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Press Release

DA Morrissey with Quincy, Braintree and Randolph Leaders at National Prescription Drug Abuse Summit





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Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey traveled to the National Prescription Drug Abuse and Heroin summit in Atlanta, Georgia this week, with a group of Norfolk County leaders, for seminars on federal efforts and what other regions are doing to decrease opiate addiction and overdose.

Morrissey, whose office presented at the Summit in 2015 on his work training and equipping area police departments for the use of the opiate overdose reversal drug naloxone, said it is important to keep up with what is being done in other regions – in case it might work here.

"There is no shame in borrowing a good idea if it is going to save lives and prevent misery," District Attorney Morrissey said. "I am some mix of relieved and disappointed that the seminars and presentations have not suggested anything we do not already have aggressively in place in Norfolk County. But there is also a value in knowing we have no un-turned stones."

The four day summit, featuring 250 presenters from across the country and around the world, concludes Thursday, District Attorney Morrissey said.

Other Norfolk County leaders present at the Summit included Quincy Detective Lt. Pat Glynn, who oversees the city's pioneering naloxone program, Braintree Police Chief Paul Shastany, whose efforts when he was Stoughton Chief served as the model for the county-wide naloxone program, and Randolph Chief William Pace, who was joined by RPD Commander David Avery and Randolph Firefighter Tom Binnall, and Weymouth pharmacist Dave Morgan, who worked with the DA's office for several years.

"Our area sent an impressive slate of experienced professionals dedicated to stemming the crisis of addiction that is impacting our communities so seriously," Morrissey said. "There are many hands doing the work of preventing addiction, breaking addiction and saving people from death by overdose. It would be hard to overstate the importance of the work and dedication they represent."