

COUNTYWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE April 17, 2019 MEETING

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 140
Los Angeles, California 90012

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT

Chair Pro Tem: Erika Anzoategui, Acting County Alternate Public Defender

Jenny Brown for Ricardo Garcia, County Public Defender

Liliana Campos for Mary Wickham, County Counsel

Anne Clark for Michel Moore, Chief, Los Angeles Police Department

Mike Davis for David Downing, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

Peter Espinoza, Director, Office of Diversion and Reentry

Dana Garcetti for Janice Hahn, Supervisor, Fourth District and Chair of the County Board of Supervisors

Michael Garcia for Sam Ohta, Supervising Judge, Criminal Division, Superior Court

*Jesse Holguin for Mark Garrett, Chief, Southern Division, California Highway Patrol

T. Warren Jackson for Ed Eng, County Economy and Efficiency Commission

Dan Jeffries for Mike Feuer, Los Angeles City Attorney

Nicola Hanna, U.S. Attorney

Shawn Landres, Chair, County Quality & Productivity Commission

Jonathan Lucas, County Coroner – Chief Medical Examiner

*Daryl Narimatsu for Austin Beutner, Superintendent, Los Angeles Unified School District

*Bryan Oh for Richard Llewellyn, Los Angeles City Administrative Officer

Robert Olmstead for Alex Villanueva, Sheriff

Robert Philibosian, Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County

Devallis Rutledge for Jackie Lacey, District Attorney and Vice Chair of CCJCC

Robin Toma, Executive Director, County Human Relations Commission

Robin Toma for Otto Solorzano, Director, County Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services

Felipe Vasquez for Debra Duardo, Superintendent, County Office of Education

Andrea Welsing for Barbara Ferrer, Director, County Department of Public Health

Lance Winters for Xavier Becerra, California Attorney General

***Not a designated alternate**

I. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Erika Anzoategui, Acting County Alternate Public Defender, Chair Pro Tem

The meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m. by Erika Anzoategui, Acting County Alternate Public Defender, Chair Pro Tem.

Self-introductions followed.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Erika Anzoategui, Acting County Alternate Public Defender, Chair Pro Tem

There were no requests for revisions to the minutes of the February 20, 2019 meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes.

ACTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2019 meeting was seconded and approved without objection.

III. INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS TO COMBAT THE OPIOID CRISIS

Ben Barron, Assistant U.S. Attorney

Mike Davis, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

Lieutenant Glenn Walsh, Sheriff's Department

Lieutenant Tom Giandomenico, Sheriff's Department

Detective Art Stone, Los Angeles Police Department

Dr. Lello Tesema, Department of Public Health – Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (DPH-SAPC)

Dr. Jonathan Lucas, Chief Medical Examiner - Coroner

Following U.S. Attorney Nicola Hanna's presentation at the February 20th CCJCC meeting, this committee agreed that a comprehensive presentation would be made at today's meeting on the topic of opioid-related issues impacting the criminal justice system.

Mark Delgado, Executive Director of the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC), provided an outline of the planned discussion.

Mr. Delgado stated that a number of presenters have been invited to address the committee and provide high-level overviews of this issue from various perspectives, including both law enforcement and public health approaches. The strategies discussed are part of a multi-dimensional partnership to combat opioid addiction in the county.

U.S. Attorney's Office

Ben Barron, Assistant U.S. Attorney, discussed the Federal Opioid Program in the United States Attorney's Office of the Central District of California (which includes Los Angeles County and six other counties). The three goals of this program are enforcement, outreach, and cooperation.

The enforcement aspect focuses on the criminal element of the problem. Outreach includes informational campaigns directed at all levels of education, ranging from

elementary to college and professional schools. Finally, cooperation involves sharing information with both administrative and law enforcement partners.

Mr. Barron noted that while the magnitude of opioid overdoses is not as great in this area as in other areas of the country, local rates of overdoses have been increasing. The efforts being made by the U.S. Attorney's Office are intended to both stop the increase in overdoses before the problem gets worse, and to address the use of this region as a hub for distribution to the rest of the country.

