“2019 Pain Care Legislation and Public Policy”

Presented by:
Michael Barnes, Esq., and Wade Delk, BA
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Webcast Questions and Answers
(Answers are in bold)

Questions:

1. Do you think the X waiver limits could be deregulated in the future with some of these proposals?
   a. I think the X waiver could be eliminated if mandatory controlled substance prescriber education (including buprenorphine for OUD) were required for DEA registration. I do not see this change occurring in the near future. –Mike

2. Can you clarify what you meant by those who aren't trained to practice medicine are both doing it & encouraged to do so? I'm not sure if you're referring to the police, prescribers, legislators, etc.?
   a. I am referring to the Legislators and Administration officials who do not have medical training. –Wade
   b. Police and prosecutors are typically less qualified to investigate and decide questions of medical need and patient care than licensing board officials. –Mike

3. Where can we get funding for Training and Education for OUD?
   a. SAMHSA and HHS do have various grants available. I do not know specific ones, but checking their websites or going to grants.gov may reveal funding opportunities. -Wade

4. What has been changed from Bush to Trump in drug policy and intervention?
   a. There is a greater focus on substance abuse and mental wellness. –Wade
   b. Some of the federal harm reduction programs that were put into place during the Obama Administration (and I am pretty sure did not exist during the Bush 43 Administration) have continued during the Trump Administration, such as support for syringe service programs. –Mike

5. Is there additional pending national legislation that would place restrictions on opioid prescriptions?
   a. Not directly, but there are pieces of legislation to do things that may limit the availability by doing such things as charging fees per opioid prescription, and to revoke the approval of one opioid pain medication for each new pain medication approved.

6. Can we have your contact information?
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