

Opioid-Related News and the Courts

Weekly Review

September 30, 2022



National

[Biden announces \\$1.5B in funding to battle opioid overdoses, support recovery](#)

The Hill

The \$20.5 million in recovery supports will connect those in the drug court system with community resources to aid their behavioral health and the \$12 million in law enforcement funding will foster public safety partnerships and prevention of gun crime related to drug trafficking.

National

[Barriers to medications for opioid use disorder in the court system: provider availability, provider “trustworthiness,” and cost](#)

Health and Justice Journal

Our aims were to explore court team members’ 1) perceptions of availability of local trustworthy MOUD providers, 2) characteristics associated with perceptions of availability of local trustworthy MOUD providers, including beliefs about MOUD efficacy, and 3) perceptions of MOUD affordability.

Respondents were more likely to agree that *local* MOUD providers are more available than *trustworthy* MOUD providers. Perceptions of trustworthy provider availability differed significantly by MOUD type and were associated with MOUD efficacy beliefs. Qualitative results suggest that MOUD providers offering counseling and individualized treatment are more trustworthy.

National

[The Drug Crisis: Problems and Solutions for Local Policymakers](#)

Manhattan Institute

This paper, therefore, explores options for local policymakers to respond to the drug crisis. In particular, it considers six frequently discussed local-scale policies:

- Naloxone access and distribution
- Investing in treatment capacity
- Drug court programs
- Wastewater tracking
- Supervised consumption sites
- Drug market interventions

Virginia[Triumph and tragedy, stories of addiction](#)

Southwest Times

The first to share his story of addiction was Chris Rakes, a Pulaski Drug Court graduate who spoke of how substance abuse took so much from him.

“Worst of all, my substance abuse stole my identity, my dignity, and my self worth,” said Rakes. “Those were the hardest to get back.”

“I constantly struggled with being independent,” he said. “Only to realize I was [chemically] dependent.”

When Rakes realized the situation he was in, he started [to] fight it.

“... I was determined to experience sobriety and long-term recovery,” said Rakes. He gave a lot of credit for his sobriety to the drug court program.