

That may be because the greatest part of that \$14 billion fortune tallied by Forbes came from OxyContin, the narcotic painkiller regarded by many public-health experts as among the most dangerous products ever sold on a mass scale. – Esquire

Federal Court Orders North Carolina Pharmacy, Pharmacy Owner, and Pharmacist-in-Charge to Pay More Than \$1 Million and Stop Dispensing Opioids

A federal court in the Eastern District of North Carolina entered a consent judgment and injunction requiring a North Carolina pharmacy, Seashore Drugs Inc., its owner, John D. Waggett, and its pharmacist-in-charge, Billy W. King II, to pay \$1,050,000.00 in civil penalties and to cease dispensing opioids or other controlled substances, the Department of Justice announced.

The consent order resolves a complaint filed by the United States alleging that Seashore Drugs, Waggett, and King repeatedly filled prescriptions for opioids and other controlled substances in violation of the Controlled Substances Act. The United States alleged that, for years, defendants ignored well-known “red flags” of drug diversion and drug-seeking behavior when filling prescriptions for controlled substances. These prescriptions often involved well-known, highly addictive, and highly abused painkillers such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, and methadone, along with other “potentiator” drugs — drugs that heighten the euphoric effects of opioids, like carisoprodol (i.e., Soma) and alprazolam (i.e., Xanax).

“The Department of Justice continues to use all tools at its disposal to combat the opioid crisis,” said Acting Assistant Attorney General Jeffrey Bossert Clark of the Department of Justice’s Civil Division. “Reports indicate that COVID-19 has exacerbated many of the opioid crisis’s underlying causes. As a result, the Civil Division, DEA, and other law enforcement partners have redoubled efforts to ensure that pharmacies that fail to uphold their obligation to dispense controlled substances lawfully are held accountable.”

“Opioid addiction and abuse have devastated communities across our nation, and eastern North Carolina is no exception,” said Robert J. Higdon, Jr., U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina. “As the last line of defense between these dangerously addictive substances and our communities, pharmacists and pharmacies play a critical role in stemming the tide of the opioid

epidemic. Seashore, Waggett, and King ignored that responsibility and, instead, made matters worse. Today's order demonstrates our office's continued, unwavering commitment to hold responsible all who had a role to play in this crisis — from distributors, to prescribers, to the pharmacies who ultimately put the pills in patients' hands."

"These pharmacists abandoned their code of ethics," said Robert J. Murphy, Special Agent in Charge of the DEA. "If diversion of controlled substances is suspected, pharmacists must investigate and resolve any red flags before filling a prescription. These steps are necessary to comply with the law and to protect patient health. We will not hesitate to use all federal resources necessary to ensure that members of the health care industry follow the law."

As alleged in the complaint, which included several patient examples, many prescriptions raised multiple red flags, but Seashore Drugs, Waggett, and King failed to take the required steps to resolve those red flags and ensure the prescriptions' legitimacy before filling them. The red flags allegedly ignored by Seashore Drugs, Waggett, and King were numerous and included, among others:

Combinations of controlled substances that were highly unlikely to serve a legitimate medical purpose and/or were known "cocktails" favored by drug abusers, including numerous "cocktails" written by a physician whose prescribing privileges ultimately were suspended by the North Carolina Medical Board for improper opioid prescribing;

Extremely high doses of opioids dispensed for years on end, including high-dose opioid prescriptions written by a prescriber located in another state hundreds of miles away and written for members of the same family; and

Repeated early fills of prescriptions allowing individuals, over time, to receive many extra doses of opioids and other controlled substances.

As set forth in the complaint, this conduct led Seashore to develop a reputation in the local pharmacy community as a place that filled prescriptions other pharmacies refused. And within the pharmacy, it is alleged that King often filled prescriptions for customers his own pharmacists, no longer on shift, previously refused to fill. Seashore staff even reported to King that individuals were exchanging recently dispensed drugs on the bench outside the pharmacy, but King took no action. Multiple customers who filled opioid prescriptions at Seashore died from prescription-drug overdoses within days after Seashore dispensed their pills.

The defendants have not admitted the allegations in the complaint, but the parties agreed to resolve the case without further litigation. The court adopted the parties' agreement and entered a consent order that, among other things:

Permanently prohibits Waggett from dispensing opioids or other controlled substances;

Prohibits King from dispensing Schedule II controlled substances, including most opioids, for 180 days and then requires King to submit to further DEA monitoring for 3 years; and

Permanently prohibits Waggett and King from serving as a manager, owner, operator, or pharmacist-in-charge of any entity, including a pharmacy, that administers, dispenses, or distributes controlled substances.

Trial Attorney James W. Harlow of the Civil Division's Consumer Protection Branch and Assistant U.S. Attorneys C. Michael Anderson and John E. Harris of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of North Carolina represented the United States. The Greensboro Resident Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration investigated the case. Additional investigatory assistance was provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General and the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy.

Hogan Administration Announces 22% Decline in Opioid Prescriptions Since 2017

Nearly 20% Fewer Patients Receiving Opiates as Maryland Continues All-Hands-on-Deck Effort to Confront Epidemic

ANNAPOLIS, MD—The number of opioid prescriptions in Maryland has dropped by more than 22% since 2017, with nearly 20% fewer patients receiving opiates during the same period, the Hogan administration announced today. This decrease is attributed in part to an electronic prescription tracking system known as the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP).

The PDMP—operated by the Maryland Department of Health (MDH)—is a secure data platform that collects and presents information about prescriptions containing controlled drugs, like opioids. This data allows health care providers to make more informed clinical decisions, helping to prevent drug misuse while preserving patients' legitimate access to prescription pain relievers and other controlled drugs.

"Since day one, our administration has been committed to shining a spotlight on the heroin and opioid epidemic and using every tool at our disposal to focus on this crisis, and to bring a heightened level of awareness to this threat, which is tearing apart families and devastating communities," said Governor Hogan. "While we have bent the curve downward on overmedication and misuse, we must continue working together with an all-hands-on-deck approach in order to save thousands of lives."

The Hogan administration has committed more than \$1 billion to combat the heroin and opioid epidemic. Substance abuse spending has more than doubled since Governor Hogan took office, with spending on substance use disorder residential treatment alone increasing by nearly 500% since FY16.

According to PDMP data released today, the number of opioid prescriptions in Maryland has dropped to about 2.8 million in 2019 from nearly 3.7 million in 2017. The number of patients receiving opioid prescriptions during that time decreased from over 1 million to about 826,000.

"We are confident that armed with accurate data and support, practitioners will find the balance between prescribing life-saving drugs when necessary and avoiding overmedicating patients with addictive substances," said MDH Secretary Robert R. Neall.

To further partner with practitioners, MDH recently created the Office of Provider Engagement and Regulation (OPER). This office will work closely with authorized controlled substance prescribers and pharmacists to enable easy access to PDMP data and encourage alignment with best practices. The office also shares information with health care providers about substance use disorder treatment, co-prescribing naloxone to reduce the number of fatal overdoses, and ongoing opioid risk reduction initiatives.

"We want to support providers in delivering quality care to Maryland patients, not stop them from prescribing or dispensing medications that many patients need," said OPER Director Kate Jackson. "Our

outreach is expanding to include professional education, promoting resources and tools to enhance informed medical decision-making in connection with therapies involving controlled substances.”

“Recently released PDMP data show a substantial and promising decline in the total amount of opioids reaching Marylanders,” said Steve Schuh, executive director of the state’s Opioid Operational Command Center. “Today’s trends indicate the medical profession has done an outstanding job of altering prescribing practices to better align with the needs of patients.”

National Health Care Fraud and Opioid Takedown Results in Charges Against 345 Defendants Responsible for More than \$6 Billion in Alleged Fraud Losses

Largest Health Care Fraud and Opioid Enforcement Action in Department of Justice History

Acting Assistant Attorney General Brian C. Rabbitt of the Justice Department’s Criminal Division, Assistant Director Calvin Shivers of the FBI’s Criminal Investigative Division, Deputy Inspector General Gary Cantrell of the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG) and Assistant Administrator Tim McDermott of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) today announced a historic nationwide enforcement action involving 345 charged defendants across 51 federal districts, including more than 100 doctors, nurses and other licensed medical professionals.

These defendants have been charged with submitting more than \$6 billion in false and fraudulent claims to federal health care programs and private insurers, including more than \$4.5 billion connected to telemedicine, more than \$845 million connected to substance abuse treatment facilities, or “sober homes,” and more than \$806 million connected to other health care fraud and illegal opioid distribution schemes across the country.

Today’s enforcement actions were led and coordinated by the Criminal Division, Fraud Section’s Health Care Fraud Unit, in conjunction with its Health Care Fraud and Appalachian Regional Prescription Opioid (ARPO) Strike Force program, and its core partners, the U.S. Attorneys’ Offices, HHS-OIG, FBI, and DEA, as part of the department’s ongoing efforts to combat the devastating effects of health care fraud and the opioid epidemic. The cases announced today are being prosecuted by Health Care Fraud and ARPO Strike Force teams from the Criminal Division’s Fraud Section, along with 43 U.S. Attorneys’ Offices nationwide, and agents from HHS-OIG, FBI, DEA, and other various federal and state law enforcement agencies.

“This nationwide enforcement operation is historic in both its size and scope, alleging billions of dollars in healthcare fraud across the country,” said Acting Assistant Attorney General Brian C. Rabbitt. “These cases hold accountable those medical professionals and others who have exploited health care benefit programs and patients for personal gain. The cooperative law enforcement actions announced today send a clear deterrent message and should leave no doubt about the department’s ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety of patients and the integrity of health care benefit programs, even amid a national health emergency.”

“Telemedicine can foster efficient, high-quality care when practiced appropriately and lawfully. Unfortunately, bad actors attempt to abuse telemedicine services and leverage aggressive marketing techniques to mislead beneficiaries about their health care needs and bill the government for illegitimate services,” said HHS Deputy Inspector General Gary Cantrell. “Unfortunately, audacious schemes such as these are prevalent and often harmful. Therefore, collaboration is critical in our fight

against health care fraud. We will continue working with our law enforcement partners to hold accountable those who steal from federal health programs and protect the millions of beneficiaries who rely on them.”

“The FBI, together with our federal, state, and local partners, remains steadfast in our commitment to identify and root out health care fraud, no matter what form it takes,” said Assistant Director Calvin Shivers. “We will continue to work tirelessly to ensure public and private health care dollars are used as intended, to promote the health and safety of all Americans and safeguard continued access to critical health care services.”

“The opioid epidemic our country is battling is exacerbated when unscrupulous individuals seek to profit from people, in particular those confronting addiction.” said DEA Assistant Administrator Tim McDermott. “When doctors, pharmacists, and individuals exploit the weakness of a fellow human being in order to line their own pockets, DEA will use every tool at its disposal to stop and bring them to justice.”

Telemedicine Fraud Cases

The largest amount of alleged fraud loss charged in connection with the cases announced today – \$4.5 billion in allegedly false and fraudulent claims submitted by more than 86 criminal defendants in 19 judicial districts – relates to schemes involving telemedicine: the use of telecommunications technology to provide health care services remotely. According to court documents, certain defendant telemedicine executives allegedly paid doctors and nurse practitioners to order unnecessary durable medical equipment, genetic and other diagnostic testing, and pain medications, either without any patient interaction or with only a brief telephonic conversation with patients they had never met or seen. Durable medical equipment companies, genetic testing laboratories, and pharmacies then purchased those orders in exchange for illegal kickbacks and bribes and submitted false and fraudulent claims to Medicare and other government insurers. In addition to the criminal charges announced today, CMS Center for Program Integrity separately announced that it has taken a record-breaking number of administrative actions related to telemedicine fraud, revoking the Medicare billing privileges of 256 additional medical professionals for their involvement in telemedicine schemes.

The continued focus on prosecuting health care fraud schemes involving telemedicine builds on the efforts and impact of the 2019 “Operation Brace Yourself” Telemedicine and Durable Medical Equipment Takedown, which resulted in an estimated cost avoidance of more than \$1.5 billion in the amount paid by Medicare for orthotic braces in the 17 months following that takedown.

“Sober Homes” Cases

The “sober homes” cases announced today include charges against more than a dozen criminal defendants in connection with more than \$845 million of allegedly false and fraudulent claims for tests and treatments for vulnerable patients seeking treatment for drug and/or alcohol addiction. The subjects of the charges include physicians, owners and operators of substance abuse treatment facilities, as well as patient recruiters (referred to in the industry as “body brokers”). These individuals are alleged to have participated in schemes involving the payment of illegal kickbacks and bribes for the referral of scores of patients to substance abuse treatment facilities; those patients were subjected to medically unnecessary drug testing – often billing thousands of dollars for a single test – and therapy

sessions that were frequently not provided, and which resulted in millions of dollars of false and fraudulent claims being submitted to private insurers. Medical professionals also allegedly prescribed medically unnecessary controlled substances and other medications to these patients, sometimes to entice them to stay at the facility. The patients were then often discharged and admitted to other treatment facilities, or referred to other laboratories and clinics, in exchange for more kickbacks.

Cases Involving the Illegal Prescription and/or Distribution of Opioids And Cases Involving Traditional Health Care Fraud Schemes

The cases announced today involving the illegal prescription and/or distribution of opioids or that fall into more traditional categories of health care fraud include charges and guilty pleas involving more than 240 defendants who allegedly participated in schemes to submit more than \$800 million in false and fraudulent claims to Medicare, Medicaid, TRICARE, and private insurance companies for treatments that were medically unnecessary and often never provided. According to court documents, in many cases, patient recruiters, beneficiaries and other co-conspirators were allegedly paid cash kickbacks in return for supplying beneficiary information to providers, so that the providers could then submit fraudulent bills to Medicare. Also included are charges against medical professionals and others involved in the distribution of more than 30 million doses of opioids and other prescription narcotics.

National Rapid Response Strike Force

In connection with the nationwide enforcement action announced today, the Department of Justice also announced the creation of the National Rapid Response Strike Force of the Health Care Fraud Unit of the Criminal Division's Fraud Section. The National Rapid Response Strike Force's mission is to investigate and prosecute fraud cases involving major health care providers that operate in multiple jurisdictions, including major regional health care providers operating in the Criminal-Division-led Health Care Fraud Strike Forces throughout the United States. The National Rapid Response Strike Force led the telemedicine initiative and helped lead the sober homes cases included in today's announcement.

Prior to the charges announced as part of today's nationwide enforcement action and since its inception in March 2007, the Health Care Fraud Strike Force program had charged more than 4,200 defendants who have collectively billed the Medicare program for approximately \$19 billion.

