

Date September 12, 2019

Attorney General Moody's Week In Review - Sept. 13, 2019



Florida is home to some of the finest law enforcement men and women in our country, and we should never lose sight of the fact that our safety and security come at a tremendous price.

Eighteen years ago this week, we learned just how quickly that security can be taken from us, and how selflessly our first responders act in the face of terror. As our nation reflects on 9/11 and the lives lost on that fateful day, let us not forget the police officers, firefighters and paramedics who rushed to the scene—many of them entering the towers moments before they collapsed.



While these heroic actions are forever etched in the minds of those of us who watched in horror as our nation was under attack, there are day-to-day sacrifices by our first responders that often go unnoticed.

Earlier this month, as Florida braced for a hurricane strike, our first-responders kicked in to high gear. They quickly organized, manned emergency operation centers, patrolled

their communities offering advice and assistance to help keep Floridians safe.

First responders lean into the danger. They jeopardize their safety to protect their fellow Americans. I was honored this week to address hundreds of first responders at the Leon County Sheriff's Office First Responders Appreciation Lunch.



We also honored first responders in Orlando this week, by awarding the Back the Blue award to three Seminole County Sheriff's Deputies who saved three people from overdosing on fentanyl. Their quick thinking and expertise saved lives and speaks volumes about the debt we owe our first responders.

We can never thank them enough, but by recognizing their sacrifices and all that they do, we can build a stronger, safer Florida.

Ashley

In The News

Florida's attorney general issues a warning about callers who say they're from 'FDLE', Miami Herald

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Fake officer alert: Florida residents warned of FDLE 'scam', WFLA Tampa

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Purdue Pharma Tentatively Settles Thousands of Opioid Cases, New York Times

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Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody Points To 'Historic' Opioid Settlement, CBS Miami

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Google Under Microscope as States Launch Antitrust Probe, Bay News 9

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Florida's attorney general: There's no 'case study' for our multistate Facebook antitrust probe, CNBC

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On 9/11 anniversary, Florida Attorney General honors Seminole deputies for saving lives in triple overdose, Orlando Sentinel

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Protecting Floridians

BACK THE BLUE ALERT: Attorney General Moody Recognizes Three Seminole County Deputies



Attorney General Ashley Moody presented Back the Blue Awards to three Seminole County Sheriff deputies who responded to the scene of a triple overdose. Lieutenant Dwayne Kvalheim, Deputy James Hennessey and Deputy Caitlin Henry responded to a call at a local gas station and approached two men and one woman who were unresponsive and turning blue. It quickly became apparent that the individuals were suffering from symptoms of a drug overdose. The deputies then instantly administered doses of Narcan to the individuals saving their lives. The overdoses ended up being the result of taking the lethal drug fentanyl.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "These individuals are so incredibly lucky to have three amazing deputies respond and quickly administer life-saving treatment. It is due to these deputies quick-thinking and expertise that these individuals survived. The opioid epidemic does not discriminate, and it is ravaging our country, including our great state. Florida loses 17 people a day alone to this demanding epidemic and we must fight back. Thank you, deputies, for your critical help in this fight." [Read More](#)

Attorney General Moody Recognizes National Suicide Prevention Week

Attorney General Ashley Moody

NEWS ALERT



ASHLEY MOODY
Stronger, Safer Florida

Attorney

General Ashley Moody is recognizing National Suicide Prevention Week through her role as Attorney General by encouraging mental health awareness within law enforcement agencies. National Suicide Prevention Week is Sept. 8-14. According to BlueHelp.org, 167 active and retired law enforcement officers nationwide committed suicide in 2018. This summer, Attorney General Moody hosted Mental Health and Criminal Justice Round Tables across the state. The first round table discussion focused on mental health in Florida's law enforcement ranks.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "One law enforcement life lost to suicide is one too many. I stand committed to do everything in my power to help our brave law enforcement officers so that no one has to suffer alone. Our officers carry a heavy burden, and see many traumatic events unfold but still they must act quickly to protect others. Providing help and assistance to our law enforcement officers and improving mental health programs and strategies is one of my priorities as Attorney General." [Read More](#)