A lot of prescription drugs are distributed from here due to corrupt doctors, pharmacists, and wholesalers, as well as heroin coming across the border and fentanyl being illegally imported from China. Organized criminal groups use this region as a hub to send the drugs to other locations.

Mr. Barron provided an example of a recent case in which two local pharmacy owners had been convicted of ordering a large amount of vicodin and oxycodone and shipping the drugs throughout the country.

There are three tactical diversion squads in this district that consist of representatives from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG), Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation (IRS-CI), and state and local law enforcement agencies.

There have thus far been criminal prosecutions of the following:

- 35 prescribers (doctors, physician's assistants, etc.)
- 11 pharmacists and pharmacy owners
- 3 drug wholesale company owners
- 8 clinic owners
- 14 clinic employees
- 35 indictments (29 since 2014)

As indicated above, the vast majority of these prosecutions have happened since 2014, and there have been many recently.

The U.S. Attorney's Office has been enhancing its work with data analysis, which can efficiently and effectively utilize resources to provide a holistic picture of the crime and identify the worst offenders.

One example of using aggressive data mining to identify the worst offenders was an operation known as Operation Faux Pharmacy. Following an intensive one-year investigation, 37 warrants were executed in December 2017. In total, this operation resulted in \$6.5 million seized, \$2.4 million in fines, 520,000 pills seized, 10 DEA registrations¹ surrendered, and 29 pill press machines seized.

¹ A special form of license to prescribe or dispense controlled drugs.

Another operation, known as Operation Hypocritical Oath, focused the same strategy on doctors. In February of this year, this operation resulted in nine arrests, 25 search warrants, and \$4 million seized. There are also multiple pending investigations stemming from this operation.

Additional major prosecutions were also discussed. One focus has been on dark web enforcement, which involves identifying individuals that utilize the Internet and dark web to engage in drug trafficking. Mr. Barron also referenced a case involving a heroin delivery service as well as an investigation that uncovered fake clinics in which stolen doctor identifications were being used.

The U.S. Attorney's Office also has a Civil Division that focuses on civil enforcement. With regard to civil opioid enforcement, the local U.S. Attorney's Office has handled nine major civil enforcement actions, with fines totaling \$164 million. This does not include a recent enforcement action involving illegally marketing fentanyl spray where there is an anticipated settlement of \$154 million against a company.

In addition, national healthcare fraud sweeps are conducted annually in cooperation with partner agencies. The 2018 national healthcare fraud sweep resulted in 35 defendants charged and \$739 million in fraudulent claims.

Mr. Barron reported that many times illicit drug trafficking and healthcare fraud accompany one another.

Robert Philibosian of the Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County inquired as to the number of people who are being sent to prison and the amount of time that they are sentenced for.

Mr. Barron stated that his office has been very successful in prosecuting offenders. He surmised that there have been over four dozen medical practitioners that have been prosecuted, and some doctors have received sentences of 25 years or more.

Ms. Anzoategui inquired as to how successful the effort has been at keeping down the overdose death rates. Mr. Barron stated that while overdose deaths have gone up locally, they remain stable relative to the rest of the country. Additionally, the number of opioid prescriptions has gone down.

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

Mike Davis, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), discussed the DEA 360 strategy response to the opioid epidemic. The 360 strategy includes a three pronged approach involving enforcement, diversion control, and community outreach.

The following are the national overdose statistics for 2017:

- 72,306 deaths involving all drugs
- 49,068 deaths involving opioids
- 19,354 deaths involving opioid pain relievers
- 29,406 deaths involving other synthetic opioids (predominately fentanyl)

For Los Angeles County, the statistics are as follows:

- 501 opioid related deaths in 2015 (24 involving fentanyl)
- 542 opioid related deaths in 2016 (98 involving fentanyl)
- 563 opioid related deaths in 2017 (160 involving fentanyl)

These numbers show a steady increase in this county in the number of opioid related deaths involving fentanyl.

The enforcement aspect of the 360 strategy involves coordinated law enforcement actions against drug cartels and heroin traffickers in specific areas. This is a continuous function of the DEA.

