

**Date** August 04, 2023

## **Attorney General Moody's Week in Review - Aug. 4, 2023**



Our nation is in the midst of an opioid crisis, being exacerbated by illicit fentanyl, coming across the Southwest border in record amounts. This crisis is having a devastating impact on Florida families, claiming thousands of lives every year.

This week, I traveled to the western-most point of our state—Florida’s closest county to the Southwest border—with grim news. A new report shows illicit fentanyl from Mexico continues to ravage our state.

With local law enforcement leaders from the area, we highlighted portions of the report that show the Pensacola Medical Examiners District has the highest per capita death rate for opioid-related deaths in the state, with 42 out of every 100,000 residents overdosing with opioids in their system.

This four-county area, which includes Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton counties, has double the opioid-related death rate than the state average of 21 per

100,000.

When comparing this data from 2020, we see fentanyl deaths in the region skyrocketed by more than 140%. This is terrifying news, but not shocking given the record amounts of fentanyl crossing the border and moving into Florida through Interstate 10.

Sadly, drugs are not the only threat caused by the border chaos.

Following our announcement, just one county over, news broke about a sting operation targeting child sex exploitation. Nearly 40% of those arrested in the operation in Bay County were in the country illegally.

While Florida law enforcement continues to face these threats head on, my attorneys are fighting in court in an effort to force the federal government to protect the American people and secure the border.

But there is hope, our office has won several of these cases in federal court and law enforcement continues to interdict large amounts of deadly fentanyl before they can kill Floridians.

We will keep fighting to build a Stronger, Safer Florida.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ashley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.

## In The News

**State Attorney General tags Northwest Florida as deadliest district for opioid overdoses, WEAR-TV Pensacola**

[Read More](#)

**Local District Is The Deadliest In The State For Opioid Overdoses, North Escambia.com**

[Read More](#)

**Pensacola medical district ranks No. 1 in Florida opioid deaths; double state average, Pensacola News Journal**

[Read More](#)

**AG Moody, law enforcement sound alarm over Panhandle opioid deaths, The Center Square Florida**

[Read More](#)

**SCAM ALERT: Attorney General Ashley Moody Warns About Screen-Sharing Scams, Space Coast Daily**

[Read More](#)

**Florida Attorney General warns against artificial intelligence scams, ABC 20 Gainesville**

[Read More](#)

**Moody encourages Floridians to attend 'National Night Out Against Crime' events, Florida's Voice**

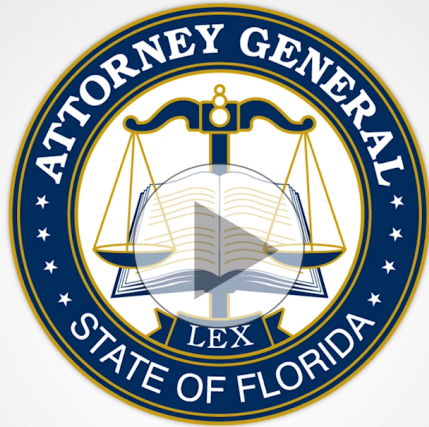
[Read More](#)

**John Walsh Will Keynote Ashley Moody's 2023 Human Trafficking Summit, Florida Daily**

[Read More](#)

## Protecting Floridians

**VIDEO: AG Moody Encourages Floridians to Participate in Programs Supporting Law Enforcement Ahead of National Night Out Against Crime**



Attorney General Ashley Moody

Ahead of National Night Out Against Crime, Attorney General Ashley Moody encouraged Floridians to participate in programs designed to help build bonds between Florida law enforcement and local communities.

[Read More](#)

**VIDEO: SUMMER SCAMS SERIES: Attorney General Moody Warns About Screen-Sharing Scams**





Attorney General Ashley Moody is continuing the Summer Scams Series: Tech Traps with a warning about screen-sharing scams.

[Read More](#)

## Events

This week, Attorney General Ashley Moody, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Florida Highway Patrol and local law enforcement leaders announced new statistics on opioid overdose deaths in the Pensacola Medical Examiner's District and warned Floridians that one pill can kill.



Attorney General Moody meeting with staff members in the OAG Pensacola office.



Attorney General Moody, joined by Associate Deputy Attorney General Nicholas Weilhammer, presenting the office's White Hat Award to Research and Legal Information Coordinator Erica Lee. Following Hurricane Ian last year, Erica coordinated the volunteer schedule for disaster recovery centers and ensured safe arrivals by communicating up-to-date travel advisory information. The White Hat Award is given to OAG team members who demonstrate extraordinary effort and skill in fulfilling the mission of the office.

# OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL ASHLEY MOODY





Attorney General Moody delivering the keynote address at the Florida Highway Patrol graduation ceremony for the 151st Recruit Class in Tallahassee.



The Florida Attorney General's Citizen Services department donated a large stockpile of school supplies to a local elementary school in Tallahassee this week as part of the department's First Friday monthly theme.

