

Date September 16, 2022

Attorney General Moody's Week In Review - Sept. 16, 2022



This week, I held a security briefing with the former DEA Administrator, former White House Drug Czar, Florida law enforcement leaders and Families Against Fentanyl to discuss the growing threat posed by the vast quantities of illicit fentanyl flooding across the southwest border.

In July alone, U.S. Customs and Border Protection seized enough fentanyl to kill the entire U.S. population, and we know even more is getting through undetected. It takes just two milligrams of this highly toxic substance to kill a full-grown adult. Recent reports suggest that nearly half of all counterfeit pills seized by law enforcement contain this deadly drug.

Fentanyl is now the number one killer of American adults 18 to 45, and mass casualty events are becoming more common. On Fourth of July weekend in [Gadsden County](#), 19 people overdosed. Later that same month, seven people were found unresponsive in [Tampa](#) on one day. During spring break, six students, four of whom were [West Point cadets](#), overdosed on fentanyl-laced cocaine in Wilton Manors.

This toxic, synthetic opioid is so dangerous that it can cause harm to those who don't even intentionally use it. In the case involving West Point cadets, two of the overdose victims suffered medical complications after simply administering first aid to other overdose victims.

The threat fentanyl poses to our state and nation is real. There is also growing concern that it could be weaponized, so I am renewing my demands that President Joe Biden classify illicit fentanyl a weapon of mass destruction—and I am leading a bipartisan coalition of 18 attorneys general in this nationwide push.

I want to encourage all Floridians to never use any illicit drug and if they see something suspicious, contact law enforcement by calling 1(855) FLA-SAFE.

Stay safe, Florida.



In The News

'Weapon of mass destruction': Florida AG, law enforcement leaders urge Floridians to fight against fentanyl, CBS 10 Tampa Bay

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Attorney General Ashley Moody, multiple law enforcement agencies warn of Fentanyl crisis in Tampa Bay, ABC Action News

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18 AGs call on Biden to classify illicit fentanyl as weapon of mass destruction, The Center Square

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Florida Attorney General warns of growing fentanyl problem, WFLA Tampa

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