Diversion control involves actions against DEA registrants that are operating outside of the law, as well as long-term engagement with pharmaceutical drug manufacturers, wholesalers, pharmacies, and practitioners.

The community outreach part of the 360 strategy involves working through local partnerships that empower communities to take back affected neighborhoods after enforcement actions and prevent the same problems from recurring. This is an activity that the DEA has recently begun to engage in and they are partnering with different organizations in an effort to keep neighborhoods safe.

Los Angeles is one of the Fiscal Year 2019 360 strategy cities. The others are: New Orleans, Louisiana; Tampa, Florida; Cleveland, Ohio; Flagstaff, Arizona; and New Bedford, Massachusetts. These cities were chosen based on a rise in opioid related deaths.

A number of outreach presentations have been made. Mr. Davis noted the following recent events:

- On November 28, 2018, a DEA 360 stakeholder's meeting was held for various treatment prevention organizations.
- On December 18, 2018, the DEA held a press conference that announced the start of the 360 strategy in Los Angeles.

- On December 20, 2018, the DEA launched micro-websites to provide youth-oriented information specific to Los Angeles County (www.wakeup-la.com; www.getsmartaboutdrugs.gov/la/; and www.justthinktwice.gov/la/).
- On February 4-5, 2019, a Practitioner's Diversion Awareness Conference was held in Anaheim. This had approximately 900 practitioners from throughout the state in attendance. The conference instructed practitioners on what to be aware of when prescribing a drug and educated them about what the impact of the misuse of prescription drugs is in the community.
- Since November 2018, DEA outreach coordinators have conducted five outreach presentations to over 500 people. In addition, a youth summit is planned for May 2, 2019.

Mr. Davis reported the following demographics of opioid overdose deaths in California for 2017:

- Median age is 40;
- 70% are men; and
- Overdoses on natural and semi-synthetic opioids.

Based on this data, the DEA has set a goal to educate those who are at greater risk of work-related injuries on the dangers of using and abusing opioids. This includes outreach efforts directed toward construction workers, law enforcement officers, and factory employees.

The DEA has plans for the following collaborations with various organizations:

- DEA 360 is collaborating with the LA Sparks Basketball Team, with Parks After Dark clinics, and Saturday Night Lights clinics to enhance opioid awareness.
- A collaboration with Partnership for Drug-Free Kids will offer adult trainings to those who are interested in learning more about opioid abuse and addiction, and also sharing this information within communities. Additionally, DEA 360 will train parents and coaches to help others in dealing with opioid abuse and addiction.
- Lions Quest and DEA 360 will partner to provide a school-based drug awareness program with emphasis on opioid abuse prevention. There will also be a focus on high school student athletes and their vulnerability to prescription painkiller misuse from injuries.

On April 13, 2019, DEA 360 held both adult training and youth leadership training. On April 15, 2019, a 13-week advertising campaign was initiated (this will utilize television, radio, and billboards).

The following upcoming events were discussed:

- On April 30, 2019, there will be a Milken Institute Global Conference Opioid Panel.
- As noted, the Los Angeles DEA 360 Strategy Youth Summit will be on May 2, 2019. This will be at the Dolby Theatre.
- There will be another Youth Summit in July 2019 at the Ronald Reagan Library. The planning for this has just begun.

In response to a question from Ms. Anzoategui regarding the number of attendees at the summit on May 2nd, Mr. Davis stated that they are hoping to have about 2,600 youth in attendance.

Opioid Response Team (ORT)

Lieutenant Glenn Walsh of the Sheriff's Department, currently assigned as Assistant Special Agent in Charge at the Los Angeles High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force, discussed tactical diversion and the Opioid Response Team (ORT).

ORT is a multi-agency collaboration that includes the U.S. Attorney's Office, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Southern California Drug Task Force (SCDTF), and the Department of Medical Examiner – Coroner. Members of SCDTF include the DEA, Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), and District Attorney's Office, as well as the U.S. Attorney's Office and Coroner's Office, among others.