A complaint, information or indictment is merely an allegation, and all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

The following documents related to today's announcement are available on the Criminal Division, Fraud Section's Health Care Fraud Unit website through the following links:

- Graphics, Images and Resources: <https://www.justice.gov/criminal-fraud/hcf-2020-takedown/graphics-images-resources>
- Case Descriptions: <https://www.justice.gov/criminal-fraud/hcf-2020-takedown/case-descriptions>
- Court Documents: <https://www.justice.gov/criminal-fraud/hcf-2020-takedown/court-documents>

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Justice Department Announces Global Resolution of Criminal and Civil Investigations with Opioid Manufacturer Purdue Pharma and Civil Settlement with Members of the Sackler Family

Today, the Department of Justice announced a global resolution of its criminal and civil investigations into the opioid manufacturer Purdue Pharma LP (Purdue), and a civil resolution of its civil investigation into individual shareholders from the Sackler family. The resolutions with Purdue are subject to the approval of the bankruptcy court.

“The abuse and diversion of prescription opioids has contributed to a national tragedy of addiction and deaths, in addition to those caused by illicit street opioids,” said Deputy Attorney General Jeffrey A. Rosen. “With criminal guilty pleas, a federal settlement of more than \$8 billion, and the dissolution of a company and repurposing its assets entirely for the public’s benefit, the resolution in today’s announcement re-affirms that the Department of Justice will not relent in its multi-pronged efforts to combat the opioids crisis.”

“Today’s resolution is the result of years of hard work by the FBI and its partners to combat the opioid crisis in the U.S.,” said Steven M. D’Antuono, Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI Washington Field Office. “Purdue, through greed and violation of the law, prioritized money over the health and well-being of patients. The FBI remains committed to holding companies accountable for their illegal and inexcusable activity and to seeking justice, on behalf of the victims, for those who contributed to the opioid crisis.”

“The opioid epidemic remains a significant public health challenge that impacts the lives of men and women across the country,” said Gary L. Cantrell Deputy Inspector General for Investigations at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of Inspector General. “Unfortunately, Purdue’s reckless actions and violation of the law senselessly risked patients’ health and well-being. With our law enforcement partners, we will continue to combat the opioid crisis, including holding the pharmaceutical industry and its executives accountable.”

“This resolution closes a particularly sad chapter in the ongoing battle against opioid addiction,” said Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Assistant Administrator Tim McDermott. “Purdue Pharma actively thwarted the United States’ efforts to ensure compliance and prevent diversion. The devastating ripple effect of Purdue’s actions left lives lost and others addicted. DEA will continue to work tirelessly with our partners and the pharmaceutical industry to address the damage that has been done, and bring an end to this epidemic that has gripped the nation for far too long.”

Purdue Pharma has agreed to plead guilty in federal court in New Jersey to a three-count felony information charging it with one count of dual-object conspiracy to defraud the United States and to violate the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and two counts of conspiracy to violate the Federal Anti-Kickback Statute. The criminal resolution includes the largest penalties ever levied against a pharmaceutical manufacturer, including a criminal fine of \$3.544 billion and an additional \$2 billion in criminal forfeiture. For the \$2 billion forfeiture, the company will pay \$225 million on the effective date of the bankruptcy, and, as further explained below, the department is willing to credit the value conferred by the company to State and local governments under the department’s anti-piling on and coordination policy. Purdue has also agreed to a civil settlement in the amount of \$2.8 billion to resolve

its civil liability under the False Claims Act. Separately, the Sackler family has agreed to pay \$225 million in damages to resolve its civil False Claims Act liability.

The resolutions do not include the criminal release of any individuals, including members of the Sackler family, nor are any of the company's executives or employees receiving civil releases.

While the global resolution with the company is subject to approval by the bankruptcy court in the Southern District of New York, one important condition in the resolution is that the company would cease to operate in its current form and would instead emerge from bankruptcy as a public benefit company (PBC) owned by a trust or similar entity designed for the benefit of the American public, to function entirely in the public interest. Indeed, not only will the PBC endeavor to deliver legitimate prescription drugs in a manner as safe as possible, but it will aim to donate, or provide steep discounts for, life-saving overdose rescue drugs and medically assisted treatment medications to communities, and the proceeds of the trust will be directed toward State and local opioid abatement programs. Based on the value that would be conferred to State and local governments through the PBC, the department is willing to credit up to \$1.775 billion against the agreed \$2 billion forfeiture amount. The department looks forward to working with the creditor groups in the bankruptcy in charting the path forward for this PBC so that its public health goals can be best accomplished.

The Criminal Pleas

As part of the plea, Purdue will admit that from May 2007 through at least March 2017, Purdue conspired to defraud the United States by impeding the lawful function of the DEA by representing to the DEA that Purdue maintained an effective anti-diversion program when, in fact, Purdue continued to market its opioid products to more than 100 health care providers whom the company had good reason to believe were diverting opioids and by reporting misleading information to the DEA to boost Purdue's manufacturing quotas. The misleading information comprised prescription data that included prescriptions written by doctors that Purdue had good reason to believe were engaged in diversion. The conspiracy also involved aiding and abetting violations of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act by facilitating the dispensing of its opioid products, including OxyContin, without a legitimate medical purpose, and thus without lawful prescriptions.

In addition, Purdue will admit to conspiring to violate the Federal Anti-Kickback Statute. Between June 2009 and March 2017, Purdue made payments to two doctors through Purdue's doctor speaker program to induce those doctors to write more prescriptions of Purdue's opioid products. Similarly, from approximately April 2016 through December 2016, Purdue made payments to Practice Fusion Inc., an electronic health records company, in exchange for referring, recommending, and arranging for the ordering of Purdue's extended release opioid products – OxyContin, Butrans, and Hysingla.

The Civil Settlements

The department's civil settlements resolve the United States' claims as to both Purdue and its individual shareholders, members of the Sackler family.

The civil settlement with Purdue provides the United States with an allowed, unsubordinated, general unsecured bankruptcy claim for recovery of \$2.8 billion. This settlement resolves allegations that from 2010 to 2018, Purdue caused false claims to be submitted to federal health care programs, specifically Medicare, Medicaid, TRICARE, the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, and the Indian Health Service. The government alleged that Purdue promoted its opioid drugs to health care providers it knew were prescribing opioids for uses that were unsafe, ineffective, and medically unnecessary, and that often led to abuse and diversion. For example, Purdue learned that one doctor was known by patients as “the Candyman” and was prescribing “crazy dosing of OxyContin,” yet Purdue had sales representatives meet with the doctor more than 300 times. It also resolves the government’s allegations that Purdue engaged in three different kickback schemes to induce prescriptions of its opioids. First, Purdue paid certain doctors ostensibly to provide educational talks to other health care professionals and serve as consultants, but in reality to induce them to prescribe more OxyContin. Second, Purdue paid kickbacks to Practice Fusion, as described above. Third, Purdue entered into contracts with certain specialty pharmacies to fill prescriptions for Purdue’s opioid drugs that other pharmacies had rejected as potentially lacking medical necessity.

Under a separate civil settlement, individual members of the Sackler family will pay the United States \$225 million arising from the alleged conduct of Dr. Richard Sackler, David Sackler, Mortimer D.A. Sackler, Dr. Kathe Sackler, and Jonathan Sackler (the Named Sacklers). This settlement resolves allegations that, in 2012, the Named Sacklers knew that the legitimate market for Purdue’s opioids had contracted. Nevertheless, they requested that Purdue executives recapture lost sales and increase Purdue’s share of the opioid market. The Named Sacklers then approved a new marketing program beginning in 2013 called “Evolve to Excellence,” through which Purdue sales representatives intensified their marketing of OxyContin to extreme, high-volume prescribers who were already writing “25 times as many OxyContin scripts” as their peers, causing health care providers to prescribe opioids for uses that were unsafe, ineffective, and medically unnecessary, and that often led to abuse and diversion.

The civil settlement also resolves the government’s allegations that from approximately 2008 to 2018, at the Named Sacklers’ request, Purdue transferred assets into Sackler family holding companies and trusts that were made to hinder future creditors, and/or were otherwise voidable as fraudulent transfers.

Today’s resolution does not resolve claims that states may have against Purdue or members of the Sackler family, nor does it impede the debtors’ ability to recover any fraudulent transfers.

Today’s announcement was made by Deputy Attorney General Jeffrey A. Rosen; Acting Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Division Jeffrey Clark; U.S. Attorney for the District of Vermont Christina Nolan; and First Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey Rachael Honig. The criminal investigation was conducted by the U.S. Attorney’s Offices for the Districts of New Jersey and Vermont, the Consumer Protection Branch of the Department of Justice’s Civil Division, and the FBI’s Washington, D.C. and Newark Field Offices, with assistance by the DEA and the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Ohio. The civil settlements were handled by the Fraud Section of the Commercial Litigation Branch of the Department of Justice’s Civil Division, and the U.S. Attorney’s Offices for the Districts of New Jersey and Vermont, with assistance from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of General Counsel and Office of Counsel to the Inspector General; the Defense Health Agency; and the Office of Personnel Management. The Purdue bankruptcy matter is being handled by

the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York and the Civil Division's Commercial Litigation Branch, Corporate/Finance Section.

Except to the extent of Purdue's admissions as part of its criminal resolution, the claims resolved by the civil settlements are allegations only. There has been no determination of liability in the civil matters.

OXYCODONE ARREST IN CALVERT COUNTY

CDS Violation Case #14-11605:

On February 28 at 9:25 p.m. DFC Y. Bortchevsky responded to an abandoned home in the 3700 block of Hunting Creek Road in Huntingtown for the report of a car parked in the driveway. Upon making contact with the two occupants, he found the male seated in the drivers' seat to appear drowsy and to have suspected drug paraphernalia and a white powdery substance on him. A search revealed suspected drugs. Daniel Aaron Streeter, 21 of Huntingtown, was arrested and charged with possession of a schedule II drug; Oxycodone and possession with intent to use drug paraphernalia; a short plastic straw.

Two federal opioid lawsuits go back to Oklahoma, California

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Feb. 11, 2020

OKLAHOMA CITY — A federal judicial panel is sending two federal opioid lawsuits back to federal courts in Oklahoma and California where they were initially filed in an effort to streamline the cases that are among nearly 2,700 now pending in federal court in Ohio.

The Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation accepted a November recommendation from U.S. District Judge Dan Polster in Cleveland and last week returned the lawsuits by the Oklahoma-based Cherokee Nation and the City and County of San Francisco to federal courts in the Eastern District of Oklahoma and the Northern District of California.

Polster is overseeing the nearly 2,700 lawsuits brought by local governments, Native American tribes, hospitals and unions against various manufacturers, distributors and pharmacies over the opioid crisis that is blamed for more than 400,000 deaths since 2000.

Troopers seize \$30,600 worth of oxycodone pills in Madison County

COLUMBUS — Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers filed a felony drug charge against an Ohio man after a traffic stop in Madison County. During the traffic stop, troopers seized 1,020 oxycodone pills worth approximately \$30,600.

On October 15, 2020, at 1:11 p.m., troopers stopped a 2006 Kia Sportage with Illinois registration for a speed violation on Interstate 70. Criminal indicators were observed and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search of the vehicle revealed the contraband.

The suspect, George Seese, 35, Marblehead, was incarcerated in the Madison County Jail and charged with possession of drugs, a first-degree felony.

If convicted, he could face up to 11 years in prison and up to a \$20,000 fine.

A photo of the seized contraband is available for download on the Patrol's website at www.statepatrol.ohio.gov

Political Contributions to Candidates for Office and Political Campaign Committees and PACs from Purdue Pharma / Sackler family members:

Source: Federal Election Commission

ELIZABETH SACKLER DENIES HER BRANCH OF FAMILY PROFITED FROM OXYCONTIN

After recovering addict Goldin announced that she has started a petition and online campaign against the Sacklers' company, Purdue Pharma — which has been accused of profiting from the opioid epidemic — Elizabeth Sackler [told THE NEW YORK POST](#) in a statement: "Purdue Pharma's role in [the crisis] is morally abhorrent to me. I admire Nan Goldin's commitment to take action and her courage to tell her story. I stand in solidarity with artists and thinkers whose work and voices must be heard."

She added that her father, Arthur M. Sackler, died in 1987, before OxyContin existed, and said that his stake was sold to his brothers.

"None of his descendants have ever owned a share of Purdue stock nor benefitted in any way from it or the sale of OxyContin."

2019

BETH SACKLER, ACT BLUE, Not Employed, Year to Date \$250, Dec. 25, 2019, **Stop Republicans Committee**.

2018

RICHARD SACKLER, Stamford, CT., CO-CHAIR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,400.00, **DIBICELLA FOR CONGRESS**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, House Connecticut.

ARTHUR SACKLER, New York, NY, Managing Director, \$500, DR. KADE PHARMA, **KAMALA HARRIS FOR CONGRESS**, Sept. 10, 2018.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, retired, \$3,000 year to date on Oct. 3, 2018, **SINEMA FOR ARIZONA**, Democratic Party, Arizona

G.L.T. SACKLER, New York, NY, retired \$1,700, Aug. 6, 2018, to **FEINSTEIN FOR SENATE 2024**, Democratic Party, Senate

BETH SACKLER, earmarked by ACTBLUE, New York, NY, not employed, \$750, March 31, 2018, to **David Richardson for Congress**, Florida

2017

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT, Director, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$1,041.67, July 18, 2017, **NEXT CENTURY FUND, PAC**, Virginia.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT, Director, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$1,041.67, June 30, 2017, **NEBRASKA SANDHILLS PAC**, Virginia.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$3,125.00, April 7, 2017, **NRSC, REPUBLICAN PARTY**, District of Columbia.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., MANAGING DIRECTOR, NORTH BAY ASSOCIATES, \$2,700.00, March 15, 2017, **FRIENDS OF CHRIS MURPHY**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Connecticut.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., MANAGING DIRECTOR, NORTH BAY ASSOCIATES, \$2,700.00, March 15, 2017, **FRIENDS OF CHRIS MURPHY**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Connecticut.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$6,250.00, April 7, 2017, **MONDAY MEETING PAC**, Virginia.

JONATHAN D SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Director, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$1041,66, 21st CENTURY MAJORITY FUND, Georgia. (The 21st Century Majority Fund raised \$349,279.58 in 2019)

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, not employed, \$1,000, Nov. 30, 2017, **DSCC, DEMOCRATIC PARTY**, District of Columbia.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, not employed, \$2,000, Nov. 9, 2017, **SINEMA for ARIZONA**, Senate, Arizona.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, not employed, \$1,000, **DSSC, DEMOCRATIC PARTY**, District of Columbia.

BEVERLY SACKLER, Greenwich, CT, Retired, \$2500 year to date, \$500, June 12, 2017, **ELIZABETH FOR MA, INC.**, Senate, Massachusetts. (The **ELIZABETH FOR MA, INC.**, raised over \$10 million dollars for **Elizabeth Warren for the U.S. Senate** race in Massachusetts)

BEVERLEY SACKLER, Greenwich, CT, Retired, \$500, April 27, 2017, **ELIZABETH FOR MA, INC.**, Senate, Massachusetts.

