## Attorney General Moody's Week In Review - Sept. 24, 2021



Two years ago, this week, we launched our Dose of Reality Florida website. It is designed to be a one-stop shop for Floridians to find information and resources about fighting back against opioid abuse and addiction.

We created the comprehensive resource to help Floridians who may be affected by the opioid crisis, which currently claims 21 lives a day in our state. In a single-year period from May 2019 to May 2020, more than 81,000 people died of drug overdoses nationwide—the highest number of overdose deaths ever recorded in a 12-month period. While the situation may look bleak, we recently made real progress in our fight against the opioid epidemic.

Just two months ago, I announced <u>historic settlement agreements</u> with opioid distributors and manufacturers—securing nearly \$2 billion for Florida, when added to commitments already made following previous actions by my office. These funds will help bring much-needed relief to communities reeling from the national opioid crisis devastating Florida families.

And while the details and distribution of these funds are still being worked out, I am encouraging anyone struggling with addiction to seek help now.

You can visit <u>DoseOfRealityFL.com</u> to find treatment and resources near you—including information on prevention methods, safe pain management, proper storage of prescription drugs and guidelines on responding to an overdose.

To learn more about our work to curtail the opioid crisis, click <a href="here">here</a>.

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Working together, we can end the deadly opioid crisis, save lives and build a Stronger, Safer Florida.

#### In The News

Attorney General Ashley Moody Demands President Biden Drop COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate, Threatens Legal Action, Space Coast Daily

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Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody Confirmed to Speak at 2021 Florida Chamber Annual Meeting & Future of Florida Forum, Florida Business Daily

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Hydrogen water company accused of advertising unproven health benefits & offering deceptive financing, WMAR

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Florida Joins Fight Against Partnership Between American Airlines & JetBlue, CBS 4 Miami

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Florida AG blasts 'disgusting' ruling against state's sanctuary city ban, FOX News

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# **Protecting Floridians**

Attorney General Moody Takes Legal Action to Protect Floridians from Anti-Competitive Airline Agreement



Attorney General Ashley Moody took legal action to block a series of agreements between American Airlines and JetBlue through which the two airlines will consolidate their operations in Boston and New York City. Florida joined an antitrust complaint alleging that this combination, which the airlines call the Northeast Alliance, will not only eliminate important competition in these cities, but will also harm air travelers in various airports throughout Florida by significantly diminishing JetBlue's incentive to compete with American, further consolidating an already highly-concentrated industry.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "The airline industry is a highly-concentrated industry. The challenged alliance between American and JetBlue will only increase that concentration and hurt Floridians and Florida's interests. I am especially concerned with this alliance's likely effect on smaller, more regional airports in Florida where these two airlines are, at least in one instance, the only two airlines flying routes. Because of these concerns, Florida has joined this bipartisan effort to ensure competition and lower prices for Floridians and those traveling to Florida to enjoy our great state." Read More

#### Attorney General Moody Presents Resolution for Florida Law Enforcement Service and Sacrifice Month



Attorney General Ashley Moody presented a resolution at a meeting of the Governor and Florida Cabinet to recognize September as Florida Law Enforcement Service and Sacrifice Month. Law enforcement deaths have increased drastically throughout the past year and Attorney General Moody's resolution is a way to recognize and honor all officers, including Florida's fallen officers, for their service and sacrifice to our state and local communities.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "Florida law enforcement officers face threats every day and continue to courageously respond to the call of duty—regardless of the risks and dangers that entails. It is important that we support our officers and honor the memory of those lost in the line of duty. That is why I sponsored this resolution dedicating September as Florida Law Enforcement Service and Sacrifice Month, to remind Floridians and show the world that in Florida we honor, respect and back our officers." Read More

Attorney General Moody Secures Nearly Half a Million Dollars from HVAC Scheme



**Attorney** 

General Ashley Moody is securing nearly half a million dollars following the shutdown of a heating, ventilation and air conditioning scheme run by 10 companies that targeted Floridians. The judgment secures \$490,000—with the majority going back to victims of the deceptive and unfair trade practices.

The companies allegedly operated a bait-and-switch air-conditioning scheme by luring consumers with advertisements for extremely low-cost services, and then, once in consumers' homes, refusing to provide the low-cost services, claiming that the air ducts were contaminated or that the ducts contained dangerous mold, without conducting proper testing. Some consumers reported the companies' representatives engaged in high-pressure and coercive sales tactics that made the consumers feel unsafe and having no choice but to purchase the products or services.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "We have secured hundreds of thousands of dollars in restitution for consumers who fell victim to the defendants' unscrupulous sales tactics. That these defendants used intimidation and bait-and-switch schemes to sell air conditioning services in Florida is infuriating. I am pleased we were able to stop these deceptive and unfair business practices and secure money for harmed consumers." Read More

### **Events**

This week, Attorney General Ashley Moody presented a resolution at a meeting of the Governor and Florida Cabinet naming September Florida Law Enforcement Service and Sacrifice Month. Florida law enforcement officers work courageously every day to protect their communities, and Attorney General Moody is committed





Attorney General Moody speaking at the annual Ringing of the Bell ceremony, honoring heroic firefighters who have lost their lives protecting Floridians.



Attorney General Moody meeting with St. Johns County Sheriff Robert Hardwick and wife, Kendell, in her Capitol Office.



The virtual 2021 Human Trafficking Summit is coming up on Oct. 5. It is free to register, and attendees will have access to hours of breakout sessions and targeted discussions on how to end human trafficking. To register, visit HumanTraffickingSummit.com.

