



## Opioids and the Courts News: April 10, 2018

### National

[Legal Services Corporation's Annual Forum on Increasing Access to Justice - "Access to Justice and the Opioid Epidemic" \(video\)](#)

Legal Services Corporation

### Participants

Jay Chaudhary, managing attorney of Indiana Legal Services (7:10 – 16:25)

Judge Patricia Keller of the West Virginia Sixth Circuit Family Court (17:00 – 23:30)

Stephanie Harris, development director with the Ohio State Legal Services Association (16:55 – 24:05 – 27:00)

Vermont Chief Justice Paul Reiber (27:00 – 32:45)

Indiana Chief Justice Loretta Rush (33:00 – 39:00)

### National

[NAWJ 2018 Midyear Meeting](#)

National Association of Women Judges

The Opioid Crisis and The Criminal Justice System: A Call to Action

Moderator: Hon. Ellen Biben, Administrative Judge, Supreme Court, Criminal Term, New York County, NY

Panelists:

Fiona Doherty, Clinical Professor of Law, Director, Criminal Justice Clinic, Yale Law School, New Haven, CT

Hon. Craig Hannah, Judge, Buffalo City Court, Opiate Intervention and Adolescent Diversion Courts, Erie County, NY, Nation's first Opioids Courts

Frances Rudnick Levin, MD, Kennedy-Leavy Professor of Clinical Psychiatry, Chief, Division on Substance Abuse, Columbia University; Director, Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship Program, New York Presbyterian Hospital.

Richard S. Schottenfeld, M.D., Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Professor of Psychiatry, Howard University College of Medicine, Washington, D.C.

### Georgia

[Georgia selected as one of 15 national sites for improving the care ...](#)

The Atlanta Voice



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Douglas County Juvenile Court, under the leadership of Judge Peggy Walker, has been named as a demonstration site for coming up with ways to help infants and families affected by substance abuse.

With a small grant from the federal government (~\$70,000 a year for three years), Judge Walker hopes to develop a model for Georgia's juvenile courts to be able to quickly identify and serve infants whose parents have abused opioids and other substances.

### Maine

[High court critical of state's handling of adoption case](#)

Lewiston Sun Journal

Paisley is among a growing number of Maine children who have been born into the opioid crisis and her story highlights how the crisis has strained an already fractured and overburdened child welfare system.

...

“Especially in light of the tragedies caused by the opioid addiction epidemic, it is important to honor the Legislature’s purpose to provide for the early placement of children whose parents cannot care for them with other family members so that the children can grow up with a strong sense of family identity and are not deprived of the lifetime connection that a childhood and adolescence shared with siblings or other relatives can provide,” [Chief Justice Leigh Saufley] wrote.

### New Hampshire

[NH's Judiciary Responds to the Opioid Crisis](#)

UNH Law School

Join us for a discussion and Q&A with New Hampshire Judges The Warren B. Rudman Center for Justice, Leadership and Public Service and the Health Law and Policy Program at UNH School of Law, in collaboration with the NHBA Health Law Section, will be hosting a panel discussion about how our legal system should be responding to the opioid crisis in New Hampshire. The discussion will share how the drug court works in practice and also how is-sues of addiction have infiltrated the courtroom by virtue of the impact on individuals and families.

### Wisconsin

[Opioids approaching meth in terms of toll on region | Leader-Telegram](#)

Leader Telegram



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In recent years methamphetamine abuse has ravaged the Eau Claire area, but painkillers and other opioid drugs that have prompted concerns nationally have shown up in growing numbers during the past year, local officials said.

While meth use has left its mark in the form of rampant crime, endangered children and an overcrowded court system and jail, opioid abuse all too often has an even more tragic impact: death.