

## THE ALLIANCE MONITOR<sub>x</sub>

### Drug Czar Gil Kerlikowske, Speaking at National PDMP Meeting

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The Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) Gil Kerlikowske, has accepted the Alliance's invitation to provide opening remarks at the 5th National PDMP Meeting.

Director Kerlikowske was sworn in as the new "Drug Czar" on May 7, 2009. He brings 37 years of law enforcement and drug policy experience to the position. He most recently served 9 years as the Chief of Police

for Seattle, Washington.

The Alliance greatly appreciates Director Kerlikowske's willingness to attend and speak at the meeting

The Alliance and Brandeis University in cooperation with BJA are hosting the National PDMP Meeting scheduled for September 24-25, 2009 at the Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel in Washington, D.C. Registration forms and a

preliminary agenda are available online at [www.pmpalliance.org](http://www.pmpalliance.org).



**5<sup>th</sup> National Harold Rogers PDMP Meeting**  
**September 24-25, 2009**  
**Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel, Washington D.C.**

### Alliance Website is Launched

[www.pmpalliance.org](http://www.pmpalliance.org)

The Alliance was very pleased to officially announce the launch of its new website on August 4, 2009.

The Alliance and Brandeis University have been working diligently to establish the new website.

The site features key information about the Alliance including: membership, bylaws, and board members.

The site also features a page dedicated to the new Training and Technical Assistance Center including an online form for contacting the TTAC team

The News & Events page features recent headlines, the newsletter, and past and future events.

The Resources page includes state maps featuring PMP

information as well as other documents such as cost model for interstate data sharing and a model PMP law.

The Links page features web addresses for federal partners, prescription drug information, and funding opportunities.

Please visit the Alliance website regularly for the most current information relevant to PMPs.

Thanks to Resonate who developed our new website.



## SAMHSA's Update on NASPER

On August 11, 2005, the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act of 2005 (NASPER) was signed into law by President George W. Bush. Under NASPER a formula grant program for state prescription monitoring programs (PMPs) was created to be administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

The intent of this grant program is to foster the establishment or enhancement of state PMPs to ensure that health care providers and law enforcement officials have access to accurate, timely prescription history information. In addition, the expansion and establishment of PMPs has the potential to increase the early identification of patients at risk for addiction. The program also requires that certain standards be met that

will enable and require the sharing of information between states with PMPs. Eligible applicants include states and the District of Columbia who currently have enacted legislation or regulations that permit the implementation of a state PMP and the imposition of appropriate penalties for the unauthorized use and disclosure of information maintained by the program.

In March 2009, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 appropriated \$2 million for NASPER grants for the 2009 fiscal year. The announcement of the NASPER solicitation was released on July 2, 2009, with a July 27, 2009 deadline for application submission. The grant announcement followed a Federal Register notice soliciting comments on proposed minimum standards for prescription drug monitoring program grants under NASPER.

Currently, there are 40 States that have laws that allow for the operation of a state PMP. SAMHSA received 13 NASPER grant applications and is currently in the process of evaluating these applications. Twelve of the applications received by SAMSHA were for enhancing existing prescription drug monitoring programs. One application was for new program implementation. Grant awards will be announced by SAMSHA before the start of the 2010 fiscal year.

This article was provided to the Alliance by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

## Annual Alliance Meeting October 19 & 20, 2009, in San Diego

The 2009 Annual Meeting of the Alliance will be held in San Diego, California on October 19-20, 2009 preceding the National Association of States Controlled Substances Authorities annual conference.

The general meeting will start on Monday afternoon at 1:00pm and conclude at NOON on Tuesday. The Executive Board will meet on Monday

morning. The Executive Board meeting is open only to Alliance members.

This year the Alliance is requiring everyone who would like to attend the meeting to register. A registration form along with the preliminary agenda can be found on the Alliance website [www.pmpalliance.org](http://www.pmpalliance.org). There is no fee for attending the meeting.

The meeting will allow members a forum to

discuss the important issues surrounding PMPs. Representatives from DEA, SAMSHA, and CDC have also been invited to address the members and other attendees.

The Executive Board invites all Alliance members to attend the 2009 annual meeting. It promises to be very informative.

## North Dakota's PMP

North Dakota's PMP legislation passed in 2005. Daily submission from dispensers was activated in September of 2007. Two hundred thirty (230) of the two hundred thirty six (236) pharmacies are independently owned and all are submitting to the program.

The total number of profile requests for the first three months of the program equaled 86. In 2008 the total requests equaled 5,828. This year the online and fax requests totaled 9,117 through July 2009. Online access was initiated in February of 2008.

Starting in May of 2009, all prescribers and dispensers who apply for online access are required to participate in a web-based educational program before being granted access. This software was made available through Portico Learning Solutions.

The presentation developed to inform prescribers and dispensers about the PMP has been awarded ACPE continuing education credits. The ND Bureau of Criminal Investigation requested the PMP to develop an online continuing education program for law enforcement.

