

From: White House Office of National Drug Control Policy <oipl@ondcp.eop.gov>

To: Veldran, KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov

Date: 12/31/2014 4:31:31 PM

Subject: ONDCP Highlights from 2014

Attachments: ONDCPHoliday_jpg.html

ONDCP Highlights from 2014

2014 has been a year of significant developments for drug policy in our country as well as at the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). This year, President Obama nominated Michael Botticelli to Director of National Drug Control Policy, the first person in recovery from a substance use disorder to ever hold the position. We made progress against the opioid drug abuse and overdose prevention efforts expanded across the country. A significant number of states passed and more police departments began to equip officers with naloxone, the life-saving overdose reversal drug. The Department of Justice released a naloxone toolkit to help increase its use by law enforcement agencies and the federal law enforcement agencies to identify, train and equip with naloxone personnel who may interact with the public. For the first time since 1999, the number of deaths involving prescription drugs declined, and teens reported less alcohol and cigarette use. We also hosted a historic event on recovery at the White House during National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Awareness Month.

Here are highlights from 2014:

January: Attorney General Eric Holder [speaks in support](#) of the bipartisan Smarter Sentencing Act, which would give judges more discretion in determining appropriate sentences for people convicted of certain federal drug crimes, and provide a path for some individuals – who were sentenced under outdated laws and guidelines – to petition judges for sentencing consistent with the Fair Sentencing Act.

February: Mexican authorities announce the capture of Joaquin "Chapo" Guzman Loera, the alleged head of a drug cartel that spans continents. The criminal activity Guzman allegedly directed contributed to the death and destruction of lives across the globe through drug addiction, violence, and corruption. The operation led by the Mexican government is a significant milestone in U.S.-Mexican efforts to combat drug trafficking, violence and illicit activity along our shared border.

March: The UN officially endorses recovery. A [resolution on the importance of recovery](#) proposed by the United States as part of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) was approved on March 21st in Vienna, Austria. This resolution marks the end of more than 50-year history of the global anti-drug regime that the concept of recovery was formally accepted at the United Nations Member States.

April: The 2014 Advocates for Action come to The White House to meet with Acting Director Botticelli and discuss their advocacy on drug policy. Meet them and hear their stories:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/drugpolicyreform/#section-advocates>

May: Acting Director Botticelli leads the Inter-American Commission in Vermont Member Nations American States of public health and including drug control to incarceration and of local distribution in America. Acting Director Botticelli discusses the distribution of expanding access to Affordable Care Act and of state marijuana in Washington.

June: In response to use and related to

hosts the [Heroin and Prescription Drug Abuse Summit](#) at The White House, where Acting Director Botticelli, Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin rally around our shared goal of dramatically reducing the rate of heroin use across the country.

July: ONDCP releases [Drug Control Strategy](#) treatment center in Vermont. Acting Director Botticelli visits Park neighborhood in Vermont successful alternative Drug Market Intervention. Acting Director Botticelli visits community social services Action For Progress people and others in Vermont them with employment.

August: President Obama announces his intent to **nominate** Michael Botticelli as Director of National Drug Control Administration, the first person in **recovery** from a substance use disorder to hold this position.

September: The White House hosts **Recovery Month** event. NFL legend Cris Carter; Christina Huffington; vice president Joe Biden; Ruben Castaneda; Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, Mayor Tim Wilson; and television news anchor Laurie Dhue speak at the Lincoln Auditorium at The White House about their recovery experiences, and where the recovery movement is going in the future.

October: ONDCP announces the launch of the Intensity Drug Trafficking Program in 26 counties and cities in the United States. The program facilitates collaboration between state and federal law enforcement. ONDCP announces \$84 million in **Drug-Free Communities Program** grants for 680 communities across the country.

November: ONDCP and the Drug Enforcement Administration educate community agencies about implement In 2014, the Administration issued [new regulations](#) to create convenient, legal avenues for safe, environmental, unneeded prescription drugs. This is one of the four pillars outlined in the [2011 Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention](#) curbing the national opioid epidemic. Thanks to the new regulations, individuals will have more convenient and responsible means to dispose of unused prescription drugs.

December: President Obama declares December as National Impaired Driving Prevention Month. Throughout working with the Department of Transportation and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) to raise driving and encourage communities to [engage in prevention activities](#).

Get Updates

For more information about ONDCP, please visit our [website](#).

If you know elected officials or other stakeholders who would like to receive our updates, please encourage them to [sign up for ONDCP updates](#).

This email was sent to kveldran@gov.sc.gov

[Sign Up for Updates from ONDCP](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)

Please do not reply to this email. Email oipl@ondcp.eop.gov.

Office of National Drug Control Policy • 750 17th St NW
Washington, DC 20503 • 202-395-6700