



Wisconsin State Public Defender

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State Public Defender Kelli Thompson Statement Regarding Today's Opioid-Related Actions

The State Public Defender's Office sees first-hand the impact of opioid addiction on our clients, their families, and our communities. I commend our state's long-standing and proactive approach to mitigating the effects of addiction. Today's actions -- Governor Walker's Executive Orders, and the recommendations issued from the Governor's Task Force on Opioid Abuse -- continue Wisconsin's efforts. Specifically, the measures directed at health-care for previously incarcerated individuals, medically-assisted treatment pilot program for individuals prior to leaving the custody of local jails, and evidence-based programming will each ultimately play a role in reducing recidivism and enhancing public safety.

I recognize and thank the Governor's Task Force on Opioid Abuse as well as Lt. Governor Kleefisch and Representative Nygren for their ongoing leadership and support of this important issue.

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