The ND Board of Pharmacy PMP has contracted with the University of North Dakota's Bureau of Educational Services and Applied Research to develop a method to determine the effectiveness of the program. For more information you can go to <http://www.nodakpharmacy.com/PDMP-description.asp>

You may also view their PMP instructional demo at: [www.porticolearning.com/boardofpharmacy/nd/](http://www.porticolearning.com/boardofpharmacy/nd/)



## Did You Know.....

**Oregon became the 40<sup>th</sup> State to enact PMP legislation.** The bill was signed into law by Governor Kulongoski on July 23, 2009.

**A special thanks sent to NASCSA.** In a letter to Karen Tannert President of the National Association of Controlled Substances Authority (NASCSA), President Audet thanked NASCSA for the many years of providing a home to the Alliance on their website.

**A committee was convened to update the Model Act.** The committee is charged with reviewing the current Model Act to revise and update it. The last time the Model Act was revised was back in 2002.

**John Eadie**, former Alliance President and current honorary member was asked by

President Audet to chair the committee.

**New Additions to our Website.** The Alliance website has added several new pieces since going live including: materials from all four regional meetings, agendas for the September and October meetings, updated Status of PMPs table, an updated state contact list, state PMP website list and links, and a new search tool.

**The National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP)** has finalized its new format which will have two new revisions for PMPs. The new formats will go into effect January 1, 2012. The new standard enhances the ability to collect prescription data at the Point of Sale or gather information directly from pharmacies through a connection with insurance

switches. NCPDP reported that collecting data from the insurance switch would not result in a per transaction charge for PMP's.

**A Governance committee has been established** to begin developing policies and address the organizational structure of a governance board to oversee the administration and maintenance of the PMIX Hub. **Dave Hopkins (KY)** will chair the committee which includes Alliance's members representing the four regions.

**The Alliance has had discussions with the Council of State Governments** to possibly convene a forum on the development of interstate compact legislation. Such legislation may be useful for states wishing to share PMP data with other states.

## Update on PMIX – Interstate Data Sharing

The January-February 2009 issue of THE ALLIANCE MONITOR provided an overview of the Prescription Monitoring Information Exchange (PMIX) project; including information about the benefits of PMIX and how states can participate in the project. Much progress has been made over the last several months, and the PMIX Hub Server is now in operation; with Kentucky and Ohio utilizing the PMIX Hub Server to exchange test Prescription Monitoring Program data!

The U. S. Department of Justice, through the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is supporting the PMIX project, to develop an efficient, cost-effective way for states to share their PDMP data with other states. The IJIS Institute (Ashburn, VA) is providing project leadership with guidance from the BJA/IJIS PMP Committee. The PMIX design is based

upon use of a central PMIX Hub Server currently located in the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy Data Center. This structure will allow states to implement one secure point-to-point communication link to the PMIX Hub Server; significantly reducing the cost and effort that would be required to implement a communications link with every exchange partner state. This single link will allow a state PMP to process a request from one of its authorized users for data from additional states by transmitting one request to the PMIX Hub Server; rather than transmitting individual requests to each state from which data is desired.

In addition to the testing underway between Kentucky and Ohio, the PMIX Hub Server is available to other states that would like to begin testing an interface to their PMP. Several states are currently reviewing the PMIX design and preparing to implement a link between their PMP and the PMIX Hub Server. The BJA/IJIS PMP Committee is

currently working with BJA and the Alliance to make available a PMIX Interface Control Document that contains the technical design specifications to establish linkage between a state PMP and the PMIX Hub Server.

Upon completion of this test phase of the project, plans are to begin work on a production system to exchange real data, using a pilot group of users within Ohio and Kentucky. The goal is to demonstrate the ability to share real PMP data and then expand use of the PMIX Hub to support production level data exchanges among all users in Ohio, Kentucky and other states.

An Alliance committee is currently investigating options for establishing a governing body that will represent the state PMPs and will be responsible for all aspects of PMIX Hub Server operation. For more information on the PMIX project please contact BJA/IJIS PMP Committee vice-chairman Dave Hopkins at [Dave.Hopkins@ky.gov](mailto:Dave.Hopkins@ky.gov).

## Alliance/Brandeis Providing Assistance

### TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

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The Alliance/Brandeis Training and Technical Assistance Center continues to provide assistance to members and affiliated organizations.

If you are looking for information, training, or assistance, feel free to contact us. We will provide you with the information you need and

even contact other states to gather nationwide information.

We can help with: evaluation, costs, laws, regulations, vendors, advisory groups, education, and more.



Alliance's Annual Meeting  
October 19-20 2009  
Doubletree Hotel  
San Diego, CA

More information and on-line registration can be found at:  
[www.pmpalliance.org](http://www.pmpalliance.org)



## ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER...

We hope you are enjoying our bi-monthly newsletter. Our intent is to provide our members and federal partners with the news and information important to PMPs.

We very much want to hear from you and any suggestions you may have about information or reports you would like to see in future newsletters.

Our next newsletter will spotlight another existing or newly implemented PMP.

Again, if your PMP is doing something new or different, please let us know and we will include it in future issues.

The newsletter is a great place to share information and news about PMPs and the people involved in their operations. Keep the Alliance community informed by submitting your information .



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