MORTIMER SACKLER, New York, NY, Board Member, PURDUE PHARMA, \$1,000, May 16, 2017, **STIVERS FOR CONGRESS**, Republican Party, House Ohio.

MORTIMER SACKLER, New York, NY, Investor, Self-employed, \$1,041.66, April 19, 2017, **NEXT CENTURY FUND, PAC**, Virginia.

ARTHUR SACKLER, New York, NY, Managing Director, DR. KADE PHARMA, \$27 earmarked for **NAJJAR for Congress**, Massachusetts

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, not employed, \$500 December 21, 2017, **DEMOCRATIC PARTY, DEMOCRATIC SENATE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE (DSCC)**, District of Columbia

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, not employed, \$250, Dec. 11, 2017, **DOUG JONES FOR SENATE COMMITTEE**, Democratic Party, Senate, Alabama.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, not employed, \$1,000, Dec. 10, 2017, **DOUG JONES FOR SENATE COMMITTEE**, Democratic Party, Senate, Alabama.

2016

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT, Member, KOKINO LLC, \$2,000, CONNECTICUT STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, DEMOCRATIC PARTY (Kokino is based out of Stamford. Their last reported 13F filing for Q3 2019 included \$26,982,000 in managed 13F securities and a top 10 holdings concentration of 100.0%. Kokino's largest holding is Amtech Systems Inc. with shares held of 2,250,000. Whalewisdom has at least 21 13F filings.)

JONATHAN DAVID SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,700, August 29, 2016, HILLARY VICTORY FUND, **HILLARY FOR AMERICA**, Presidential, New York.

JONATHAN DAVID SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$12,500, August 29, 2016, **HILLARY VICTORY FUND**, PAC, New York.



JONATHAN DAVID SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., PURDUE PHARMA, \$9,800, August 29, 2016, **DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, District of Columbia.

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, Ct., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$100, **June 28, 2016, BENNET FOR COLORADO**, Senate, Colorado. [In 2017, there were 578 overdose deaths](#) involving opioids in Colorado—a rate of 10.0 deaths per 100,000 persons compared to the average national rate of 14.6 deaths per 100,000 persons.

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$5,400.00, June 28, 2016, **BENNET FOR COLORADO**, Senate, Colorado.

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Director, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,800.00, June 27, 2016, **BENNET COLORADO VICTORY**, PAC, Colorado.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR PURDUE PHARMA, \$5,400, May 6, 2016, **HIMES FOR CONGRESS**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, Connecticut. [Unintentional Overdose deaths](#) in Connecticut in 2015, 2016. [Opioid Epidemic](#) in Town of Fairfield. [CT Drug Overdose Deaths Town-By-Town In 2019](#)

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$2,083.34, April 8, 2016, **NEXT CENTURY FUND**, PAC, Virginia.

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., EXECUTIVE, PURDUE PHARMA INC., \$5,000, March 10, 2016, PURDUE PHARMA INC. POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (PURDUE PAC), Connecticut.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT, DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$2,083.33, Feb. 2, 2016, **KEEP ELECTED LEADERS LISTENING TO YOU PAC**, Virginia.

JONATHAN D SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$2,083.33, Feb.2, 2016, **21st CENTURY MAJORITY FUND**, PAC, Georgia.

JONATHAN D SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$12,500.00, Feb. 2, 2016, **MONDAY MEETING PAC**, Virginia.

JONATHAN D SACKLER, GREENWICH, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$6,250.00., Feb. 2, 2016, **MONDAY MEETING PAC**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, District of Columbia.

JONATHAN D SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,700.00, **LINDSEY GRAHAM 2016**, Presidential, South Carolina.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, \$1,500, Nov. 14, 2016, **FOSTER CAMPBELL FOR THE US SENATE**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Louisiana.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, not employed, \$500, Nov. 4, 2016, **MAGGIE FOR NH**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, New Hampshire.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, not employed, \$500, **KATIE MCGINTY FOR SENATE**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Pennsylvania.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, Psychologist, \$1,000, Nov. 3, 2016, **MISSOURIANS FOR KANDER**, Senate, Missouri.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, Psychologist, Not Employed, \$1,000, Nov. 3, 2016, **HILLARY FOR AMERICA**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Presidential, New York

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, Psychologist, self-employed, \$1,000, Nov. 3, 2016, **MISSOURIANS FOR KANDER**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Missouri.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, Psychologist, Self-employed, \$1,000, Nov. 3, 2016, **CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTRO FOR SENATE**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Nevada.

BETH SACKLER, New York, NY, Psychologist, self-employed, \$2,700.00., March 4, 2016, **HILLARY FOR AMERICA**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Presidential, New York.

MORTIMER SACKLER, New York, NY, BOARD MEMBER, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,000, Dec. 21, 2016, **MAJORITY COMMITTEE PAC**, California.

MORTIMER SACKLER, New York, NY., Investor, Self-employed, \$1,041.66, April 8, 2016, **NEXT CENTURY FUND**, PAC, Virginia.

MORTIMER SACKLER, New York, NY., Investor, \$1,000, March 18, 2016, **KASICH FOR AMERICA INC.**, Presidential, Ohio. In 2018, 3,764 Ohioans died of unintentional drug overdoses, a decrease of 1,090 compared to 2017 and the lowest number of deaths since 2015, according to state health data.

MORTIMER SACKLER, New York, NY, Self-employed, \$2,700.00, Jan. 13, 2016, **FRIENDS OF DENA**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, Florida.

MORTIMER D SACKLER, New York, NY, FOUNDER, STILLWATER HOLDINGS, \$3,125.00, **NRSC**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, District of Columbia.

ARTHUR SACKLER, New York, NY, Executive, DR. KADE PHARAM, \$50, Sept. 30, 2016, **PROGRESSIVE CHANGE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**, PAC, District of Columbia.

ARTHUR SACKLER, New York, NY, Executive, DR. KADE PHARMA COMPANY, \$250, Jan. 22, 2016, MAYDAY PAC, Super PAC, District of Columbia.

DAME JILLIAN SACKLER, New York, NY, CEO AMS FOUNDATION, \$33,400.00, Sept. 15, 2016, **DCCC** DEMOCRATIC PARTY, District of Columbia.

BEVERLY SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Retired, \$1,000, April 15, 2016, **DSCC**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, District of Columbia.

BEVERLY SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Retired, \$500, Oct. 24, 2016, **DSCC**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, District of Columbia.

BEVERLY SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Retired, \$500, March 14, 2016, **HILLARY VICTORY FUND**, PAC, New York.

BEVERLY SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Retired, \$500, July 20, 2016, **MIDWEST VALUES PAC**, Minnesota.

BEVERLY SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Retired, \$500.00, Jan. 25, 2016, **BLUMENTHAL FOR CONNECTICUT**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Connecticut

BEVERLY SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Retired, \$2,700.00 July 6, 2016, **BENNET COLORADO VICTORY**, PAC, Colorado.

2015

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., EXECUTIVE, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,600.00, Jan. 30, 2015, **BENNET FOR COLORADO**, Senate, Colorado.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$1,041.66, Feb. 2, 2015, KEEP ELECTED LEADERS LISTENING TO YOU PAC, Virginia.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$1,041.67, Feb. 2, 2015, **21ST CENTURY MAJORITY FUND**, PAC, Georgia.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$3,125.00, Feb. 2, 2015, **NRSC**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, District of Columbia.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$6,250.00, Feb. 2, 2015, MONDAY MEETING PAC, Virginia.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,700.00 March 3, 2015, **LINDSEY GRAHAM**, Presidential, South Carolina. [South Carolina Opioid Overdose deaths in 2017](#).

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$1,041.67, April 17, 2015, **NEXT CENTURY FUND**, PAC, Virginia.

JONATHAN D SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$10,000.00, Sept. 28, 2015, **CONNECTICUT DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Connecticut.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Managing Partner, NORTH BAY ASSOCIATES, \$2,500.00, Dec. 25, 2015, **LEADERS IN EDUCATION**, PAC, District of Columbia.

RICHARD SACKLER, DIRECTOR, MUNDIPHARMA, \$1,000.00, June 23, 2015, **SCOTT WALKER INC.**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, Presidential, Wisconsin. ([Mundipharma GmbH](#). Mundipharma GmbH operates as a pharmaceutical company. The Company develops and manufactures medicines in the areas of oncology, specialized respiratory, and rheumatology. Mundipharma markets its products in Germany.)

RAYMOND R. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., PHYSICIAN, PURDUE PHARMA, \$1,000.00, Nov. 11, 2015, **BENNET FOR COLORADO**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Colorado.

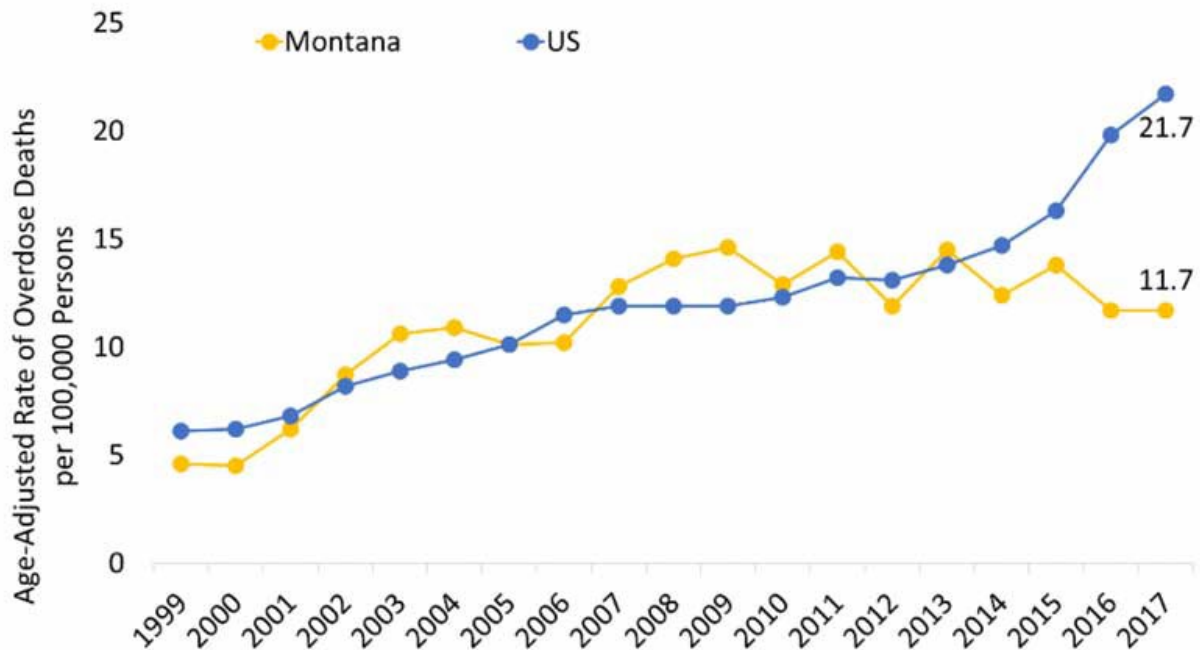
RAYMOND R. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$10,000, Oct. 23, 2015, **CONNECTICUT DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Connecticut.

DAME JILLIAN SACKLER, New York, NY, CEO AMS (ARTHUR M. SACKLER) FOUNDATION, \$33,400.00, July 29, 2015, (**DCCC – Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee**), DEMOCRATIC PARTY, District of Columbia.

2014

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,600.00, March 12, 2014, **HIMES FOR CONGRESS**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, Connecticut. ***“Grassroots support makes all the difference as we take on the powerful special interests that stand in the way of progress.”*** – quote from U.S. Rep. Jim Himes’ website. **Jim Himes**, currently serving his sixth term in Congress, Jim Himes represents Connecticut’s 4th Congressional District, which includes Bridgeport, Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Monroe, New Canaan, Norwalk, Oxford, Redding, Ridgefield, part of Shelton, Stamford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport and Wilton. [Unintentional Overdose deaths](#) in Connecticut in 2015, 2016. [Opioid Epidemic](#) in Town of Fairfield. [CT Drug Overdose Deaths Town-By-Town In 2019](#)

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., EXECUTIVE, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,600.00, Oct. 27, 2014, **RO FOR CONGRESS INC.**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, California.



JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,600.00, June 3, 2014, **STEVE DAINES FOR MONTANA**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, Senate, Montana. (Steve Daines is a U.S. Senator from Montana.) In 2017, Montana providers wrote 61.1 opioid prescriptions for every 100 persons (Figure 2). The average U.S. rate in the same year was 58.7 prescriptions per 100 persons. [Opioid overdose deaths for Montana.](#)

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$500, May 13, 2014. **FRIENDS OF ELIZABETH ESTY**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, Connecticut. (Esty represented the 5th Congressional District of Connecticut from 2013 to 2019). Rep. Elizabeth Esty (D-CT) — a vocal champion of the #MeToo movement — is the first federal female lawmaker of the #MeToo era to resign after a [sexual harassment and misconduct scandal](#) was revealed in her office.

RAYMOND SACKLER, Stamford, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$500.00, July 3, 2014, **CONYERS FOR CONGRESS**, House, District of Columbia. John James Conyers Jr. (May 16, 1929 – October 27, 2019) was an American politician of the Democratic Party who served as a U.S. Representative for Michigan from 1965 to 2017. Conyers served as the ranking Democratic member on the House Committee on the Judiciary from 1995 to 2007 and again from 2011 to 2017. He served as chairman of that committee from 2007 to 2011 and as Chairman of the House Oversight Committee from 1989 to 1995. In the wake of allegations that he had sexually harassed female staff members and secretly used taxpayer money to settle a harassment claim, Conyers announced his resignation from Congress on December 5, 2017.