An ORT consists of

- 1 DEA Group Supervisor;
- 3 DEA Special Agents;
- 5 Sheriff's Department Senior Narcotics Investigators;
- 1 Veteran's Affairs Investigator;
- 1 State of California Medicare and Elder Abuse Investigator;
- 1 Los Angeles County District Attorney Investigator; and
- 1 LA Clear Intel Specialist

In addition, ORT will work with local law enforcement agencies when operating within certain jurisdictions.

The Los Angeles County Coroner's Office provided data for opioid related deaths in Los Angeles County. A focus was placed on the Palmdale/Lancaster area, which is one of three hot spots that were identified.

Lt. Walsh noted that a 20-hour fentanyl death investigation course was created for investigators.

A goal of the investigation team is to be able to bring charges under Title 21 USC 841 (b)(1)(c), which states:

In the case of a controlled substance in schedule I or II, gamma hydroxybutyric acid (including when scheduled as an approved drug product for purposes of section 3(a)(1)(B) of the Hillary J. Farias and Samantha Reid Date-Rape Drug Prohibition Act of 2000), or 1 gram of flunitrazepam, except as provided in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (D), such person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 20 years and if death or serious bodily injury results from the use of such substance shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not less than twenty years or more than life, a fine not to exceed the greater of that authorized in accordance with the provisions of title 18 or \$1,000,000 if the defendant is an individual or \$5,000,000 if the defendant is other than an individual, or both.

If it is found that the person would not have died but for the drug, the supplier may receive a sentence of 20 years in federal prison.

On August 7, 2018, the ORT responded to and processed their first crime scene. As of March 17, 2019, the team has handled 37 overdose investigations. This number includes not only responses, but also referrals from the Sheriff's Department, LAPD, and other jurisdictions within the DEA SCDTF.

The following information concerning the 37 overdoses was provided:

- 16 involved partial or full responses from the ORT;
- 21 referrals were from other agencies;
- 16 have a suspected or identified source of supply;
- 12 have progressed to the point of opening a DEA case;
- 4 individuals have been federally indicted as a result of these cases thus far, with many of those investigations still ongoing (This now up to 6 or 7);
- 15 autopsies are outstanding; and
- There were an additional 4 cases, after the initial investigation, in which the team did not continue the investigation.

Lt. Walsh stated that the team has handled a variety of cases. He provided an example of where a drug-facilitated rape ended in the death of the victim.

In terms of toxicology reports, he noted that of 23 COD's (cause of death cases) from the Coroner's Office, 13 autopsies have been found to be positive for the presence of fentanyl. Three have returned with no indication of legal or illegal drugs in the system.

Lt. Walsh introduced Detective Art Stone of the LAPD's Gang and Narcotics Division to discuss the role of the LAPD in ORT activities.

Detective Stone stated that his ORT unit has been in operation since January of this year. Three DEA agents and three LAPD investigators work on addressing the opioid overdose problem within the City of Los Angeles.

A number of new trends have been identified, such as fentanyl in a form that looks like rock cocaine. This can lead to accidental deaths with individuals not recognizing what they are using. Another trend is fentanyl being combined with cocaine, which can also result in accidental deaths. By getting out ahead of trends like these, steps can be made to prevent problems from becoming worse.

In response to an earlier question from U.S. Attorney Nicola Hanna regarding counterfeit pills, Lt. Walsh stated that there has been a notable increase in the amount of counterfeit drugs that are being made available illegally. This is becoming a problem in part because drug cartels are able to do this in a manner that is cost effective for them. This trend is also leading to accidental deaths with people not knowing the potency of what they are taking.

Detective Stone noted that overdose statistics are utilized by drug cartels in determining how potent to make a particular drug. He added that the LAPD has a unit that investigates counterfeit pharmaceuticals.

Narcan

Lieutenant Tom Giandomenico of the Sheriff's Department discussed the use of Narcan by law enforcement officers. He stated that 66 people have been saved so far by Sheriff's Department deputies using Narcan in response to an opioid overdose situation.

Two grants provide \$3 million over the next four years to provide Narcan to Sheriff's Department personnel. The goal is to train as many people as possible in the use of Narcan. This training has included Sheriff's Department personnel and other agencies.

