

Opioid-Related News and the Courts

Weekly Review

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National

[Jefferson County had first over-the-counter Narcan sale in the U.S](#)

WWTI

Narcan is now on store shelves.

On August 31, Kinney Drugs became one of the first pharmacies in the country to offer Narcan nasal spray. This was the first time the opioid overdose reversal drug was sold over the counter.

“Anyone can purchase Narcan nasal spray,” Kinney Drugs Pharmacist Natalie Powers said. “There’s no age limit, there’s no prescription required, and there’s no ID required.”

New Hampshire

[Jails, prisons are ‘default’ medical providers, and taxpayers are paying](#)

New Hampshire Bulletin

Like the Department of Corrections, jails are seeing increases in the number of inmates who need medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder. [Travis Cushman, superintendent of the Merrimack County jail], said 28 percent of his jail population is on MAT.

County jails have been required by law to provide that treatment for opioid addiction since 2021.

Cushman, like other jail superintendents, is hoping to recover some of those costs with funding from the [New Hampshire Opioid Abatement Trust Fund](#). The county has requested \$1.1 million to cover its costs for the last three years.

Ohio

[Greater Cleveland Drug Court celebrates 25th anniversary; welcomes back graduates](#)

19 News

[The Greater Cleveland Drug Court](#) celebrated its 25th anniversary on Friday at the Holiday Inn in Independence.

Hundreds of people filled the conference center at the hotel to celebrate thousands of people getting help and recover[ing].

Drug court began the transition of treating addiction as a criminal problem, to a public health issue.

“It has been very gratifying to participate in a kinder, gentler, approach to substance use disorder,” Honorable Lauren C. Moore, Drug Court Judge said. “Tough love, accountability, and positive reinforcement are strategies that have proven to be very impactful.”

Virginia

[Participants needed for group on substance, opioid misuse in Halifax County](#)

Gazette-Virginian

A similar project, Engaging Martinsville, was successful in developing strategies to address the opioid epidemic in Martinsville and Henry County, including establishing a drug court and raising public awareness of the seriousness of the opioid crisis and everything being done in the community to address the problem.

Opioids, drugs typically prescribed for the treatment of pain, have been over-prescribed and misused for several years, leading to what healthcare experts have termed an “opioid crisis.”