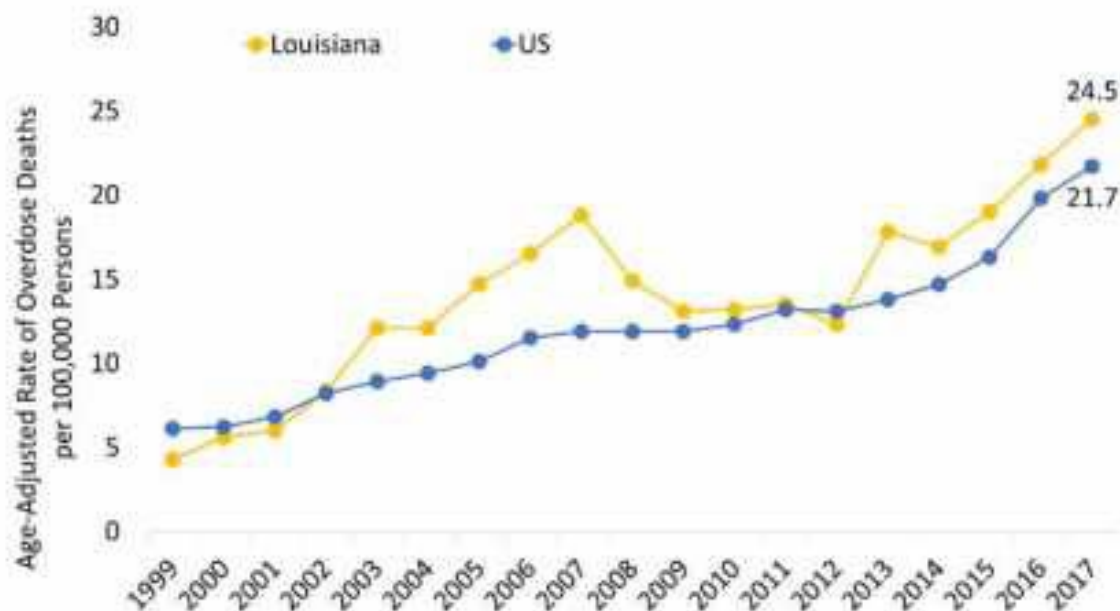
DAME JILLIAN SACKLER, New York, NY, CEO, ARTHUR M. SACKLER FOUNDATION, \$32,400.00, March 31, 2014, **DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, District of Columbia.

2013

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY, \$2,600.00, **CORY BOOKER FOR SENATE**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, New Jersey. [New Jersey opioid overdose deaths](#) report for 2019.

RICHARD SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Physician, PURDUE PHARMA INC., \$5,000, January 25, 2013, **PURDUE-PHARMA INC. PAC**, Connecticut.

2012



JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,500.00, Dec. 17, 2012, **FRIENDS OF MARY LANDRIEU INC.**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, District of Columbia. **Landrieu** was a senator from Louisiana and was a Democrat. She served from 1997 to 2014. [In 2017, Louisiana providers wrote 89.5 opioid prescriptions for every 100 persons](#) compared to the average U.S. rate of 58.7 prescriptions. The rate was among the top five in the United States that year.

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,500.00, June 13, 2012, **JEFFRIES FOR CONGRESS**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, New York. **Hakeem Jeffries** represents the diverse Eighth Congressional District of New York, an area that encompasses large parts of Brooklyn and a section of Queens. Serving his fourth term in the United States Congress. In 2017, New York providers wrote 37.8 opioid prescriptions for every 100 persons (Figure 2). One of the lowest rates in the country. The average U.S. rate in the same year was 58.7 prescriptions per 100 persons. [Opioid related overdose deaths in New York](#)

RICHARD SACKLER, Stamford, CT., BOARD MEMBER, PURDUE PHARMA, \$75,750.00, Oct. 26, 2012, **ROMNEY VICTORY INC.**, PAC, Massachusetts.

RICHARD SACKLER, Stamford, CT., BOARD MEMBER, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,500.00, Oct. 26, 2012, **ROMNEY FOR PRESIDENT INC.**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, Presidential, Massachusetts.

RAYMOND SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., EXECUTIVE, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,500.00, June 15, 2012, **JEFFRIES FOR CONGRESS**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, New York.

RICHARD SACKLER, Stamford, CT., DIRECTOR, **MUNDIPHARMA**, \$19,985.06, Nov. 2, 2012, **NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE**, District of Columbia. (As OxyContin spread outside the U.S., the pattern of dysfunction repeated itself: to map the geographic distribution of the drug was also to map a rash of addiction, abuse, and death. But the Sackler family has only increased its efforts abroad, and is now pushing the drug, through a Purdue-related company called **Mundipharma**, into Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East.) – [THE NEW YORKER](#)

RICHARD SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA LP, \$19,985.06, Nov. 2, 2012, **NATIONAL REPUBLICAN SENATORIAL COMMITTEE**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, District of Columbia.

RICHARD SACKLER, Stamford, CT., BOARD MEMBER, PURDUE PHARMA, \$30,800.00, Oct. 26, 2012, **REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, District of Columbia.

RICHARD SACKLER, Stamford, CT., LEAD DIRECTOR, MUNDIPHARMA GHBH, \$2,500.00 Year to date, Oct. 2, 2012, **TIMMERMAN FOR CONGRESS**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, House, Maryland (Republican Kenneth Timmerman lost the election in Eighth Congressional District.)

RICHARD SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, MUNDIPHARAM, year to date: \$2,500.00, Aug. 13, 2012, **SHAYS FOR SENATE**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, Senate, Connecticut.

RICHARD SACKLER, Stamford, CT., DIRECTOR, MUNDIPHARMA, \$2,500.00, June 13, 2012, **JEFFRIES FOR CONGRESS**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, New York.

RICHARD SACKLER, Stamford, CT., DIRECTOR, MUNDIPHARMA, \$750.00 year to date on Jan. 9, 2012, **JON HUNTSMAN FOR PRESIDENT INC.**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, Presidential, Texas.

2011

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,500.00, June 10, 2011, **KAINE FOR VIRGINIA**, Senate, Virginia. [Virginia Opioid Summary for 2017.](#)

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,500, Sept. 18, 2011, **FRIENDS OF CHRIS MURPHY**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, SENATE, Connecticut.

RICHARD SACKLER, Stamford, CT., DIRECTOR, MUNDIPHARMA, \$250.00, Dec. 16, 2011, **JON HUNTSMAN FOR PRESIDENT INC**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, Presidential, Texas

RICHARD SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Scientist, MUNDIPHARMA GMBH, \$500.00, **RON PAUL 2012 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE INC.**, REPUBLICAN PARTY, Presidential, Texas.

2010

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,000.00, year to date Oct. 31, 2010. **CHRIS COONS FOR DELAWARE**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Delaware. Delaware currently ranks fifth-highest among drug overdose mortality rates in the nation. To view the full 2017 Drug Overdose Mortality Surveillance Report, visit <https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/files/dedrugoverdosemortsurvprt2017.pdf>.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$500.00, June 30, 2010, **PERRIELLO FOR CONGRESS**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, Virginia.

RAYMOND R. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., PHYSICIAN, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,400.00, Feb. 11, 2010, **BENNET FOR COLORADO**., DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Colorado.

RAYMOND R. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., Physician, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,400.00, Feb. 11, 2010, **BENNET FOR COLORADO**, Senate, Colorado. In Colorado, the number of drug overdose deaths range from 250-500 per year; in 2010 it was just over 300.

2009

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Stamford, CT., NORTH BAY ASSOCIATES, \$2,400.00, March 31, 2009, **FRIENDS OF JIM CLYBURN**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, South Carolina. **James E. Clyburn is the Majority Whip**, and is the third-ranking Democrat in the United States House of Representatives. He previously served in the post from 2007 to 2011 and served as Assistant Democratic Leader from 2011 to 2019. In 2017, South Carolina providers wrote 79.3 opioid prescriptions for every 100 persons (Figure 2) compared to the average U.S. rate of 58.7 prescriptions for every 100 persons. Overall, this represents a less than 12 percent decline in [South Carolina opioid prescriptions](#), since 2006.

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMACUTICALS, \$2,400.00, Feb. 23, 2009. **GILLBRAND FOR SENATE**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, District of Columbia. In 2017, New York providers wrote 37.8 opioid prescriptions for every 100 persons. After working as an attorney in New York City for more than a decade, Senator Gillibrand served as Special Counsel to United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Andrew Cuomo during the Clinton Administration. She then worked as an attorney in Upstate New York before becoming a member of Congress.

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., EXECUTIVE, PURDUE PHARMA, \$600, April 3, 2009, **BENNET FOR COLORADO**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Colorado.

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., EXECUTIVE, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,400.00, April 3, 2009, **BENNET FOR COLORADO**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Senate, Colorado.

2008

JONATHAN SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,300.00, Feb. 9, 2008, **HILLARY FOR PRESIDENT**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Presidential, District of Columbia.

RICHARD S. SACKLER, Stamford, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,000.00, Aug. 30, 2008, **JOHN MCCAIN 2008 INC.**, **REPUBLICAN PARTY**, Presidential, Virginia.

RICHARD SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., SCIENTIST – DIRECTOR, MUNIPHARMA, \$100.00, Feb. 10, 2008, **OBAMA FOR AMERICA**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Presidential, Illinois.

MICHAEL SACKLER-BERNER, New York City, NY, Best Effort, Oct. 9, 2008, **UDALL FOR ALL, DEMOCRATIC PARTY**, Senate, New Mexico.

JILLIAN SACKLER, New York, NY, PHILANTHROPIST, Self-Employed, \$1,700.00, August 28, 2008, **FRIENDS OF HILLARY**, Senate, District of Columbia.

JILLIAN SACKLER, New York, NY, PHILANTHROPIST, Self-employed, June 11, 2008, **HILLARY CLINTON FOR PRESIDENT**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Presidential, District of Columbia.

DENISE MARIKA, Brookline, MA, \$2,000.00, Oct. 30, 2008, **OBAMA FOR AMERICA**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Presidential, Illinois.

2007

JONATHAN D. SACKLER, Greenwich, CT., DIRECTOR, PURDUE PHARMA, \$2,300.00, June 7, 2007, **OBAMA FOR AMERICA**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Presidential, Illinois.

JILLIAN SACKLER, New York, NY, PHILANTHROPIST, Self-Employed, \$1,300.00, **HILLARY CLINTON FOR PRESIDENT**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Presidential, District of Columbia.

JILLIAN SACKLER, New York, NY, PRESIDENT, ARTHUR M. SACKLER FOUNDATION, \$1,000.00, **FRIENDS OF PATRICK J. KENNEDY**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, House, Rhode Island.

KATHE SACKLER, Physician, Self-Employed, \$4,600.00 June 30, 2007, **CHRIS DODD FOR PRESIDENT INC.**, DEMOCRATIC PARTY, Presidential, Connecticut.

**Maryland Politicians who banked campaign cash from Purdue Pharma
as they killed Marylanders by creating opioid epidemic**

- 01/12/2011 **Purdue Pharma** 1 Stamford Forum, Stamford, CT 06901-
 Business/Group/Organization Ticket Purchases **Check 500.00**
Middleton, Thomas "Mac" Supporters Of 2011 Annual Electoral
 (Sen. Thomas E. "Mac" Middleton was a six-term Maryland State Senate Democrat Committee
 Chairman who lost his bid for a seventh term in 2018 to a primary challenger).
- 10/28/2010 **Purdue Pharma L.P.** One Stamford Forum, Stamford, CT 06901-3431
 Business/Group/Organization **Check 1000.00** **Barve, (Kumar)**
for Maryland 2010 Gubernatorial Post-General Electoral
 (Del. Kumar Barve, Dem. Montgomery County, Majority Leader of the Maryland House of
 Delegates)
- 07/01/2006 **Purdue Pharma, L.P.** One Stamford Forum, Stamford, CT 06901-
 Business/Group/Organization Ticket Purchases **Check 1000.00**
Harris, Andy for Maryland 2006 Gubernatorial Pre-Primary Electoral
 (U.S. Rep. Andy Harris, Rep., represents the First Congressional District of Maryland)
- 01/08/2013 **Purdue Pharma L.P.** One Stamford Forum, Stamford, CT 06901-3431
 Business/Group/Organization **Check 1000.00** **Busch, Mike**
Friends Of 2013 Annual Electoral
 (Speaker of the House of Delegates of Maryland Del. Mike Busch, Dem. Anne Arundel, - Mike
 Busch died in 2019)
- 10/19/2010 **Sackler, Jonathan** 75 Field Pt. Circle, Greenwich, CT 06830-
 Individual **Credit Card 500.00** **Allen, Jeanne Friends of**
 2010 Gubernatorial Post-General Electoral

MARYLAND POLITICANS TAKING MONEY FROM MEDICAL MARIJUANA INTERESTS

10/29/2018 PharmaCann LLC 1010 Lake Street, 2nd Floor, Oak Park, IL 60301
Business/Group/Organization Check 1000 Waldstreicher, Jeff Friends Of
2018 Gubernatorial Post-General House of Delegates (SBE) , State Senator (SBE)
Electoral

10/09/2017 PharmaCann LLC 1010 Lake Street, 2nd Floor, Oak Park, IL 60301
Business/Group/Organization Check 1000 Waldstreicher, Jeff Friends Of
2018 Annual House of Delegates (SBE) , State Senator (18th District) Electoral

SACKLER INFO MISC.

May 27, 1987

Dr. Arthur M. Sackler, a research psychiatrist, entrepreneur and philanthropist who became one of this country's leading art collectors and patrons, died of a heart attack yesterday at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. He was 73 years old and lived in Manhattan. Dr. Sackler is survived by his wife; his two brothers, both of New York; and four children: Dr. Carol Master of Boston; Elizabeth Sackler and Arthur F. Sackler, both of New York, and Denise Marica of Venice, Calif., and seven grandchildren.

Greenwich's **Beverly Sackler**, widow of **Raymond Sackler**

Greenwich's **Jonathan Sackler**, son of Raymond and **Beverly Sackler**

Kathe Sackler, daughter of **Mortimer Sackler**

Richard Sackler

Craig Landau, CEO & President of Purdue

Steve Miller, Chairman of Purdue

Jonathan Sackler and his wife, **Mary Corson**,

Theresa Sackler, **Kathe Sackler**, **Jonathan Sackler**, **Mortimer Sackler**, **Beverly Sackler**, **David Sackler**, and **Ilene Sackler**, were all named as defendants in suits filed by numerous states over their involvement in the opioid crisis.[14][15]

David Sackler (married **Joss Sackler**)

Marianna Sackler (married **James Frame**)

Jonathan Sackler

Clare Sackler

Madeleine Sackler

Ilene Sackler Lefcourt

Dr. Richard Sackler is a former president and chairman of the company's board.

Mundipharma, a pharmaceutical company that sells drugs overseas, including **OxyContin**

USA TODAY: *Earlier this week, the Connecticut attorney general's office released internal emails gathered as evidence in the state's lawsuit against Purdue. The company's former CEO, Richard Sackler, refers to addicts as "scum of the earth."*

In one 2001 email exchange, an acquaintance of Sackler wrote to him: "Abusers die, well that is the choice they made, I doubt a single one didn't know of the risks."

Sackler responded: "Abusers aren't victims; they are the victimizers."

From The L.A. Times – AP

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEC. 16, 2019 8:22 PM

The wealthy owners of OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma started taking far more money out of the company after it was fined for misleading marketing of the powerful prescription painkiller.

A court filing made by the company Monday evening shows Purdue made payments totaling \$10.7 billion from 2008 through 2017 for the benefit of members of the Sackler family who own the company. That includes taxes and other payments. Family members received \$4.1 billion in cash over that period. By contrast, distributions for the benefit of family members from 1995 through 2007 totaled \$1.3 billion.

The total amount family members received from the company was made public in an October filing, but the new report offers new details on when the money was distributed.

