

**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

**OPIOID EPIDEMIC SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**January 17, 2019**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Lynwood Roberts Room**

**First Floor, City Hall**

**117 W. Duval Street**

**Topic:** Opioid Epidemic Special Committee

**Attendance:** Council President Aaron Bowman; Council Members Bill Gulliford (Chairman), Matt Schellenberg, Tommy Hazouri, Greg Anderson, Reggie Gaffney and Jim Love; Colleen Hampsey – Council Research Division; Chiefs David Castleman and Mark Rowley- Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department; Dr. Raymond Pomm- UF Health/Gateway; Carol Harper – ECA District 13

See attached sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

**Convened:** 2:02 pm

Councilman Gulliford convened the meeting and asked for introductions. Dr. Pomm, UF Health/Gateway, provided an update on Project Save Lives, which is in its 14th month of implementation and is branching into more emergency departments within the city. Thus far, there has only been one program participant who experienced an overdose death. Dr. Pomm also cautioned the attendees about the increased presence of fentanyl in cocaine and Xanax pills. Project Save Lives has attracted the attention of other municipalities which may try to replicate its success in their areas.

Chief Mark Rowley, JFRD, provided an update on opioid overdose responses which are down 27 percent in comparison to the same period last year. Chief David Castleman also noted that in his assessment compassion fatigue has decreased among JFRD officers since the beginning of the program.

Ron Lendvay, Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office, spoke about the enforcement side of the opioid epidemic. There has been a slight decrease in opioid seizures but an increase in prosecution for opioid overdose deaths. Allison Hewitt, Department of Health, spoke briefly about various programs which aim to help women who use opioids in pre-pregnancy and those who are already pregnant.

Chief Mark Rowley shared that JFRD will be receiving SAMHSA grant funds to offset the costs of Narcan. One of the attendees from Drug Free Duval said that they offer instructions for the public on how to administer Narcan. It was also mentioned that Narcan is available to the public with instructions and at no cost at Gateway Community Services.

The discussion was then opened for informal public comment and several attendees spoke to the committee about the impact of the opioid epidemic in the community. With no further business, Councilman Gulliford adjourned the meeting.

**Adjourned:** 3:03 pm

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

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1.22.19     Posted 5:00 p.m.

* Tapes:  Opioid Special Committee – LSD

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