



# Opioids and the Courts News: May 9, 2018

## National

### [Opioids and the Courts](#)

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

The growing epidemic of opioids has been declared a national emergency. Many experts say there is no immediate end in sight for this epidemic. It is critical that courts and communities are properly resourced and educated and collaborate to address this public health crisis.

## National

### [Children of the Opioid Epidemic](#)

New York Times

In 24 states and the District of Columbia, the use of any illegal substance during pregnancy constitutes child abuse, and in Minnesota, South Dakota and Wisconsin, it is grounds for civil commitment: court-ordered institutionalization — say, to a drug-treatment program — regardless of the woman’s wishes or needs (using a drug once doesn’t mean she is addicted to it).

## National

### [Stimulants: Is a New Drug Crisis Looming?](#)

National Cocaine, Meth, and Stimulant Summit

The opioid crisis clearly has outpaced all other topics as the story of the year in addiction, and 2018 promises a repeat. Yet with all the justifiable attention to opioid addiction and overdose, is there danger that the next lurking trend in substance use will emerge as a full-blown epidemic before enough people notice?

In pockets of the country, including Florida, Maine and parts of the West, some research experts are pointing to recent increases in cocaine and methamphetamine arrests and deaths as evidence of what one observer calls a “smoldering” stimulant crisis. So far, the response from policy-makers and other leaders has been minimal.

## Michigan

### [More funding needed in opioid battle, researcher says](#)

University of Michigan

More funding is needed to address the opioid epidemic that is projected to cost the United States economy \$200 billion by 2020, a University of Michigan researcher says.



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In an article published in JAMA Psychiatry, Rebecca Haffajee, assistant professor of health management and policy at the School of Public Health, says funding has been insufficient to face the epidemic that in 2016 took the lives of 116 people per day.