"Today's report confirms what we revealed in our lawsuit: The Sacklers pocketed billions of dollars from Purdue while thousands of people died from their addictive drugs. This is the very definition of ill-gotten gains," Massachusetts' Maura Healey, the first attorney general to sue Sackler family members, said in a statement.

The Sacklers' wealth has received intense scrutiny from Healey and 23 other states' attorneys general, who are objecting to a plan to settle about 2,700 lawsuits against Purdue over the toll of opioids, including those filed by nearly every state.

The objecting attorneys general say that the settlement does not do enough to hold the family accountable for an opioid crisis linked to more than 400,000 deaths in the U.S. since 2000. The settlement calls for the family to contribute at least \$3 billion in cash over time and give up control of the company. In all, the plan could be worth up to \$12 billion over time.

'You want a description of hell?' OxyContin's 12-hour problem

But the offer comes with a major catch: The company says the family may back out if lawsuits against family members are allowed to proceed. They are all on hold for now as the company's settlement efforts play out in bankruptcy court.

In a statement Monday, Daniel Connolly, a lawyer for one branch of the Sackler family, said it's not helpful to argue over how much family members received. "The Sackler family hopes to reach a productive resolution where they contribute Purdue for the public benefit and provide at least \$3 billion of additional money to help communities and people who need help now," he said, "which makes more sense for everyone than continuing litigation that only squander resources."

The report by consultant Alix Partners included in a court filing Monday gives the most detail to date on how much the family benefited from Purdue.

"These distribution numbers were known at the time the proposed settlement was agreed to by two dozen attorneys general and thousands of local governments. They have been public for months, and this filing reflects the fact that more than half was paid in taxes and reinvested in businesses that will be sold as part of the proposed settlement."

The payments jumped beginning in 2008 — the year after Purdue agreed to pay a federal fine of \$635 million for misleading the public about OxyContin's addiction risks.

Federal data made public this year showed that OxyContin sales grew even after the fine. And the death toll from opioids, a class of drug that includes prescription painkillers as well as heroin and illicitly made fentanyl, rose too, peaking in 2017. And the new filing shows Sackler family members brought in far more money. In each year from 2008 through 2013, the distributions to the family — or tax payments on their behalf — totaled well over \$1 billion. The number went down to less than \$800 million in 2014 and 2015, \$651 million in 2016 and just over \$200 million in 2017.

The family, listed by Forbes magazine in 2013 as one the nation's 20 wealthiest, has stopped taking distributions from Purdue.

The filing shows the company kept paying family legal bills until early this year. From 2016 through Feb. 28, the company paid \$17.6 million in Sackler legal bills, with nearly half that amount coming in 2019 as lawsuits mounted.

While Sackler family members remain the owners of the Stamford, Conn.-based company, none are now on its board of directors.

[Criminal Conspiracy Alleged By Vermont Prosecutors Involved Purdue Pharma](#)

POSTED BY DEREK BROUWER ON TUE, JAN 28, 2020 AT 6:50 PM

[Medical Records Cases Lead Feds to Huge Settlements — and Purdue Pharma's Doorstep](#)

COLUMBUS —

State and local government leaders are nearing a deal on a potential massive settlement against drug makers, who have been accused of fueling the opioid addiction crisis that has plagued Ohio for more than a decade, sources said.

The public health crisis has cost local and state governments millions of dollars and led to a flurry of lawsuits from communities against opioid makers, distributors and suppliers.

However, state and local governments struggled to work out the best way to divide future settlements, while members of the opioid industry have worked to settle as globally as possible.

The state's lawsuit has been pending since 2017, when then-Attorney General Mike DeWine filed against drugmakers and distributors. The city of Dayton announced its suit in June 2017 against more than a dozen pharmaceutical companies, distributors and pain specialists. In November 2017, Butler County filed suit against 20 major drug companies and distributors. Then Montgomery County announced in February 2018 that it would sue opioid manufacturers and distributors.

RELATED: Butler County \$5 million opiate lawsuit will proceed

These lawsuits were part of more than 2,600 federal lawsuits that were consolidated before U.S. District Court Judge Dan Polster in Cleveland. As these lawsuits have been filed, one of the most difficult questions has been how any multi-billion settlements should be fairly divided up. This matter had appeared to be resolved when a unique "negotiating class" was certified in September, which would let every one of the roughly 30,000 local governments join together to settle with members of the opioid industry, with local governments having the option to opt out and pursue their own suits.

However, now meetings are under way in Columbus among lawyers representing Ohio's local governments in the federal lawsuit, trying to get a "super majority" of locals to agree to a settlement proposal, sources said. A deal could allow drug makers and distributors to strike one large settlement in Ohio, rather than hundreds of individual ones.

FROM THE NEW YORKER

By Patrick Radden Keefe, Oct. 30, 2017.

According to *Forbes*, the Sacklers are now one of America's richest families, with a collective net worth of thirteen billion dollars—more than the Rockefellers or the Mellons. The bulk of the Sacklers' fortune has been accumulated only in recent decades, yet the source of their wealth is to most people as obscure as that of the robber barons. While the Sacklers are interviewed regularly on the subject of their generosity,

they almost never speak publicly about the family business, Purdue Pharma—a privately held company, based in Stamford, Connecticut, that developed the prescription painkiller OxyContin. Upon its release, in 1995, OxyContin was hailed as a medical breakthrough, a long-lasting narcotic that could help patients suffering from moderate to severe pain. The drug became a blockbuster, and has reportedly generated some thirty-five billion dollars in revenue for Purdue.

But OxyContin is a controversial drug. Its sole active ingredient is oxycodone, a chemical cousin of heroin which is up to twice as powerful as morphine. In the past, doctors had been reluctant to prescribe strong opioids—as synthetic drugs derived from opium are known—except for acute cancer pain and end-of-life palliative care, because of a long-standing, and well-founded, fear about the addictive properties of these drugs.

Since 1999, two hundred thousand Americans have died from overdoses related to OxyContin and other prescription opioids. Many addicts, finding prescription painkillers too expensive or too difficult to obtain, have turned to heroin. According to the American Society of Addiction Medicine, four out of five people who try heroin today started with prescription painkillers. The most recent figures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggest that a hundred and forty-five Americans now die every day from opioid overdoses.

Internal budget plans described the company's sales force as its "most valuable resource." In 2001, Purdue Pharma paid forty million dollars in bonuses. Arthur and Mortimer Sackler each married three times, and Raymond married once. There are fifteen Sackler children in the second generation, most of whom have children of their own. The Sackler clan has pursued a variety of causes and interests. In 2011, Mortimer's widow, Theresa, who sits on the board of Purdue, was awarded the Prince of Wales Medal for Art Philanthropy. When the medal was conferred, Ian Dejardin, the Sackler Director of the Dulwich Picture

Gallery, remarked, “It’s going to be difficult not to make her sound utterly saintly.” Theresa’s daughter, Sophie, is married to the English cricket player Jamie Dalrymple, and lives in a forty-million-dollar house in London. Raymond’s thirty-seven-year-old grandson, David Sackler, runs a family investment fund, and is the only member of the third generation who sits on Purdue’s board. The fact that Purdue is privately held is a major reason that the Sacklers’ connection to OxyContin has remained obscure. A publicly traded company makes periodic disclosures to its shareholders. But Purdue, Barry Meier writes, “was the Sackler family’s private domain.”

On occasion, press accounts about OxyContin note that profits from the drug flow to the Sacklers, but these stories tend to depict the family as a monolith. As with any large clan, however, there are fissures of discord. In the eighties, Mortimer sued his ex-wife Gertraud, claiming that she had illegally taken possession of an apartment that he owned on Fifth Avenue and had loaned it out to a contingent of models and photographers. None of Arthur’s descendants sit on the company’s board. At a courthouse in Long Island, in files stemming from the family fight over Arthur’s fortune, I came across a document indicating that, after a “protracted negotiation,” Arthur’s estate “sold its one third interest in Purdue” to Raymond and Mortimer.

The next year, a New York trial lawyer named Paul Hanly assembled a lawsuit, signing up five thousand patients who said that they’d become addicted to OxyContin after receiving a doctor’s prescription. In discovery, Hanly obtained thousands of documents. “They demonstrated that this company had set out to perpetrate a fraud on the entire medical community,” he told me. “These pronouncements about how safe the drug was emanated from the marketing department, not the scientific department. It was pretty shocking. They just made this stuff up.”

In 2006, Purdue settled with Hanly’s clients, for seventy-five million dollars. Shortly afterward, the company pleaded guilty, in a case brought by federal prosecutors in Virginia, to criminal charges of misbranding,

and acknowledged that Purdue had marketed OxyContin “with the intent to defraud or mislead.” (Rudolph Giuliani had tried, on Purdue’s behalf, to get the lead prosecutor to scuttle the case.) Michael Friedman, the executive vice-president, pleaded guilty to a criminal misdemeanor, as did Howard Udell and the company’s chief medical officer, Paul Goldenheim.

During a break in the proceedings, Perez looked over at Friedman, Goldenheim, and Udell, and told herself, “I could reach over, at ninety-eight pounds, and smack one of them.” This time, she restrained herself. Instead, she told them, “You are sheer evil. You are bastards.” The executives reddened, but said nothing. They all received probation, and were ordered, collectively, to pay nearly thirty-five million dollars in fines. Purdue agreed to pay an additional six hundred million. Given the billions of dollars that the Sacklers and Purdue had reaped from OxyContin, some observers felt that the company had got off easy. Arlen Specter, the Republican senator from Pennsylvania, remarked that such fines amounted to “expensive licenses for criminal misconduct.”

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“I have never owned any shares in Purdue,” Michael Sackler-Berner, a Brooklyn-based singer-songwriter who is a grandson of Arthur Sackler, told me, in an e-mail. “None of the descendants of Arthur M. Sackler have ever had anything to do with, or benefited from, the sale of OxyContin.” Sackler-Berner made no mention of Librium, Valium, or MS Contin, but he added, “Given the current controversy surrounding OxyContin, I appreciate your clarifying the matter.”

Even though Mortimer Sackler had a large stake in the company, he was only an occasional presence at the Connecticut headquarters. He renounced his U.S. citizenship in 1974, reportedly for tax reasons, and lived a flamboyant life in Europe, shuttling among residences in England, the Swiss Alps, and Cap d'Antibes. (In 1999, Queen Elizabeth conferred an honorary knighthood on him, in recognition of his philanthropy.) Raymond Sackler, who lived in Connecticut, had a more modest temperament and came to his office at Purdue—where he was respectfully known as Dr. Raymond—every day. John Kallir, Arthur's former advertising colleague, recalled, "Ray was quiet, reasonably honest, always married to the same woman. The least interesting of the three brothers." Richard Sackler stepped down as Purdue's president in 2003, but stayed on as co-chairman of the company's board. After spending several years as an adjunct professor of genetics at Rockefeller University, he moved to Austin, Texas, in 2013. He lives in a modern hilltop mansion on the outskirts of the city, in an area favored by tech entrepreneurs. According to tax disclosures from his personal foundation, he has continued giving money to Yale, but his largest donation in 2015 was a hundred-thousand-dollar gift to a neoconservative think tank, the Foundation for Defense of Democracies. Through a representative, Sackler declined to speak with me. I contacted a dozen other members of the Sackler family, but none of them would answer questions about OxyContin. Jo Sheldon, a London-based media adviser, called me, and said that she works with some of the Sacklers. (She would not identify which ones.) When I told her that I had questions for the Sacklers, she said that my inquiries would be better directed to Purdue. She said of the Sacklers, "Some of them are still quite involved in Purdue, but some have absolutely nothing to do with it," apart from depositing checks.

As OxyContin spread outside the U.S., the pattern of dysfunction repeated itself: to map the geographic distribution of the drug was also to map a rash of addiction, abuse, and death. But the Sackler family has only increased its efforts abroad, and is now pushing the drug, through

a Purdue-related company called Mundipharma, into Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East.

The New York Times: Elizabeth Warren, Unveiling Opioid Plan, Says She Will Give Sackler Family's Donations To Charity

Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts escalated her criticism of the pharmaceutical industry, announcing she would donate the campaign contributions she has received from the family of the pharmaceutical magnate Raymond Sackler, and calling on Harvard University to remove the Sackler name from all campus buildings where it appears. Ms. Warren, who is running for the Democratic presidential nomination, made the announcement as she unveiled a plan on Wednesday to fight the opioid crisis raging in the United States.

The Sackler family, who own OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma, donated generously to Connecticut Democrats

From Hartford Courant Jan. 18, 2019

On May 27, 2016, then-Lt. Gov. Nancy Wyman stood in the polished granite atrium of the legislative office building and heralded landmark legislation to address the scourge of opioid addiction.

"This is such a serious problem and it's one that's killing our citizens, even when they don't know they're being attacked," said Wyman, flanked by Gov. Dannel P. Malloy and several prominent Democratic lawmakers and political appointees. "Connecticut's commitment is clear."

Less than two weeks earlier, the state Democratic Party, which will elect Wyman as its new chairwoman next week, accepted a \$2,000 check from Jonathan Sackler, a member of the multibillionaire family that owns Purdue Pharma, the Stamford-based company that developed and marketed OxyContin, a highly addictive painkiller that helped trigger the opioid crisis.

Eight people in a single family made the choices that caused much of the opioid epidemic,

Sackler, who lives in Greenwich and served on Purdue Pharma's board, is among the eight members of his family facing a lawsuit by Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healy. The suit alleges the Sacklers and other company executives aggressively and recklessly promoted the powerful painkiller, rewarded high prescribing doctors with lavish meals and gifts, misled patients about the drug's dangers and blamed users for becoming addicted.

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Several members of the family, including Jonathan Sackler and his mother, Beverly Sackler, who is also named in the Massachusetts lawsuit, have been prolific donors to political campaigns, both in Connecticut and across the U.S.

They have each given tens of thousands of dollars to candidates in Connecticut, most of them Democrats, as well as political action committees. and the state Democratic Party. Jonathan Sackler, who was a trustee for Achievement First, operator of about 20 charter schools in New York and Connecticut, has also donated to PACs and candidates that back charter schools.

According to campaign finance reports filed with the Federal Election Commission, Jonathan Sackler's contributions include more than \$6,000 to Democratic U.S. Rep. Jim Himes since 2010.

Beverly Sackler, also of Greenwich, contributed a total of \$1,000 to U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal in 2015 and 2016 and \$500 to U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro in 2016. Both Democrats faced underfunded Republicans and handily won re-election in 2016.

The Sacklers were also generous contributors to the state Democratic Party, and to a political action committee backing Malloy. In 2013 and 2014, Jonathan Sackler and his wife, Mary Corson, gave the state party a total of \$40,000 the maximum contribution, They also contributed \$36,000 to the party's federal campaign account.

And in 2016, Jonathan Sackler gave \$2,000 to the Democratic Senate Majority PAC, the political arm of the Democratic caucus in the state Senate.

