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Cc: [Bohl, James](#); [Lee, Chris](#)
Subject: Comments by Kathy Federico, DEA Tactical Diversion Squad, July 21 CCHOCTF meeting
Date: Sunday, December 10, 2017 2:04:25 PM

Dear Milwaukee CCHOCTF members.

I was not able to attend the last CCHOCTF meetings due to health problems. I submit the public comments I would have made then, to you now.

Per:
FILE NO: 161061

Title:
Substitute resolution relating to the creation of a City-County Heroin, Opioid, and Cocaine Task Force.

Here is a summary of your mandate:

"Further Resolved, That the City-County Heroin, Opioid, and Cocaine Task Force is charged with investigating and making recommendations regarding ways to ensure long-term health and safety of City and County residents by reducing fatal and nonfatal overdose from misuse of opioids, heroin, and synthetic analogs and cocaine (in both powder and crack form) through data-driven public health prevention approaches; and, be it..."

Upon reviewing the PLAN OVERVIEW and goals in the most recent Work Plan Draft (as of 11-29-17), we see there is no effort being made to reduce the amount of illegal narcotics available on the street — as if that could not possibly help to reduce fatal and nonfatal overdose and misuse of opioids, heroin etc...

Your choice to ignore one of the root causes of the current opioid "crisis" i.e., **supply**, is a serious omission given the testimony on July 21, 2017 provided to the task force by **Kathy Federico**, DEA Tactical Diversion Squad. Please review the meeting minutes at http://milwaukee.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=1410 (go to 1:27:50) for the full context in which Ms. Federico made her comments.

Here is part of concluding remarks (emphasis is mine):

"...And you did talk about some of the administrative proceedings that we can take against *our physicians* that are over prescribing and **not prescribing in a legitimate manner**, that puts oxycodone and hydrocodone on the street.

And we do have a lot of those.

And I mean the other issue we have is, is having ahh — **prosecutions** — of physicians that are pumping pills on the street without people having legitimate medical problems.

And that's an issue we address all the time because *nobody* wants to put a doctor behind — in jail."

The DEA licenses "*our physicians*" to prescribe controlled substances.

Watch the video — she could barely get herself to say the word **prosecutions**.

She almost said ‘because nobody wants to put a doctor *behind bars*’, but caught herself and said — “*in jail*” — as if to soften the reality of what these pill pushers deserve.

The State does not have a problem putting the rest of us *behind bars* for violating the controlled substances act, but Doctors? — come on — nobody wants to do that!

Has anyone on the Task Force asked Ms. Federico exactly HOW the DEA addresses the issue of “... physicians that are pumping pills on the street without people having legitimate medical problems”? Has anyone on the Task Force asked Ms. Federico how the DEA handles this — “all the time”?

Please let me know if you have contacted Ms. Federico regarding the serious issue of doctors illegally prescribing controlled substances, and if so, what did you ask her and how did she respond?

Thank you.

**Paul Mozina
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