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HealthTrust Recovers Entire \$17.1 Million from Property-Liability Trust; Prepares to Issue Checks to Towns, Schools, Local Governments

Prior settlement agreement between HealthTrust and Property-Liability Trust (PLT) terminated, as updated actuarial analysis shows PLT can pay full judgment amount.

Concord, NH – Today, HealthTrust, Inc. announced it has reached agreement with Property-Liability Trust, Inc. (PLT) for payment of the entire \$17.1 million owed HealthTrust as a result of a January, 2014 New Hampshire Supreme Court decision. HealthTrust plans to distribute the funds to its Members – cities, towns, school districts, counties and other local governmental groups – as soon as practicable. HealthTrust and PLT have also agreed to terminate a prior settlement agreement, implemented in January, as it is no longer needed.

"HealthTrust Members will be very excited to hear we have recovered the entire amount owed and that those funds will be flowing back to them as soon as possible," said HealthTrust Executive Director Peter Bragdon. "Having the January Settlement Agreement in place gave us the time to fully analyze the situation and we were pleasantly surprised to find that positive developments in the claims history meant PLT could pay the \$17.1 million owed while still meeting their coverage obligations."

When the Supreme Court issued its January ruling, it was believed PLT did not have sufficient funds to pay the debt to HealthTrust and also pay its property liability and workers' compensation obligations, thus rendering PLT insolvent. At the time, HealthTrust and PLT implemented a settlement agreement whereby PLT transferred all of its assets and coverage obligations to HealthTrust, who would administer the operation of the coverage lines in order to maximize the amount HealthTrust could ultimately recover.

Recent independent actuarial reports of the property liability and workers' compensation coverage lines show that, due in large part to positive claims development in those coverage lines, PLT would have sufficient funds to both pay the \$17.1 million judgment to HealthTrust and also meet all of its coverage obligations to its claimants. With that in mind, the boards of directors for both HealthTrust and PLT have agreed to terminate the January Settlement Agreement, with PLT also agreeing to immediately pay \$17.1 million to HealthTrust.

Once the \$17.1 million is received, the HealthTrust board of directors has approved distribution to HealthTrust Members either as a direct payment or as a so-called contribution holiday, which is essentially a credit against upcoming invoices.



"HealthTrust is committed to distributing these funds to our Members as soon as practicable," said Bragdon. "It will take several weeks to compute and verify the amounts for each Member, but the payments will be made soon. This is good news for our Members and New Hampshire taxpayers."

Termination of the January settlement agreement means all property liability and workers' compensation assets and coverage obligations will return to PLT, who will resume direct operation of those coverage lines.

In April, HealthTrust announced it would be able to distribute \$13.9 million of recovered funds to HealthTrust Members, pending approval of state regulators. Bragdon said that the \$17.1 million distribution announced today was not in addition to the \$13.9 million, but instead supplanted it.

About HealthTrust, Inc.

HealthTrust, Inc. (<u>www.healthtrustnh.org</u>) provides high-quality, cost-effective employee benefit products and services for public employers and employees in New Hampshire in order to reduce costs through pooling strategies with a commitment to education, health promotion and disease prevention.

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