Jonathan Sackler also donated several national Republican figures, including \$2,700 to Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina in 2015 and \$6,250 to the National Republican Senatorial Committee in 2016.

A gallery owner was arrested in June after unloading an 800-pound steel sculpture of a bent, burnt heroin spoon at the Stamford headquarters of Purdue Pharma. (Susan Dunne | Hartford Courant)

Officials at the state Democratic Party, which received thousands of dollars from the Sackler family as recently as 2016, are reviewing the contributions.

"The party was unaware of the allegations at the time the donations were made," said Christina Polizzi, the party's spokeswoman. "We are currently looking into the situation and will certainly not be accepting any future donations."

Blumenthal said he did not realize Beverly Sackler had contributed to his campaign until he was asked about it on Friday. "I have just become aware of these donations," he said. "They were made in response to an email solicitation....and I intend to donate them to an opioid abuse and addiction charity."

Shawn M. Lang, who leads a statewide group on opioid overdose prevention, called on other politicians who have received donations from the Sackler family to contribute them to groups fighting addiction.

"If it's possible for folks to divest themselves from that money and do something good with it, that would be an appropriate thing to do," Lang said. "There are a lot of local community organizations

that are doing front line work on this epidemic...it would be a show of good faith to give them the money."

That's what Chris Murphy did in 2017, with \$10,400 in donations he received from Jonathan Sackler. Murphy's spokeswoman, Laura Maloney, said Murphy donated the money to Shatterproof, a national nonprofit group that advocates for improvements in the treatment of addiction.

The wealthy Sacklers have also donated millions of dollars over the past five decades to cultural and educational institutions. Their family name is etched on plaques at museums and medical schools around the world, including Yale University, which is home to the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Institute for Biological, Physical and Engineering Sciences.

A sign with the Sackler name is displayed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

A sign with the Sackler name is displayed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig) (Seth Wenig/AP)

In the past, Purdue Pharma had sought to cast the Sacklers as philanthropists who left the operations of the company to others, but the lawsuits have cast new attention on the family's role in developing and marketing OxyContin, its company's flagship drug.

"Eight people in a single family made the choices that caused much of the opioid epidemic," the attorney general's office alleges in a memorandum released Tuesday. "They hired hundreds of workers to carry out their wishes and they fired those who did not sell enough drugs. They got more patients on opioids, at higher doses, for longer, than ever before. They paid themselves billions of dollars. They are responsible for addiction, overdose and death that damaged millions of lives."

Robert Josephson, a Purdue Pharma spokesman, said the complaint is "littered with biased and inaccurate characterizations" and said the company and the individual defendants will "vigorously defend against these misleading allegations."

A spokesman for the Sackler family did not return a phone call and an email seeking comment.

Blumenthal, a former Connecticut attorney general who led an earlier multistate effort to sue Purdue Pharma, said cultural and education institutions should reassess their relationship with the Sackler family following new allegations about their role in the opioid crisis.

"Each of these institutions has to revisit and reassess their role in according a patina of respectability to the effects of this business," Blumenthal said,

The Massachusetts suit is part of a flurry of legal action facing Purdue Pharma and the Sacklers. On Dec. 20, George Jepsen, the former attorney general of Connecticut, filed a lawsuit in Superior Court in Hartford, naming Purdue Pharma and the Sacklers as individual defendants and alleging that they violated consumer protection laws by waging a campaign to mislead doctors and patients,

William Tong, the Stamford Democrat who replaced Jepsen as Connecticut's attorney general, said he plans to aggressively pursue the lawsuit begun under his predecessor.

"I believe and the office of attorney general believes that Purdue Pharma is responsible for a significant part of the damage done by the opioid crisis and that includes...the Sacklers," Tong said, "It doesn't matter to whom they contributed to....the bottom line is I'm going to hold them accountable."

In Connecticut, 1038 people died of accidental drug overdoses in 2017, mainly opioids. From 2013 to 2016, the state experienced a fourfold increase in deaths from opioid overdoses.

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But on April 1, The New York Times reported that documents cited by Massachusetts prosecutors show a 2009 e-mail from Mortimer urging an increase in opioid sales two years after Purdue's plea deal. There's also a 2011 e-mail in which he suggests creating a generic version of the narcotic to "capture the most cost-sensitive patients."

David Sackler, the grandson of co-founder Raymond and the only grandchild to sit on Purdue's board, is also feeling the heat.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, opioids were involved in a record 47,600 overdose deaths in 2017.

His wife, Joss — who started an invite-only \$2,500-per-year NYC wine club, LBV, and a clothing line, LBV Care — lashed out after the Times reviewed her collection in February and delved into the controversy surrounding her husband's family.

On her website, the 34-year-old wrote to the Times: "Stop talking about who the men in my life are, and review the f—king neon hoodies." She has since deleted her rant.

"Not once have I wished to have my work be separated from my family name," Joss said in a statement to The Post. "Our family loves . . . each other — I am proud to be a Sackler."

Besieged Sackler scions sell UES home, ditch NYC for Europe

By Emily Smith January 23, 2020 | 8:02pm NEW YORK POST

Scions of the embattled Purdue pharmaceutical family, Mortimer and Jacqueline Sackler, have fled New York for Europe amid the backlash over the opioid crisis — after selling their Upper East Side townhouse for nearly \$40 million.

Mortimer, son of the late founder of Purdue Pharma and a former board member of the company that makes Oxycontin, announced his side of the family is leaving to spend the winter months in the ritzy Swiss ski resort Gstaad.

The move comes just after Mortimer and Jacqueline — once Manhattan society staples — sold their townhouse on East 75th Street for \$38 million to billionaire hedge funder Israel Englander in an off-market deal that closed on Jan. 3.

Meanwhile, Purdue Pharma filed for bankruptcy protection in New York last September amid a nationwide rash of lawsuits against the company alleging it contributed to and profited wildly from the deadly US opioid epidemic.

In a shameless Jan. 22 email blast to New York friends, Mortimer announced the family's move: "Jackie, Oscar (our 5 year old) and I are spending the winter term in Gstaad. We will also take the opportunity of being based here to travel in Europe. We would love to see you either in Gstaad, if you are here or nearby, or elsewhere in Europe (taking advantage of the ease of travel here vs ours in NYC)."

He continued, "Do let us know what your plans are, and what you have been up to as we would love to catch up. Wishing you all the best for a Healthy and Happy 2020, Mortimer and Jacqueline."

The Sacklers deny allegations from the New York Attorney General's Office that the family was shifting Purdue money through Swiss bank accounts and that they hid the sale of their townhouse.

A spokesperson for Mortimer said: "The New York AG has been provided with full information about all family assets, including the family's townhouse, and any suggestion otherwise is false. To be clear, no proceeds from the recent sale of the townhouse have been transferred out of the US. The Sacklers are spending the winter at a home that has been in their family for generations. They fully intend to return to the US in the near future."

And "With respect to your recycled reference to decades-old transfers, as we stated previously, they were perfectly legal and appropriate in every respect. There was nothing newsworthy about them then and there is nothing newsworthy about them now."

We exclusively reported last year that fellow family members David and Joss Sackler were fleeing town for Florida.

OPIOID BILLIONAIRES

[Sacklers Who Disavow OxyContin May Have Benefited From It](#)

A little-known court document sheds light on the family feud over the multibillion-dollar painkiller's association with the opioid crisis.

by David Armstrong April 10, 2018, 5 a.m. EDT

This story was co-published with The Atlantic.

Much as the role of the addictive multibillion-dollar painkiller OxyContin in the opioid crisis has stirred controversy and rancor nationwide, so it has divided members of the wealthy and philanthropic Sackler family, some of whom own the company that makes the drug.

In recent months, as protesters have begun pressuring the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City and other cultural institutions to spurn donations from the Sacklers, one branch of the family has moved aggressively to distance itself from OxyContin and its manufacturer, Purdue Pharma. The widow and one daughter of Arthur Sackler, who owned a related Purdue company with his two brothers, maintain that none of his heirs have profited from sales of the drug. The daughter, Elizabeth Sackler, told The New York Times in January that Purdue Pharma's involvement in the opioid epidemic was "morally abhorrent to me."

Arthur died eight years before OxyContin hit the marketplace. His widow, **Jillian Sackler**, and **Elizabeth Sackler**, who is Jillian's step-daughter, are represented by separate public relations firms and have successfully won clarifications and corrections from media outlets for suggesting that sales of the potent opioid enriched Arthur Sackler or his family.

But an obscure court document sheds a different light on family history — and on the campaign by Arthur's relatives to preserve their image and legacy. It shows that the Purdue family of companies made a nearly \$20 million payment to the estate of Arthur Sackler in 1997 — two years after OxyContin was approved, and just as the pill was becoming a big seller. As a result, though they do not profit from present-day sales, Arthur's heirs appear to have benefited at least indirectly from OxyContin.

The 1997 payment to the estate of Arthur Sackler is disclosed in the combined, audited financial statements of Purdue and its associated companies and subsidiaries. Those documents were filed among hundreds of pages of exhibits in U.S. District Court in Abingdon, Virginia, as part of a 2007 settlement in which a company associated with Purdue and three company executives pleaded guilty to charges that OxyContin was illegally marketed. The company paid \$600 million in penalties while admitting it falsely promoted OxyContin as less addictive and less likely to be abused than other pain medications.

Arthur's heirs include his widow and grandchildren. His children, including Elizabeth, do not inherit because they are not beneficiaries of a trust that was set up as part of a settlement of his estate, according to court records. Jillian receives an income from the trust. Elizabeth's two children are heirs

and would receive bequests upon Jillian's death. A spokesman for Elizabeth Sackler declined to comment on the Purdue payment.

Janet Wootten, a spokeswoman for Jillian Sackler, acknowledged that, as a result of a "protracted estate negotiation," payments to Arthur Sackler's estate "were made over many years through the mid-1990s." She added, however, that there is no evidence that the note was paid with OxyContin profits.

"There is no differentiation in these documents of assets, profits, debts, or the like, among the various companies, let alone with regard to a specific pharmaceutical product," she said. "In fact, nowhere do these documents identify the source of funds used to pay the note (or notes)."

Wootten said the Purdue documents "in no way substantiate any suggestion or claim that Dr. Sackler's and/or his widow's philanthropy has in any way been funded by OxyContin."

The three Sackler brothers are deceased. Arthur died in 1987, Mortimer in 2010 and Raymond in 2017. The families of Mortimer and Raymond own 100 percent of privately held Purdue Pharma and form the majority of its board.

Purdue declined to answer questions about the note and the 1997 payment. The company pointed to an existing statement that says "recent news coverage has wrongly characterized the relationship" between Arthur and Purdue and that "neither he nor any of his descendants have ever had any involvement or financial stake in" the success of OxyContin.

OxyContin is one of the biggest-selling opioids in the U.S., with revenues peaking at \$3.1 billion in 2010. Purdue promoted OxyContin by showering doctors with junkets and speaking engagements, according to an investigation by the U.S. General Accounting Office. Since 1999, four years after OxyContin was approved, fatal overdoses related to prescription opioids have skyrocketed fivefold to 17,087 deaths in 2016. Earlier data isn't available, nor is it known how many of the deaths are linked to OxyContin.

[Tufts University severs ties with Sackler Family Over OxyContin](#)

Dec. 5, 2019 The Salem News

BOSTON — Tufts University is cutting ties with the billionaire family that owns OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma, saying it will strip the Sackler name from its campus and accept no further donations amid concerns over the family's role in the opioid crisis.

University officials announced the decision Thursday, ending a relationship that has spanned nearly four decades and brought \$15 million to the school's science and medical programs. Tufts leaders said they considered the issue for more than a year before concluding it is inconsistent with the school's values to display the family's name.

"We had to deal with the reality that the Sackler name has become associated with a health care epidemic. Given our medical school's mission, we needed to reconcile that," Peter Dolan, chairman of Tufts' board of trustees, said in an interview.

Within hours of the announcement, however, the family vowed to fight back.

"We will be seeking to have this improper decision reversed and are currently reviewing all options available to us," said Daniel Connolly, an attorney for members of the Sackler family. He added that the decision is based on "unproven allegations about the Sackler family and Purdue."

The change was announced at the same time Tufts released findings from an outside review examining the school's ties with the Sacklers and Purdue Pharma. The inquiry, commissioned by the school, found no major wrongdoing but concluded there was an "appearance of too close a relationship between Purdue, the Sacklers and Tufts."

The family's ties with Tufts date back to 1980, when the three founding brothers of Purdue Pharma provided a donation to establish the Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences. Tufts separately named its medical school building after one of the brothers, Arthur, after he made a donation in 1983.

Arthur Sackler's wife, Jillian, served on the university's board of trustees for a decade starting in 1986. And Richard Sackler, a Purdue board member and former CEO, sat on the medical school's board of advisers for nearly two decades until he left in 2017.

Officials said the Sackler name will now be dropped from all campus facilities and programs, including the biomedical sciences school, the medical school building, a laboratory and two research funds. Arthur Sackler's name was removed from a sign outside the medical school Thursday.

Jillian Sackler said her late husband, Arthur, deserves no blame.

"Arthur had nothing to do with OxyContin. The man has been dead for 32 years. He did not profit from it, and none of his philanthropic gifts were in any way connected to opioids or to deceptive medical marketing — which he likewise had nothing to do with," she said in a statement.

Tufts joins a growing number of colleges seeking distance from the Sackler family amid pressure from students and activists. Several have stopped accepting gifts from the family, including Cornell and Yale universities. Others, including Brown University, said they will redirect past donations to support addiction treatment.

An Associated Press review in October found that prestigious universities around the world accepted at least \$60 million from the Sacklers over the past five years. Some critics say schools should return the money so it can be used to help cities and states harmed by the opioid crisis.

Past donations to Tufts will continue to be used for their original purpose, officials said, but the university will establish a \$3 million endowment to support research and education on addiction. The school also plans to create an educational exhibit exploring Tufts' history with the Sacklers.

Previously known for their philanthropy, the Sacklers have more recently gained attention for their role in the opioid crisis. Purdue Pharma filed for bankruptcy this year amid thousands of lawsuits accusing it of aggressively pushing OxyContin despite its addiction risks. Some of the suits target individual members of the family, who deny wrongdoing.

Investigators found no evidence that the funding significantly skewed Tufts' research or academic programs, but they believe the family and its company benefited from the relationship in subtler ways.

In 2002, for example, **the director** of the **Tufts pain** program appeared in an advertisement for Purdue, with his **Tufts affiliation prominently displayed**. In 2015, the medical school chose not to assign students to read "Dreamland," a book on the opioid crisis, largely because it was too critical of the Sacklers, the review found.

“We do believe that Purdue intended to use the relationship with Tufts to advance its own interests and, in a few particular instances, there is some evidence that it was successful in exercising influence,” the report found.

