



CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

**State of New Jersey**  
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE  
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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0345

NEIL VAN ESS  
*Acting Chairman*

CELINA LEVY  
*Acting Executive Director*

## **MINUTES**

### **Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse**

**February 15, 2017**

#### **Call to Order**

The three hundredth and sixteenth regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Acting Chairman Neil Van Ess.

#### **Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Mr. Van Ess announced that notice of this meeting was provided in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 – 10:4-21).

#### **Roll Call**

Katelyn Assenheimer called the roll. Members present and absent were noted for the record.

#### **Approval of January Minutes**

After a brief discussion, the minutes for January 2017 were approved. (Y-14; N-0; ABS-1)

#### **Chairman's Report**

Chairman Van Ess welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated that the Master Plan, statewide partnerships, and working to support the efforts that were shared in the State of the State continue.

#### **Presentation: "Drug Monitoring Initiative – New Jersey's Changing Drug Environment"**

Juan Colon, Captain of the New Jersey State Police presented an overview of the Drug Monitoring Initiative and New Jersey's changing drug environment.

The Drug Monitoring Initiative has been implemented in 20 different states. Information was provided on fentanyl and its derivatives such as carfentanil, which is 100 times stronger than heroin and 1000 times stronger than fentanyl.

Captain Colon shared how these drugs are being imported from other countries and that the distribution involves fewer people than typical drug smuggling operations therefore it is harder for officials to detect. He also stated that the 18-26 year old age group is especially vulnerable and more prevention messaging is essential.

### **Acting Executive Director's Report**

Acting Executive Director Celina Levy shared that she was happy to continue the collaborative relationship with the governor's office and partners across the state.

She reminded Council members that the Master Plan Survey was due on March 13<sup>th</sup> and that more information regarding next steps would be shared at the March 15<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

Rebecca Alfaro and Sean Campbell shared that they had conducted a Mental Health First Aid Training earlier in the month. They will be conducting an additional training in March for New Jersey colleges and universities.

The New Jersey Prevention Network conference will be held on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Atlantic City Convention Center. GCADA will again be offering 200 scholarships to participating Alliance members as well as Council members. These scholarships will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Van Ess adjourned the meeting at 11:46 a.m.