

Opioid-Related News and the Courts

Weekly Review

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Michigan

[Breaking the cycle: Baby courts expanding in Michigan](#)

WOOD TV

A Michigan program protecting kids and aiming to end multigenerational abuse is expanding.

It's known as a baby court, a specialized track within family court, where mental health therapists work intensively to help parents and kids up to 4 years old.

"It's important because these are the developmental milestones for a human being," said Dorene Allen, a Midland County judge who works on baby court cases. "The first five years are absolutely critical for development physically, socially."

Therapists are assigned to parents experiencing mental health problems, substance abuse, homelessness and more. The goal is [to prevent] abuse and if possible, ultimately reuniting kids with their families.

New Hampshire

[A new law could make it easier to access an effective opioid addiction treatment in NH](#)

New Hampshire Public Radio

A recent change in federal law could expand Granite Staters' access to one of the most effective treatments for opioid addiction, by making it easier for more physicians to prescribe buprenorphine.

Also known by the brand name Suboxone, the medication works by reducing cravings for drugs like heroin and fentanyl. It and other forms of medication-assisted treatment have been shown to keep people in treatment longer and reduce the risk of overdose.

Previously, health care providers had to obtain a special waiver from the Drug Enforcement Administration before prescribing it. A provision in the spending package Congress passed late last year removed that requirement.



New Mexico

[Let's Talk medically assisted treatment for addiction in jails](#)

KUNM

Let's Talk New Mexico 1/12 8am: Medications like methadone and suboxone could help save lives and increase people's chances of entering into or staying in recovery when given to people in prison or jail. Moreover, the department of justice recently released guidance that denying these treatments could be considered a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Plus, they reduce recidivism and lower costs. So why is it still so rare to see these medications offered when someone ends up behind bars?

Oregon

[Peer mentors are key to Oregon's Measure 110 success, but they are working in a broken system](#)

Oregon Public Media

On a Thursday morning in September, the smell of homemade meatloaf filled the air inside a mid-century brick church on the northwest side of Ontario.

Steven Wolf greeted patrons as they walked up to the back door. Wolf is a peer mentor, a job that Stringer recruited him into. The two graduated from drug court together before becoming peers.