THE TWO ARTHUR SACKLERS – The Harvard Crimson

By Andrew W. D. Aoyama

... But activists and medical professionals alike have challenged her claim.

In the 1950s, the chemical producer Pfizer contracted the William Douglas McAdams Company, an advertising agency where Arthur Sackler had worked throughout medical school and later purchased, to market Terramycin, its new antibiotic. **Under Sackler’s leadership, the company pioneered a series of strategies then unprecedented in the drug market — branding with flashy graphics, free samples, attractive advertisements in medical journals —** that, as argued by Doctors Scott H. Podolsky, David Herzberg, and Jeremy A. Greene in the New England Journal of Medicine, **created the playbook that his brothers would adapt to great success in the marketing of OxyContin.**

The aggressive language of one of the William Douglas McAdams Company’s internal documents — entitled **“Easy Prey for Terramycin”** — seems to suggest that **the prey in question are the doctors** prescribing the drug, not the bacteria the drug is designed to combat. And the company was successful: Over the decade that Sackler’s advertising agency worked with Pfizer, the rate at which doctors prescribed antibiotics like Terramycin nearly quintupled.

“No single individual did more to shape the character of medical advertising than the multi-talented Dr. Arthur Sackler,” declared the Medical Advertising Hall of Fame in 1998. “His seminal contribution was bringing the full power of advertising and promotion to pharmaceutical marketing.” Sackler was posthumously inducted two years after OxyContin was first released.

Janet Wooten, a spokesperson for Jillian Sackler, rebukes the claim that the advertising tactics Mortimer and Raymond Sackler used to market OxyContin can be traced to their elder brother Arthur. “Arthur M. Sackler pioneered the first direct-to-physician newsletter, The Medical Tribune, in 1962, at a time when doctors sought news on the many drugs rapidly coming onto the market,” she wrote in an emailed statement. “To say that this form of marketing to doctors spearheaded the opioid crisis is analogous to claiming the mimeograph machine spawned email spam,” she continued. “Arthur did not contribute to the development of opioids; neither he nor his heirs profited from opioids, and none of his philanthropy was derived from opioids.”

Sackler funded the construction of his museum on Harvard’s campus long before OxyContin was developed. But when Mortimer and Raymond debuted the painkiller seven years after his death, it was in part by using many of their brother’s advertising tactics that they were able to market it to such success. In the years following the release of OxyContin, Purdue Pharma funded more than 20,000 pain-related educational programs and donated extensively to the American Pain Society, the American Academy of Pain Medicine, the Federation of State Medical Boards, the Joint Commission, and even pain patient groups. As a result, each group advocated for more aggressive treatment of pain, typically through the use of opioid pain relievers like OxyContin.

In previous comment to The Crimson, Robert Josephson, Purdue Pharma's chief director of communications, never explicitly contested his company's culpability in the opioid epidemic, writing instead that he shared "concern about the prescription and illicit opioid crisis," was "committed to being part of the solution," and felt that "more needed to be done." Facing more than 2,600 federal and state lawsuits, the company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy on Sept. 15.

As Purdue Pharma's legacy solidifies, Arthur Sackler's remains hotly contested.

Though he never lived to see the "new millennium" he so enthusiastically anticipated in 1985, Sackler's museum survives, currently housing the Department of History of Art and Architecture. From its location on Quincy Street, the Arthur M. Sackler Museum, the "miracle" that affirmed Harvard's commitment to arts education, has witnessed the fallout of its patron's dualism, of the contrast between the quiet philanthropist remembered by his widow and the aggressive pharmaceutical advertiser challenged by activists. While battles rage, questions of the museum's future and its benefactor's past linger.

—Magazine writer Andrew W. D. Aoyama can be reached andrew.aoyama@thecrimson.com. Follow him on Twitter [@AndrewAoyama](https://twitter.com/AndrewAoyama).

Widow of Arthur Sackler says her husband shouldn't be blamed for the opioid crisis

By Julia Jones and Athena Jones, CNN

Posted Apr 12, 2019

[FROM WNEM.COM](https://www.wnem.com)

(CNN) -- In an op-ed in the Washington Post on Thursday, the widow of Dr. Arthur Sackler, Jillian Sackler, pleaded for the public to stop blaming her late husband for the opioid crisis. She also said she fully supports using legal settlements in suits against the company and the family to fund treatment centers.

But, she said, her husband had nothing to do with the manufacturing of the opioid painkiller OxyContin, because he died in 1987. That was four years before Purdue Pharma "in its current form" was founded by the other two Sackler brothers: Drs. Mortimer and Raymond Sackler.

"Vilifying an innocent man is wrong," Jillian Sackler wrote.

"It does nothing to help the United States come to grips with the epidemic, nothing to advance solutions. It is profoundly hurtful to his family and to institutions such as the Smithsonian, which are now unjustly under pressure to distance themselves from his name and his gifts."

According to Purdue Pharma's website, the company had been in Mortimer and Raymond's hands since 1952. It doesn't state what kind of role, if any, Arthur had in the company.

Arthur's daughter, Elizabeth Sackler, said in a 2018 statement that her father had a one-third option in what was then Purdue Frederick, and that his estate sold it to his brothers a few months after his death. "None of his descendants have ever owned a share of Purdue stock nor benefitted in any way from it or the sale of OxyContin," she said in the statement.

In her op-ed, Jillian Sackler wrote that it's understandable to seek justice and restitution for the "terrible consequences of the opioid crisis", and that she is in full support of using settlement funds for creating opioid addiction treatment centers. This is in reference to a \$270 million settlement announced last month in a lawsuit brought by the Oklahoma attorney general, accusing Purdue Pharma of aggressively marketing the addictive painkiller and fueling a drug epidemic that has left thousands dead in the state.

She also points out that Arthur has not been named in any of the lawsuits against Purdue Pharma or the Sackler family.

The Lawsuits

On March 28, the New York attorney general's office announced a comprehensive amended lawsuit against six opioid manufacturers, four opioid distributors, and eight members of the Sackler family.

The lawsuit alleges that six manufacturers, including Purdue Pharma, engaged in false and deceptive marketing practices. The suit also alleges that opioid distributors failed to prevent their drugs from getting into the wrong hands.

The lawsuit seeks to make the companies change their business practices and to get financial compensation for the state of New York. Some of the money would be used to fund prevention programs and addiction and medical treatment for those affected.

It expands on an August lawsuit filed by the New York attorney general's office against Purdue Pharma and sets forth the attorney general's findings from what it referred to as "a multi-year, industry-wide investigation of these opioid market participants."

According to the complaint, more than 130 people in the United States -- about nine of them in New York -- die as a result of opioid-related overdoses each day. More than 3,200 New Yorkers died of an opioid overdose in 2017, the office says.

More than 2 million Americans were dependent on or abused prescription painkillers in 2014, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Massachusetts attorney general's office also filed a lawsuit against the Sackler family, accusing them of profiting from the opioid crisis through aggressive marketing of OxyContin. Attorneys for the family and for Purdue Pharma have continuously denied those allegations.

On March 24, more than 600 cities, counties and Native American tribes from 28 states filed a federal lawsuit against eight members of the Sackler family, accusing them of creating the opioid addiction crisis through ownership of Purdue Pharma.

[From Business Insider:](#)

In the midst of the court proceedings, members of the family reportedly finalized a deal that earned them about \$60 million from the sale of 17 ski resorts in the Northeast and Midwest, The Washington Post reported. "Many of the ski areas in the transaction sit in places that have been hit hard by

prescription narcotic abuse over the past 20 years, including those in New Hampshire, as well as hills in Vermont, the Catskills in New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania," Christopher Rowland reported for the Post.

The deal included the sale of Attitash Mountain Ski Area and Wildcat Mountain Resort, both in New Hampshire.

Members of the Sackler family bought stock in **Peak Resorts Inc.**, the company that sold the ski resorts, in 2015, according to the Post.

Representatives for the Sackler family and for Purdue Pharma did not immediately respond to Business Insider's request for comment regarding the deal.

But that payout pales in comparison to the \$10.7 billion the family moved from Purdue Pharma to a worldwide network of trusts and holding companies between 2008 and 2017, according to an audit commissioned by Purdue.

The value of the transfers increased dramatically after Purdue came under scrutiny for its marketing tactics, according to the report. The Sacklers disbursed \$1.32 billion from Purdue between 1995 and 2007, which was considered OxyContin's heyday.

The money transfers were an apparent attempt to shield the money from lawsuits, The New York Times' Jan Hoffman and Danny Hakim reported.

"These distribution numbers were known at the time the proposed settlement was agreed to by two dozen attorneys general and thousands of local governments," the family's attorney, Daniel S. Connolly, said in a statement to Business Insider. "They have been public for months, and this filing reflects the fact that more than half was paid in taxes and reinvested in businesses that will be sold as part of the proposed settlement. The Sackler family hopes to reach a productive resolution where they contribute Purdue for the public benefit and provide at least \$3 billion of additional money to help communities and people who need help now, which makes more sense for everyone than continuing litigation that only squander resources."

In a lengthy statement about the report provided to Business Insider, a representative of Purdue Pharma said the company spent months compiling the report as a part of a larger effort to increase transparency. "Purdue is providing this exceedingly rare level of transparency to help ensure that all claimants, including attorneys general and the communities they represent, can support the settlement structure that would transfer more than \$10 billion of value to the American public to address the opioid epidemic and save lives," the statement reads, in part.

The Guardian described them in 2018 as "a sprawling and now feuding transatlantic dynasty." According to a 2017 article from The New Yorker, there are 15 Sackler children in the generation following the founders of Purdue.

While some Sacklers previously served as board members of Purdue Pharma, others — notably those descended from the eldest brother, Arthur M. Sackler, who died before OxyContin was invented — have distanced themselves from the company and condemned the OxyContin-based wealth, according to The

Guardian. On September 18, a representative for Purdue Pharma told Business Insider that no Sackler family members have served on Purdue Pharma's board since January 2019.

Arthur's four children, Elizabeth Sackler, Carol Master, Arthur Felix Sackler, and Denise Marica, have said they have not made any money from OxyContin.

Elizabeth, a board member of the Brooklyn Museum, where she endowed the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art, has called the OxyContin-based wealth of her family members "morally abhorrent."

A 2018 investigation by The Atlantic found a court document that showed a nearly \$20 million payment to Arthur M. Sackler's estate in 1997 from the Purdue family of companies, suggesting his descendants did benefit in some way from OxyContin.

In an email to Business Insider, Janet Wootten, a spokeswoman for Jillian Sackler, widow of Arthur M. Sackler, denied that Jillian, Arthur, or their heirs have financially profited from the sale of OxyContin.

Mortimer Sackler, the middle son who was one of Purdue Pharma's chief executives, died in 2010 at age 93. He was survived by his third wife, Theresa Sackler, and seven children, three of whom were board members of Purdue Pharma, according to The Guardian. A rep for Purdue Pharma told Business Insider that no Sackler family members have served on Purdue's board since January 2019.

The other two are the daughters Kathe Sackler, who is also the founder and president of the Acorn Foundation for the Arts & Sciences, and Ilene Sackler Lefcourt, the director of the Sackler Lefcourt Center for Child Development.

The elder Mortimer's other four children — Samantha Sophia, Michael, Marissa, and Sophie — are apparently not involved in the company.

Raymond Sackler, Purdue Pharma's other former chief executive, died in 2017 at age 97. He had two children: Jonathan and Richard.

Both were board members at Purdue Pharma, The Guardian reported in February 2018.

Richard's son and Raymond's grandson, David, was also a board member.

Richard Sackler reportedly lives in a six-bedroom home in Austin, Texas.

His son, David Sackler, paid cash for a \$22.5 million home in Los Angeles in 2018, according to Curbed.

The 10,000-square-foot estate sits on four acres in the Bel Air neighborhood, according to Curbed, and includes a tennis court and a pool.

David is married to Joss Sackler, the founder of a private social club and clothing company for women.

Joss is the founder of LBV, a private social club that charges \$2,500 a year in dues to be a core member. The club also recently launched its own fashion line.

Raymond's granddaughter, Madeleine Sackler, is an award-winning filmmaker.

In response to criticism related to her family background, she said she had "never worked at the company or had any influence in it."

"The Sacklers have hidden their connection to their product," Keith Humphreys, a psychiatry professor at Stanford University who has written extensively about the opioid crisis, told Esquire.

"They don't call it 'Sackler Pharma,'" Humphreys said. "They don't call their pills 'Sackler pills.' And when they're questioned, they say, 'Well, it's a privately held firm, we're a family, we like to keep our privacy, you understand.'"

But the family is well-known for their philanthropic endeavors, with their names visibly emblazoned on hospital wings and museum galleries.

In a 2017 New Yorker article about the Sacklers titled "The Family That Built an Empire of Pain," Patrick Radden Keefe noted the Sacklers were well-known for their philanthropy.

The Sacklers reportedly donated \$3.5 million to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City in 1974 to create the Sackler Wing, where the Ancient Egyptian Temple of Dendur sits.

On May 15, 2019, however, the Met announced it would stop taking gifts from the Sacklers.

Many other institutions including nonprofits, museums, and universities have recently cut ties with the Sackler family over the opioid crisis.

There's a Sackler Center at the Guggenheim in New York City, as well as a Sackler Educational Lab at the American Museum of Natural History.

According to Esquire, at Yale University, there's a Raymond and Beverly Sackler Institute for Biological, Physical and Engineering Sciences and a Richard Sackler and Jonathan Sackler Professorship of Internal Medicine.

And in London, there's the Serpentine Sackler Gallery.

SACKLER--Marietta Lutze, 99, resident of Miami Beach, Florida, formerly of Cambridge, Massachusetts, died on January 18th, 2019, peacefully in her home in South Beach. Marietta was born on March 17, 1919 in San Francisco, California. Her family then returned to Berlin, Germany where she was educated, and became a physician. At the close of World War II she returned to the United States. Relatives of her mother helped her to settle in New York where she repeated her medical internship and trained to practice Psychiatry in the US. While completing her psychiatric training she met **Dr. Arthur M. Sackler** to whom she was then married for twenty-five years. Marietta frequently returned to Berlin where she was a managing director of Dr. Kade, GmbH, while at the same time raising their two children, **Arthur F. Sackler and Denise Marika** in New York. She retired from her position at Kade in April 2017. Marietta was an intrepid traveler and enjoyed entertaining her world-wide circle of friends. She was an avid and knowledgeable patron both of the arts and education and notably, she was a sponsor of the Jewish Museum in Berlin. She was a recipient of the Federal Cross of Merit, First Class, of the Republic of Germany. She is sadly missed by her son, **Arthur F. Sackler**, her daughter-in-law, **Laurie Sackler**, her grandchildren, **Neoma Sackler, Hana Sackler, Malcolm Sackler, Maile Sackler, Desta Marika and Erik Marika-Rich**, as well as many old and dear friends both in Europe and the United States. She was predeceased by her daughter, Denise Marika. A memorial service for family and friends will be held in Concord, Massachusetts later this Spring.

