



Administrative Office of the Courts

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For Immediate Release

Justices, judges participate in Kentucky Opioid Summit in Louisville **Chief Justice Minton hosts court system's first event on opioid epidemic for state's judicial officials**

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 27, 2017 – Justices and judges from across Kentucky recently joined the statewide discussion on the escalating opioid epidemic at the court system's first-ever summit on this crisis. Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr. hosted the Kentucky Opioid Summit for the state's justices and judges Jan. 25 in Louisville.

"One of the most serious challenges facing Kentucky is the opioid epidemic, which is destroying lives, devastating families and increasing drug-related cases in the courts," Chief Justice Minton said. "The court system has a significant role to play in meeting the legal demands and human needs of this crisis. I called this summit because we must gain a better understanding of addiction and treatment so we can make informed decisions from the bench and develop a plan to work with other agencies."

Chief Justice Minton began working on a Kentucky-specific summit after attending the first Regional Judicial Opioid Initiative in August 2016. The Supreme Court of Ohio hosted that event for surrounding states heavily affected by the opioid epidemic: Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. The goal of the regional event was to create a framework to coordinate the efforts of state and federal policymakers to combat the opioid epidemic.

"The opioid epidemic is one of the most serious public health and safety issues facing Kentucky today and judges must know how to handle these drug-related cases appropriately," Chief Justice Minton said.

The Kentucky Opioid Summit covered case law, statutes and Americans with Disabilities Act regulations regarding medication-assisted treatment. It also focused on the science of treating

addiction and government's role in combating the opioid epidemic. Opioids are a class of drugs that include the illegal drug heroin and powerful pain relievers, such as hydrocodone and oxycodone. Kentucky is one of the top five states in opioid overdose deaths per capita, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Medication-assisted treatment involves providing medications to opioid addicts to ease withdrawal systems and reduce cravings. The justices and judges heard about the law, liability and ethics of medication-assisted treatment from attorney Douglas L. McSwain of Wyatt Tarrant & Combs. Dr. Joshua Lee of the New York University of Medicine provided a session on the neuroscience of medication-assisted treatment.

One way the Kentucky court system addresses substance use disorder is through Kentucky Drug Court. Drug Court programs in 16 counties are now using medication-assisted treatment to help some participants with opioid addiction.

Justices and judges participated in two panel presentations as part of the event. In a panel session on opioid use disorder and the criminal justice system, discussions were about criminal justice and legislative efforts to address the epidemic, the science of treating someone with an opioid use disorder, the history of the opioid epidemic and current crime trends related to opioid use. Panelists were Chief Justice Minton, Secretary John Tilley of the state Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Executive Director Van Ingram of the state Office of Drug Control Policy, Louisville Metro Police Chief Steve Conrad, and Dr. Michelle R. Lofwall, a medical doctor who is an associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral science with the University of Kentucky's Center on Drug and Alcohol Research.

The second panel focused on state government's role in dealing with the growing opioid problem. The session included a presentation on the state's comprehensive plan to reduce overdose-related deaths by Adam M. Meier, Gov. Matt Bevin's deputy chief of staff and health policy advisor. Panelists also covered the scope of the epidemic, the impact on children and families, evidence-based treatment, and KASPER's part in addressing prescription drug use disorder. KASPER is Kentucky's prescription drug monitoring program.

The panel also discussed strategies for reducing the issues resulting from opioid use, such as offering syringe exchange programs and Naloxone, which is a medication approved by the Food and Drug Administration to prevent opioid overdose. In addition to Meier, panelists were Deputy Secretary and former judge Timothy Feeley of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Commissioner Dr. Hiram C. Polk of the Department of Public Health, KASPER program manager David R. Hopkins and Dr. Allen J. Brenzel, medical director for the state Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities.

The Division of Judicial Branch Education at the Administrative Office of the Courts provided the summit.

Administrative Office of the Courts

The [AOC](#) is the operations arm for the state court system and supports the activities of nearly 3,400 court system employees and 404 elected justices, judges and circuit court clerks. As the fiscal agent for the state court system, the AOC also executes the Judicial Branch budget.

