

**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

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**CITY COUNCIL HYBRID VIRTUAL/IN-PERSON LUNCH AND LEARN MEETING**

**USE OF NALOXONE TO COUNTERACT OPIOID OVERDOSES**

**Meeting Minutes**

**February 23, 2021**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Location:** Hybrid in-person (Lynwood Roberts Room) and virtual (via Zoom platform) meeting

**In attendance:** Council Members Ron Salem, Aaron Bowman, Terrance Freeman, Joyce Morgan, Michael Boylan

**Also**: Jeff Clements and Yvonne Mitchell – Council Research Division; Melanie Wilkes, Eric Grantham and Steve Cassada – Council Staff Services; Mark Rowley – JFRD; Sally Finn, Susan Pitman, Hannah Schaper – Drug Free Duval

**Meeting Convened**: 1:34 p.m.

Council Member Salem opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance and their interest in this important topic. This training is available to any interested group in the community from Drug Free Duval.

Sally Finn, Executive Director of Drug Free Duval, briefly described the Safe and Healthy Neighborhood Project, which is a joint effort of the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department, the City of Jacksonville and Drug Free Duval. She distributed a pre-test to measure attendees’ knowledge about the subject of opioids and naloxone before the training. She made a PowerPoint presentation on the identity and nature of opioids (both legal and illicit), the scope of the opioid epidemic nationally and in Florida and Jacksonville (including 3 waves of overdose deaths in the last 20 years), Northeast Florida’s response to the crisis (North Florida Poly-Drug Task Force), risk behavior reduction, and critical legislation.

Critical legislation: 911 Good Samaritan Act – encourages citizens to call 911 when they witness a life-threatening overdose situation; the overdose victim and the person who responds to help are both protected from prosecution if they seek emergency response and care.

Emergency Treatment and Recovery Act: allows naloxone to be prescribed for administration to third parties (not the person getting the prescription), allows pharmacists to prescribe and dispense via standing order (don’t need to make an appointment with a doctor to get a prescription).

Hannah Schaper of Drug Free Duval reviewed the causes, signs and symptoms of opioid overdoses and discussed overdose reversal untruths (myths aboutwhat to do). She described and demonstrated the proper method to administer naloxone (brand name Narcan). She noted that naloxone will have no impact on a person who is not experiencing an opioid overdose, so that should not be a concern if there is uncertainty about whether to administer or not. Ms. Schaper reviewed several misconceptions and myths about naloxone and gave a list of community contacts and agencies that can provide help.

The attendees then took a post-training test to measure their knowledge after the presentation.

Mr. Rowley of the JFRD offered to make this training available to council members’ town hall meetings and other public events upon request.

**Meeting adjourned:** 2:24 p.m.

Minutes: Jeff Clements, Council Research Division

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