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Sacklers quit Purdue Pharma board amid shifts for OxyContin maker

By Paul Schott / STAMFORD ADVOCATE

Updated 4:44 pm EST, Monday, November 4, 2019

STAMFORD — Two years ago, eight Sackler family members who own OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma served on the company's board. Today, none of them remain on the panel.

A spokesman for the Stamford-based company confirmed to The Advocate this week that the last of the Sacklers on the board stepped down at the beginning of 2019.

For years, the Sacklers have appeared impervious to outside pressure to reform the company that they closely guard. But the board departures, as well as a number of other major moves in recent months, suggest that the billionaire owners could be rethinking how they run their business, as they grapple with hundreds of lawsuits alleging that Purdue's marketing stoked the opioid crisis — including complaints by Connecticut, Massachusetts, and most recently, New York, that directly accuse the Sacklers.

The Purdue Pharma board has long included a contingent of strong, independent directors," the company said in a statement. "In recent years, as boards — both public and private — have moved in the direction of greater independence, there has been a collective desire among family directors to do so as well. The (2017) passing of (Purdue co-founder) Dr. Raymond Sackler accelerated that transition, and the board no longer includes any family members."

A message left for a Sackler family spokesperson seeking comment on the board changes was not returned.

The late Raymond Sackler and his late brother Mortimer Sackler bought Purdue Pharma's predecessor company, Manhattan-based Purdue Frederick, in 1952. The headquarters have been headquartered in Connecticut since 1973, with a 27-year stint in Norwalk before the 2000 relocation to their current downtown Stamford address, 201 Tresser Blvd.

In its early days — decades before the 1996 launch of OxyContin — the Sackler-owned Purdue focused on products such as laxatives and arthritis treatment.

Today, it is not the co-founders, but rather their widows, five of their children, and one grandchild who comprise the eight defendants in the Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York lawsuits.

Seven of the eight took seats on the Purdue board in the early 1990s, according to the litigation. The eighth came on in 2012.

The group includes a Connecticut-based trio: Greenwich's Beverly Sackler, widow of Raymond Sackler; Greenwich's Jonathan Sackler, son of Raymond and Beverly Sackler; and Kathe Sackler, daughter of Mortimer Sackler and who has held multiple residences in the state, according to public records.

Since an un-redacted version was filed in January, Massachusetts' complaint has garnered particular attention, largely due to the unprecedented amount of detail it gives about the Sacklers' control of Purdue. Much of the information is culled from internal company documents.

"They hired hundreds of workers to carry out their wishes, and they fired those who didn't sell enough drugs," the lawsuit said. "They got more patients on opioids, at higher doses, for longer, than ever before. They paid themselves billions of dollars."

Purdue and the Sacklers have denied the allegations. Both the company and the Sacklers have filed motions to dismiss the Massachusetts complaint.

In a court filing this week, the Sacklers said the lawsuit contains "misleading and inflammatory allegations."

Among the octet, Richard Sackler figures particularly prominently in the litigation. The son of Raymond and Beverly Sackler, he previously served as CEO and senior vice president of the company.

At a launch party for OxyContin, Richard Sackler predicted a "blizzard of prescriptions that will bury the competition," according to the Massachusetts suit.

In recent years, OxyContin has generated most of Purdue's estimated annual sales of more than \$3 billion, according to the lawsuits.

Kathe and Jonathan Sackler also played instrumental roles, according to court records. Both served, for a time, as vice presidents.

Massachusetts accuses the duo of knowing, as early as the 1990s, about the potentially devastating effects of long-term opioid use and depicts them as having a fixation on growing the company's sales.

In 1997, Richard Sackler, Kathe Sackler, and other Purdue executives concluded — and recorded in "secret" internal correspondence — that doctors mistakenly thought OxyContin was weaker than morphine, according to Massachusetts. The misunderstanding led to significantly more OxyContin prescriptions, even as a substitute for Tylenol.

Massachusetts also accuses Kathe Sackler of spearheading Project Tango, a 2014 plan for Purdue to start selling drugs to treat opioid addiction.

"In their internal documents, Kathe and staff wrote down what Purdue publicly denied for decades: that addictive opioids and opioid addiction are 'naturally linked,'" the lawsuit said. "They determined that

Purdue should expand across ‘the pain and addiction spectrum,’ to become ‘an end-to-end pain provider.’”

By early 2015, Project Tango ended. The complaint does not elaborate on the reasons for terminating the program.

The Sacklers, however, did not give up on such initiatives. Last year, Richard Sackler gained patent approval for a buprenorphine opioid-addiction treatment.

Few of the lawsuits’ allegations solely focus on Beverly Sackler, although Raymond Sackler’s widow is still named in them.

The family’s board departures apparently started with her exit. She left the panel in October 2017, followed by Richard Sackler last July, and two more shortly after that, according to Massachusetts.

Four remaining family members, including Kathe and Jonathan and Sackler, appear to have stepped down at later dates.

Corporate-turnaround specialist Steve Miller, who took over as chairman last July, now leads a board of five members.

Major changes

Despite the board overhaul, the Sacklers have made no statements indicating that they would consider selling the business.

Purdue CEO and President Craig Landau confirmed last month that the firm was considering bankruptcy. But filing for Chapter 11 protection would likely focus on managing legal liability, not on setting the stage for a sale of the entire company.

In the past year and a half, Purdue has already undergone significant shifts

Last year, it stopped marketing its opioids to medical prescribers and disbanded its sales force. The sales team’s demise resulted in hundreds of layoffs.

Now, the company is increasingly focusing on non-opioids.

A new Purdue subsidiary gained U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval last month for a drug called Adhansia XR, to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, known as ADHD.

Any marketing campaigns for Adhansia would face more discerning audiences than when OxyContin went on the market.

“If there’s one good thing that came out of the opioid epidemic, it’s that most physicians are very jaded now about information that is provided by pharmaceutical companies,” said Dr. Carl Mueller, associate chairman of psychiatry in the Stamford Health system, which includes Stamford Hospital. “There’s been a shift toward much higher levels of skepticism. Ultimately, that’s a good thing.”

In the past two months, another new Purdue subsidiary has secured the FDA's "orphan drug designation" for expedited reviews of drugs to, respectively, treat rare bile-duct cancer and an extremely rare type of leukemia.

Also last month, Purdue announced an FDA fast-track designation for a "nalmefene hydrochloride" injection that would treat known or suspected opioid overdoses.

The company said it would not profit from the latter medication, but that pledge has not won over some of its critics.

"I don't believe that they should be able to manufacture and sell controlled drugs," said Dr. Andrew Kolodny, co-director of opioid policy research at Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management. Kolodny has been a paid expert witness in opioid lawsuits. "This is a company that has shown, over and over again, that it has put profits over public health."

At the same time, the company and the Sacklers have signaled their willingness to make large payouts to resolve some of the litigation.

As part of a \$270 million settlement last month of Oklahoma's lawsuit, the Sacklers are contributing \$75 million to a new national center focused on addiction, at Oklahoma State University's campus in Tulsa.

Purdue and the Sacklers did not admit to any culpability in Oklahoma's opioid crisis. The Sacklers were not named as defendants in that complaint.

"The first rule of crisis communication theory is to admit your wrongdoings," said Debbie Danowski, an associate professor of media studies at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield. "Quite the opposite, in the news reports I've heard, the family has denied any wrongdoing. These types of statements only serve to anger the public. Admitting wrongdoing, then making a concerted effort to put time and money behind fixing it is a better way to repair the family's image."

Controversial contributions

The torrent of litigation has also ratcheted up scrutiny of the Sacklers' prolific philanthropy.

Late last month, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in Manhattan said that it would not accept additional contributions from the family branch of one of the defendants named in the lawsuits, Mortimer D.A. Sackler, a former museum board member and son of the late Mortimer Sackler.

In February, protesters demonstrated at the Guggenheim, calling out the museum for its ties to the Sacklers.

A United Kingdom-based group of Sacklers — which includes Theresa Sackler, another of the defendants and widow of Mortimer Sackler — has also faced growing pressure.

The Tate group of galleries has said that it would not take more money from the family. The London-based National Portrait Gallery, in consultation with the Sacklers, is not proceeding with a \$1.3 million donation.

In Connecticut, Sackler beneficiaries include the University of Connecticut, Yale University, Greenwich Hospital and Stamford's Palace Theater . So far, they have not renounced their funding from the family.

"I'm not surprised some organizations have decided to take a public stance against the Sacklers, given all the news coming out about the opioid crisis," said Karla Fortunato, president of the Connecticut Council for Philanthropy. "If they receive positive feedback, I think other organizations will feel comfortable taking a similar stance."

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According to The New York Times, the Louvre in Paris was the first major museum to "erase its public association" with the Sackler family name. On July 16, 2019 the museum had removed the plaque at the gallery entrance about Sacklers' donations made to the museum. Throughout the gallery, grey tape covered signs such as Sackler Wing, including signage for the Louvre's Persian and Levantine artifacts collection, which was removed on July 8 or 9. Signage for the collection had identified it as the Sackler Wing of Oriental Antiquities since 1997

Feds drop investigation after destroying doctor's life

St Mary's County 09/17/2018 By Zach Hill

Mechanicsville, MD - On Dec. 20, 2016 every room in both his home and office were raided by the FBI. There were no formal charges stated at the time Dr. Ahmed H. Kafaji (pictured, right) posed the question: what exactly am I being accused of? The FBI dropped the case recently in its entirety. According to rumors, patients that had been arrested for possession of drugs claimed they were getting prescriptions from Dr. Kafaji. The doctor says this was only rumor and he had heard that as well.

The only thing he was told about this case by investigators was that it was based on information that was given to them. Dr. Kafaji really has no idea what the basis was, or who would have made these allegations to the FBI. The FBI ran a thorough investigation regarding narcotics and how he runs his office. This included: prescriptions and specifically how they are prescribed, what occurs during a typical work day, how money and payments are handled, and how insurance companies are billed. They also looked into whether Dr. Kafaji had ever had any suspicious insurance claims, charges filed against him, and whether he has ever gone to court for anything. The answer to these questions are: no, none and never.

The FBI asked Medicare to "look for overcharges," in 20 patient charts that were sent for review. The charts in question were regarding individual patients whose claims Dr. Kafaji had submitted. Per Dr. Kafaji, Medicare came back and said 11 were not billed enough; and they were undercharged. Seven of the charts had nothing wrong with them and were subsequently reported as such by Medicare

Additionally, the FBI asked the medical board to investigate for abuse of over-prescribing; in particular: pain management prescription drugs. Upon the medical board's investigation, they came back and said that nothing had been found per Dr. Kafaji. No disciplinary action has ever been taken against Dr. Kafaji, nor do authorities plan on taking any.

Currently, Dr. Kafaji is working three days a week and spending the rest of his time helping his wife. He is so busy right now due to his wife's diagnosis and illness that half of the time he is at the hospital. One week after the FBI dropped their case against him, his wife was diagnosed with stage four ovarian cancer.

At his practice, he is giving epidural shots, trigger points and other treatments for pain management. His plan is to go back full time into pain management, although this is now put on hold until he gets through this crisis. As time permits, he will add more time back into his practice.

Now that the investigation has ended, the doctor will be asking for compensation. He will also demand to know who provided the FBI with these false allegations. These falsifications have had significant negative impact on his reputation, practice, staff and health.

The FBI sent an email to his attorney explaining they are not continuing any further prosecution. Furthermore, the case has been dropped with no letter of apology; it was simply an e-mail sent to Dr. Kafaji's attorney as a notification. The reason Dr. Kafaji did not shut down his practice is he knew he was innocent and it would be found as such.

Dr. Kafaji is known and respected by many in Southern Maryland. For the last couple of years, he has continued operating his practice despite the constant stress of scrutiny and suspicions by the FBI. He has managed to keep his office open through the entirety of the investigation and now he has applied to get his prescription license back; which should be arriving soon. He would like to assert that he has every intention of practicing full time but must make every effort to take care of his wife, first.

Kafaji's office speaks to TheBayNet about recent FBI raid

St Mary's County 12/23/2016 By Shertina J. Mack

Sheriff's deputies and FBI personnel were seen removing materials from a Mechanicsville neurologist's office Tuesday, Dec. 20.

Mechanicsville, MD - Dr. Ahmed H. Kafaji, who is known as a well-respected neurologist in the Southern Maryland region and has 23 years of experience in this field, had his Mechanicville office raided Tuesday, Dec. 20 by the FBI.

The office of St. Mary's Neurology and Spine reached out to TheBayNet about this incident. The FBI is investigating Dr. Kafaji for allegedly over-prescribing narcotic medication. No charges have been filed and no one was arrested on any charges. The FBI took from the premises various computers and files. The grand jury will review all information. This process could take weeks or even months to complete. The entire office, including Dr. Kafaji, was completely unaware that they were under any type of investigation and shocked when the FBI showed up.

Dr. Kafaji voluntarily surrendered his ability to prescribe controlled substance medication to his patients and decided at this time he will not practice pain management. He was not asked to do this. His office, St. Mary's Neurology and Spine, is open with normal office hours. Patients will continue to receive the same service and he still accepts all the same insurances that he always has.

TheBayNet also spoke to a few of Dr. Kafaji's patients who have stated that they cannot believe he would even be charged with anything considering how conservative he is.

A couple of his patients even said on more than one occasion that they have asked the doctor to increase their medication because they were in so much pain. Instead, he would refuse and discuss with them other options of pain control. They do not believe there is any truth to the speculation that he was over-prescribing.

Many of TheBayNet.com's readers have left numerous comments on our site and Facebook page. Most probably know nothing about him or this case and are speculating and accusing him of many things that probably are not true. Many of the comments are accusing him of things that the FBI wasn't even looking for. The physician is cooperating with authorities, has not even been arrested, yet in the social media environment he is persecuted.

Whatever happened to being innocent until proven guilty? We intend on following this case and bringing to you any and all information as it becomes available.

Mechanicsville, MD - On Tuesday, Dec. 20, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) raided the office of neurologist and spine specialist Dr. Ahmed H. Kafaji (pictured below, right). The action occurred at approximately 1 p.m.

All patients inside the building at the time were told to leave and call back tomorrow for an appointment or find another neurologist.

Law enforcement officials were seen carrying boxes and files from Kafaji's office building located at 28105 Three Notch Road in Mechanicsville.

Kafaji's employees were also seen evacuating the building with papers and boxes.

TheBayNet.com contacted the sheriff's office's public information officer for a comment on the situation and were told that they are not ready to release any information at this time. A spokesman for the FBI told TheBayNet.com that all records are sealed.

TheBayNet.com attempted to call Dr. Kafaji's office at 8:55 a.m. Dec. 21 but received no answer. In addition, no message could be left because the voice mail box was full.

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