartley@lawyersocala.com>; Heidi Carlman <HCarlman@lawyersocala.com>
Subject: PFAS Litigation - Withlacoochee River Water Supply Authority

County and City Attorneys,

Good morning. I represent the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (“WRWSA”), which includes a representative from each of your respective cities and counties. Attached, you will find an email from Attorney Matthew Foreman, which includes a letter from his co-counsel, Christina Cossich. As you will glean from your review, they (along with other firms listed in the letter) represent public entities in connection with the pending PFAS litigation.

At the WRWSA Governing Board’s last meeting, I provided this letter to the Board with a brief report. Before requesting any action from the Board, I suggested that we first notify each of you and provide an opportunity for you to review and share any thoughts on whether the WRWSA should pursue a claim. First and foremost, I am interested in whether a claim brought by WRWSA would duplicate or conflict with efforts of your city or county on its own behalf. If so, then any objection of a member city or county will probably lead me to advise against the WRWSA’s direct involvement. If there are no valid objections from our member cities and counties, then we will proceed with evaluating whether the WRWSA has been damaged as a result of drinking water contamination, site contamination, or otherwise.

I have blind copied each of our member County and City Attorneys, and, if accessible in my contacts or online, each WRWSA Board member, City Manager and County Administrator. Please note that I am unable to locate contact information for Board members or staff with the City of Brooksville, City of Belleview, and City of Bushnell, but have copied WRWSA staff and am

requesting that this email be forwarded to Councilman Bailey, Commissioner Smith, and Commissioner Swain, together with their respective City Managers.

Upon your review, please reply or call me to discuss any thoughts. Our March meeting has been cancelled, but I would like to gather any relevant feedback before the end of the month in order to properly prepare for our May meeting, which may include working with outside counsel to identify potential damages and arrange a presentation.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration and feedback. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best regards,

Rob

Robert W. Batsel, Jr.

Gooding & Batsel, PLLC

1531 Southeast 36th Avenue

Ocala, Florida 34471

T: (352) 579-1290

D: (352) 579-6845

F: (352) 579-1289

Email: rbatsel@lawyersocala.com

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