

Administration Office 614-466-4320 Fax 614-466-5087

30 East Broad Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

August 26, 2016

Dear Law Enforcement Colleague,

Heroin, fentanyl, and now carfentanil continue to take and risk the lives of many Ohioans every single day.

Many of you are already carrying naloxone, a life-saving drug used to reverse potentially fatal side effects of an opioid overdose. For those of you who are not yet carrying naloxone, I strongly encourage you to do so. Naloxone is another tool to help ensure the safety of your community members. And it's a great tool, since it has no effect if a person does not have opioids in his or her system.

In February 2015, my office worked to secure a \$6 per dose rebate from the naloxone manufacturer for non-federal government agencies. The use of this rebate has saved Ohioans over \$209,000 so far. This rebate is still in effect, covering purchases from March 2, 2015 to March 2, 2017. I encourage law enforcement agencies to take advantage of this program, which can be found <u>at this link</u> on the Attorney General's website.

My staff called your offices to ensure you were aware of the rebate. Those of you who do not carry naloxone expressed practical concerns about cost, storage, and permissible use. Our office has produced a video on how to use naloxone, which can be accessed through OHLEG or by clicking <u>here</u>.

We have met many individuals in recovery whose lives have been saved with naloxone. My staff recently spoke with a woman who was administered naloxone during an overdose. She is now in recovery, gainfully employed, and has reconnected with her family for the first time in years. She said the naloxone administration was "her only chance to have a second chance." Without having naloxone readily available, she would not have survived.

Thank you for all you do to protect and serve your community. If you have any additional questions or need information on the rebate or naloxone training, please call Amy O'Grady, my Director of Criminal Justice Initiatives, at 614-728-4943.

Very respectfully yours,

mile Newing

Mike DeWine Ohio Attorney General