Justices and judges who attended the summit include:

Supreme Court Justices and Court of Appeals Judges

Central Kentucky

- Supreme Court Justice Laurance B. VanMeter
- Court of Appeals Judge Glenn E. Acree
Serve 5th Appellate District: Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Fayette, Franklin, Jessamine, Madison, Mercer, Scott and Woodford counties

Eastern Kentucky

- Court of Appeals Judge Debra Hembree Lambert
Serves 3rd Appellate District: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Estill, Garrard, Green, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, Lee, Leslie, Lincoln, Marion, McCreary, Metcalfe, Monroe, Nelson, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Washington, Wayne and Whitley counties
- Supreme Court Justice Samuel T. Wright III
- Court of Appeals Judge Janet L. Stumbo
Serve 7th Appellate District: Boyd, Breathitt, Carter, Elliott, Floyd, Greenup, Harlan, Johnson, Knott, Lawrence, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Powell, Rowan and Wolfe counties

Jefferson County

- Supreme Court Deputy Chief Justice Lisabeth T. Hughes
- Court of Appeals Judge Denise G. Clayton
- Court of Appeals Judge Irv Maze
- **Serve 4th Appellate District:** Jefferson County

Northern Kentucky

- Chief Court of Appeals Judge Joy A. Kramer
- Court of Appeals Judge Allison Jones
- Court of Appeals Judge Michelle M. Keller
Serve 6th Appellate District: Bath, Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Carroll, Fleming, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Henry, Kenton, Lewis, Mason, Nicholas, Oldham, Owen, Pendleton, Robertson, Shelby, Spencer and Trimble counties

Western Kentucky

- Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr.
- Court of Appeals Judge Jeff S. Taylor
Serve 2nd Appellate District: Barren, Breckinridge, Bullitt, Daviess, Grayson, Hancock, Hardin, Hart, Henderson, LaRue, Meade, Ohio, Union and Warren counties
- Court of Appeals Judge Christopher Shea Nickell
Serves 1st Appellate District: Allen, Ballard, Butler, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Edmonson, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Logan, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, McLean, Muhlenberg, Simpson, Todd, Trigg and Webster counties

Circuit, Family and District Judges

Adair and Casey counties

District Court Judge Michael Loy

Allen and Simpson counties

Family Court Judge Sid Broderson

Anderson, Shelby and Spencer counties

Circuit Court Judge Charles R. Hickman

District Court Judge Donna G. Dutton

Ballard and Carlisle counties

Circuit Court Judge Timothy A. Langford

Barren and Metcalfe counties

Circuit Court Judge John T. Alexander

Family Court Judge W. Mitchell Nance

District Court Judge J. Gabriel Pendleton

Bath, Menifee, Montgomery and Rowan counties

Circuit Court Judge Beth Lewis Maze

District Court Judge Don Blair

District Court Judge William W. Roberts

Boone and Gallatin counties

Circuit Court Judge Richard A. Brueggemann

Circuit Court Judge James R. Schrand

District Court Judge Jeffrey S. Smith

Bourbon, Scott and Woodford counties

Circuit Court Judge Paul F. Isaacs
Circuit Court Judge Robert Johnson

Boyle and Mercer counties

Family Court Judge Bruce Petrie

Bracken, Fleming and Mason counties

Circuit Court Judge Stockton B. Wood

Breathitt, Powell and Wolfe counties

Circuit Court Judge Frank A. Fletcher
District Court Judge Kenneth R. Profitt

Breckinridge, Grayson and Meade counties

Circuit Court Judge Bruce T. Butler
Circuit Court Judge Robert A. Miller
District Court Judge Shan F. Embry
District Court Judge Kenneth Harold Goff II

Bullitt County

Bullitt County Circuit Court Judge Rodney D. Burress
Bullitt County Family Court Judge Elisè Givhan Spainhour
Bullitt County District Court Judge Rebecca S. Ward

Butler, Edmonson, Hancock and Ohio counties

District Court Judge John M. McCarty

Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon and Trigg counties

District Court Judge Jill Clark
District Court Judge James R. Redd III

Calloway and Marshall counties

Circuit Court Judge James T. Jameson
Family Court Judge Rob Mattingly

Calloway County District Court Judge Randall A. Hutchens (He serves Calloway but not Marshall. The counties are in the same Judicial Circuit but each make up their own Judicial District.)