Thus far, there are 218 individuals that have been trained to train others.

There are currently 4,600 Sheriff's deputies carrying Narcan, and it is hoped that the entire Department will be included within the next few months.

Shawn Landres of the County Quality & Productivity Commission inquired as to whether there is ongoing funding so that the supply of Narcan can be renewed. Lt. Giandomenico stated that a current grant will provide funding for a supply up through 2024.

Department of Public Health – Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (DPH-SAPC)

Dr. Lello Tesema of the Department of Public Health Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (DPH-SAPC) discussed public health approaches to address the opioid epidemic in the county.

Dr. Tesema reiterated that opioid and fentanyl related deaths have been increasing in the county in recent years. She noted that the increase in the number of unintentional fentanyl related deaths in the past few years has been particularly significant, with the number rising from 25 in 2015 to 255 in 2018.

There is a significant variance in terms of where the use and mortality cases are located geographically in the county, with a disproportionate number concentrated in Service Planning Area (SPA) 2 and SPA 3.

Dr. Tesema reported that approximately 70,000 people with opioid use disorder (OUD) do not have access to local treatment. Mapping helps to obtain that data and mobilize treatment and intervention resources appropriately.

Given that the opioid crisis is a complex, multi-factorial, community-wide public health problem, a one-dimensional approach is unlikely to be effective. As such, DPH-SAPC is enacting a broad, multi-pronged and inclusive strategy that engages various entities.

Effective treatment of OUD includes Medication for Addiction Treatment (MAT), behavioral intervention, and recovery supports. Dr. Tesema noted that there is currently a shortage of prescribers for one of the medications that treats OUD. Physicians must undergo additional training and obtain a special license that allows them to prescribe the medication in question.

The goal is for every treatment agency that is funded by DPH-SAPC will be able to offer the full spectrum of medications for OUD.

One strategy that DPH-SAPC has helped spearhead is the HElp for Addiction Recovery and Treatment (HEART) Collaborative.

HEART was established as a result of a June 27, 2017 motion from the County Board of Supervisors. This motion instructed the County Chief Executive Office (CEO) to establish a workgroup to examine opioid overdose and deaths in Los Angeles County.

The HEART Collaborative serves as the strategic entity ensuring comprehensive and coordinated efforts to address the opioid crisis across the county.

Members of the workgroup include representatives from the CEO, Public Health, Safe Med LA, Sheriff's Department, County Fire Department, Office of Diversion and Reentry (ODR), Emergency Medical Services Agency, the Medical Examiner-Coroner's Office,

the District Attorney's Office, Whole Person Care (WPC-LA), Correctional Health Services (DHS-CHS), and the City of Los Angeles.

Initiatives that are under the HEART Collaborative include the following:

- Safe Med LA – A countywide opioid coalition;
- Los Angeles County Community Collaborative – A prevention focused, community-building initiative;
- DPH Opioid Media Campaign – This will be launching this summer;
- Naloxone Initiatives – Includes Whole Person Care (WPC) and Department of Health Care Services;
- MAT Initiatives – Includes California Hub and Spoke and Emergency Department (ED)-based MAT;
- Expansion of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment – Includes Drug Medical Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Waiver and Antelope Valley Pilot;
- Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP) – Real-time overdose surveillance; and
- Medical Examiner & Health Officer Prescriber Letter – Letter written to prescribers whose patients have overdosed.

Safe Med LA is one of the major initiatives under the Heart Collaborative. This initiative is a broad, cross-sector coalition that takes a coordinated and multi-pronged approach to comprehensively address prescription drug abuse in the county (www.safemedla.org).

There is a steering committee and nine action teams that are part of Safe Med LA. The following are some of the highlights of the initiative to date:

- Safe Prescribing
 - Implemented safe prescribing guidelines at all 78 emergency departments and 80 urgent care clinics throughout the county.
 - There has been a 14% decrease in opioid prescriptions in the county (excluding buprenorphine).
- Naloxone
 - Supported Sheriff's Department launch of its Naloxone program for field deputies. As noted by Lt. Giandomenico, 66 lives have been saved since the 2017 implementation of the program.
 - Distributed more than 21,000 doses of Naloxone to community-based organizations and law enforcement in the county through grants.
 - Trained more than 235 pharmacists on the state-required training to enable them to furnish Naloxone without a physician's prescription.
- Safe Drug Disposal
 - Developed Google Maps locator to promote safe drug disposal and sponsored Drug Take Back Events.

- Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT)
 - Contributed to a 126% percent increase (from 793 to 1800) in the number of county buprenorphine prescribers through the provision of federally-required buprenorphine trainings.
 - There has been an 8% increase in buprenorphine prescribing in the county.

Dr. Tesema added to comments made by Lt. Walsh in reporting that heroin is being mixed with a highly potent, synthetically created fentanyl, which is leading to accidental overdose deaths. As a harm reduction approach, DPH-SAPC funded Needle Exchange Programs now distribute fentanyl test strips to curb overdose risk.

Dr. Tesema also stated that passive toxicity, including dermal contact, is not fatal, and that Nitrile gloves provide sufficient protection for routine handling of suspected fentanyl or other opioids.² She added that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) reports that “Symptoms of acute opioid intoxication resulting from incidental dermal contact with fentanyl...appears to be an unlikely occurrence.”³

She further stated that misinformation on the hazards of fentanyl exposure persist and threaten potentially life-saving efforts by first responders in cases of suspected overdose. Therefore, reinforcement on the risks of drug exposure and proper precautions is needed for first responders.

On a separate matter, Dr. Tesema stated that Naloxone access laws have made Naloxone easier to obtain by expanding how the medication can be distributed beyond traditional prescriptions. However, Naloxone confiscation is commonly reported. In response, DPH-SAPC and other agencies have responded by providing prescriptions to mitigate these occurrences. DPH-SAPC is also promoting increased awareness by law enforcement agencies.

In terms of next steps in combating opioid addiction and overdose, DPH-SAPC will continue to cultivate existing partnerships in the HEART Collaborative and Safe Med LA. Dr. Tesema also stated that DPH-SAPC welcomes opportunities to increase education in the criminal justice workforce on public health oriented strategies targeting the opioid epidemic.

Prescriber Notification Program

Dr. Jonathan Lucas, Chief Medical Examiner – Coroner, discussed his Office’s Prescriber Notification Program, which was briefly referenced at the previous CCJCC meeting and was noted as one of the HEART Initiatives. In cases where there is found to be a death due to an overdose from prescription medication, the office will send a letter to the prescribing doctor that notifies him or her about the overdose death.

² Fentanyl and the Safety of First Responders: Science and Recommendations, CDC Report. June 26, 2018.

³ Same reference as above.

The Coroner's Office began sending out these letters several weeks ago. The letters include information on best practices for prescribing medications.

Questions

Mr. Landres inquired as to how quickly law enforcement is able to respond to new iterations of opioids. Lt. Walsh stated that law enforcement agencies are working to keep up with these changes, but that they can come quickly.

Ms. Anzoategui thanked today's presenters.

Motion

Mr. Philibosian made a motion to establish an Opioid Epidemic ad hoc working group among key stakeholders and members of CCJCC to develop and identify strategies to assist with interagency coordination in the areas of enforcement, prosecution, prevention, and treatment. He added that this ad hoc working group should report back to CCJCC with an update at a meeting to be determined later in the year.

A public comment was made by Mr. Joseph Maizlisch.

ACTION: The motion to establish an Opioid Epidemic ad hoc working group among key stakeholders and members of CCJCC to develop and identify strategies to assist with interagency coordination in the areas of enforcement, prosecution, prevention, and treatment, was seconded and approved without objection.

IV. OTHER MATTERS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Delgado announced that the 16th Annual Drug Court Conference is scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2019, at The California Endowment. Those interested in registering for the conference can access the registration form and instructions at the following link:

<http://ccjcc.lacounty.gov/Subcommittees-Task-Forces/Drug-Court-Conference>

In addition, Mr. Delgado also noted that April 27th is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. This aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means for disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications.

Medications can be disposed of at designated collection sites.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.