Marshall County District Court Judge Jack M. Telle (He serves Marshall but not Calloway. The counties are in the same Judicial Circuit but each make up their own Judicial District.)

Campbell County

Campbell County Family Court Judge Richard A. Woeste
Campbell County District Court Judge Karen A. Thomas

Carroll, Grant and Owen counties

Circuit Court Judge R. Leslie Knight

Carter, Elliott and Morgan counties

Circuit Court Judge Rebecca K. Phillips
District Court Judge H. Rupert Wilhoit III

Christian County

Christian County Circuit Court Judge John L. Atkins
Christian County District Court Judge James G. Adams Jr.
Christian County District Court Judge J. Foster Cotthoff

Clark and Madison counties

Circuit Court Judge William G. Clouse Jr.
Circuit Court Judge Jean C. Logue
Family Court Judge Nora J. Shepherd
Family Court Judge Kimberly Blair Walson
District Court Judge Brandy O. Brown
District Court Judge Charles W. Hardin
District Court Judge Earl-Ray Neal

Clay, Jackson and Leslie counties

Family Court Judge Clint Jeffrey Harris
Circuit Court Judge Oscar Gayle House
District Court Judge Allen B. Roberts

Clinton, Cumberland and Monroe counties

Circuit Court Judge David L. Williams

District Court Judge Kristi Renee Castillo (She serves Cumberland and Monroe but not Clinton. Clinton is in the same Judicial Circuit as Cumberland and Monroe but is in a different Judicial District.)

Daviess County

Daviess County Family Court Judge Julia H. Gordon
Daviess County Circuit Court Judge Jay A. Wethington
Daviess County District Court Judge David C. Payne

Estill, Lee and Owsley counties

Circuit Court Judge Michael Dean
District Court Judge William “Bo” Leach

Fayette County

Fayette County Family Court Judge Traci H. Brislin
Fayette County Circuit Court Judge Kimberly Nell Bunnell
Fayette County Family Court Judge Lucinda Masterton
Fayette County Family Court Judge Kathy W. Stein
Fayette County District Court Judge Megan Lake Thornton

Floyd County

Floyd County Circuit Court Judge Johnny Ray Harris
Floyd County Circuit Court Judge Thomas M. Smith

Franklin County

Franklin County Circuit Court Judge Phillip Shepherd
Franklin County Family Court Judge Squire N. Williams III
Franklin County Circuit Court Judge Thomas D. Wingate
Franklin County District Court Judge Kathy R. Mangeot

Fulton and Hickman counties

District Court Judge Hunter B. Whitesell II

Garrard and Jessamine counties

Family Court Judge Jeff Moss
District Court Judge Janet C. Booth

Graves County

Graves County Circuit Court Judge Timothy C. Stark
Graves County District Court Judge Deborah Hawkins Crooks

Green, Marion, Taylor and Washington counties

Circuit Court Judge Samuel Todd Spalding
District Court Judge Amy S. Anderson

Greenup and Lewis counties

Circuit Court Judge Robert Conley

Hardin County

Hardin County Family Court Judge Pamela K. Addington
Hardin County Circuit Court Judge Kelly Mark Easton
Hardin County Family Court Judge Brent Hall

Hardin County Circuit Court Judge Ken M. Howard
Hardin County District Court Judge Kimberly W. Shumate
Hardin County District Court Judge John D. Simcoe

Harlan County

Harlan County Circuit Court Judge Kent Hendrickson

Hart, LaRue and Nelson counties

Circuit Court Judge John David “Jack” Seay
Circuit Court Judge Charles C. Simms III

District Court Judge C. Derek Reed (He serves Hart and LaRue but not Nelson. Nelson is in the same Judicial Circuit as Hart and LaRue but is in a different Judicial District.)

Henderson County

Henderson County Family Court Judge Sheila N. Farris
Henderson County Circuit Court Judge Karen L. Wilson
Henderson County District Court Judge Jill Brady

Henry, Oldham and Trimble counties

Circuit Court Judge Karen A. Conrad
District Court Judge Jerry D. Crosby
District Court Judge Diana E. Wheeler

Hopkins County

Hopkins County Circuit Court Judge James Brantley
Hopkins County Family Court Judge Susan Wesley McClure
Hopkins County District Court Judge David G. Massamore

Jefferson County

Jefferson Circuit Court Judge Angela McCormick Bisig
Jefferson Family Court Judge Denise DeBerry Brown
Jefferson Circuit Court Judge A. C. McKay Chauvin
Jefferson Circuit Court Judge Charles L. Cunningham Jr.
Jefferson Family Court Judge Deborah Deweese
Jefferson Circuit Court Judge Audra Jean Eckerle
Jefferson Circuit Court Judge Susan Schultz Gibson
Jefferson Family Court Judge Tara Hagerty
Jefferson Circuit Judge Judith McDonald-Burkman
Jefferson Circuit Court Judge Mitch Perry
Jefferson Family Court Judge Paula Sherlock
Jefferson Circuit Court Judge Mary M. Shaw
Jefferson Family Court Judge A. Christine Ward

Jefferson District Court Judge Stephanie Pearce Burke
Jefferson District Court Judge Sean R. Delahanty
Jefferson District Court Judge Annette Karem
Jefferson District Court Judge Katie King
Jefferson District Court Judge Sandra L. McLaughlin
Jefferson District Court Judge Jennifer Bryant Wilcox

Johnson, Lawrence and Martin counties

Circuit Court Judge John David Preston
Family Court Judge Janie McKenzie-Wells
District Court Judge John T. Chafin
District Court Judge John Kevin Holbrook

Kenton County

Kenton County Circuit Court Judge Gregory Bartlett
Kenton County Family Court Judge Dawn M. Gentry
Kenton County Family Court Judge Christopher J. Mehling
Kenton County Circuit Court Judge Patricia M. Summe
Kenton County District Court Judge Ann Ruttle

Knott and Magoffin counties

Circuit Court Judge Kim Cornett Childers
District Court Judge Dennis B. Prater

Knox and Laurel counties

Family Court Judge Stephen M. Jones
Circuit Court Judge Michael O. Caperton
Circuit Court Judge Gregory A. Lay
District Court Judge Wendell Lewis “Skip” Hammons Jr.

Letcher County

Letcher County Circuit Court Judge James W. Craft II

Lincoln, Pulaski and Rockcastle counties

Circuit Court Judge Jeffrey T. Burdette
Circuit Court Judge David A. Tapp
Family Court Judge Marcus L. Vanover

McCracken County

McCracken County Circuit Court Judge Craig Z. Clymer
McCracken County Family Court Judge Deanna Wise Henschel

McCracken County Circuit Court Judge Tim Kaltenbach

McCreary and Whitley counties

District Court Judge Cathy E. Prewitt

Perry County

Perry County Circuit Court Judge Alison C. Wells

Pike County

Pike County Circuit Court Judge Eddy Coleman

Pike County Family Court Judge Larry E. Thompson

Pulaski and Rockcastle counties

District Court Judge Jeffrey Scott Lawless

District Court Judge Kathryn G. Wood

Russell and Wayne counties

Family Court Judge Jennifer Upchurch Edwards

Warren County

Warren County Circuit Court Judge John R. Grise

Warren County Family Court Judge Catherine Rice Holderfield

Warren County Family Court Judge David A. Lanphear

Warren County District Court Judge Brent J. Potter

Warren County District Court Judge Sam Potter Jr.

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