Attorney General Moody Issues Statement on Multibillion-Dollar Agreement in Principle with Purdue Pharma

Attorney General **Ashley Moody**

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Attorney

General Ashley Moody issued the following statement about a historic, multibillion-dollar agreement in principle with Purdue Pharma:

“After months of pursuing justice for Florida we have negotiated a historic, multibillion-dollar agreement in principle to hold Purdue Pharma responsible for its role in the national opioid epidemic. Sadly, this agreement cannot bring back those who have lost their lives to opioid abuse, but it will help Florida gain access to more life-saving resources and bolster our efforts to end this deadly epidemic. I want to assure Floridians that we will continue to aggressively pursue our state case against all remaining defendants.”

Attorney General Moody and Bipartisan Coalition of Attorneys General Launch Google Antitrust Investigation



Attorney General Ashley Moody and attorneys general from across the country announced an investigation of tech giant Google's business practices to ascertain if these practices are in compliance with state and federal antitrust laws.

The bipartisan coalition, in which Florida has a leadership role, announced plans to investigate Google's overarching control of online advertising markets and search traffic that may have led to anticompetitive behavior that harms consumers. Legal experts from each state will work in cooperation with Federal authorities to assess competitive conditions for online services and ensure that Americans have access to free digital markets.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "This investigation will initially focus on Google's dominant role in the internet advertising space. As a result of this dominance, Google has developed into a commercial behemoth that can control, manipulate and command commerce not just in Florida, but across the entire United States and world. This is very concerning to me and should be concerning to all of us." [Read More](#)

Attorney General Moody's Statement on the President's Commitment to Ban Flavored E-Cigarettes

Attorney General **Ashley Moody**

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Attorney

General Ashley Moody released the following statement regarding President Donald Trump's commitment to ban all non-tobacco flavored E-cigarettes from the market:

"I applaud President Trump for taking action to rein in the E-cigarette industry and combat the youth vaping epidemic.

"While we may not yet fully understand the harmful effects these products can have on the human body, we know that use is skyrocketing among young people and that there is rapidly growing concern in the medical community about their use.

"Since taking office, I have traveled the state to listen to parents, teachers, students, law enforcement officers and medical professionals concerned about youth vaping. Make no mistake, they are very worried about the potential for long-term health consequences and believe policymakers need to step in and take action.

"I know that Florida's families will appreciate President Trump's actions and they can count on me and my office to work alongside his administration to protect our youth."

Attorney General Moody's Statement on President Trump's Nomination of Judge Singhal

Attorney General **Ashley Moody**

NEWS ALERT



ASHLEY MOODY
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Attorney

General Ashley Moody released the following statement on President Donald J. Trump nominating Judge Raag Singhal to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida:

"I am very excited to see that the President has nominated Judge Singhal to be a Federal District Court Judge. I have known Judge Singhal for some time. We taught other judges together at Florida's Advanced Judicial Studies program. He is very sharp, with a strong respect for the rule of law. He understands the proper role of a judge. Judge Singhal will serve this nation and the Southern District of Florida well as a United States District Judge."

Attorney General to Challenge Proposed Amendment that is Longer than Article I of Florida's Constitution

Attorney General Ashley Moody filed a petition with the Florida Supreme Court and will challenge a misleading initiative that is longer than Article I of Florida's Constitution. Florida laws direct the Attorney General to review the titles and summaries of citizen initiatives to identify ambiguous or misleading ballot language. The Regulate Marijuana in a Manner Similar to Alcohol to Establish Age, Licensing, and Other Restrictions initiative is 10 pages long, single spaced—longer than Article I of Florida's Constitution, and it cannot be summarized in a way that would clearly inform a voter about what he or she is voting on.



Attorney General Ashley Moody said, “Not only is this proposed amendment longer than Article I of our State Constitution, it is also longer than the prior 30 Constitutional amendments combined. There is no way 10 pages of the law can be summarized clearly in 75 words or less and would adequately convey to the voters what exactly they will be voting on. That is why I will ask the Florida Supreme Court to seriously consider the sheer length and ambiguous language chosen by the sponsor when reviewing the legality of this proposed initiative.” [Read More](#)

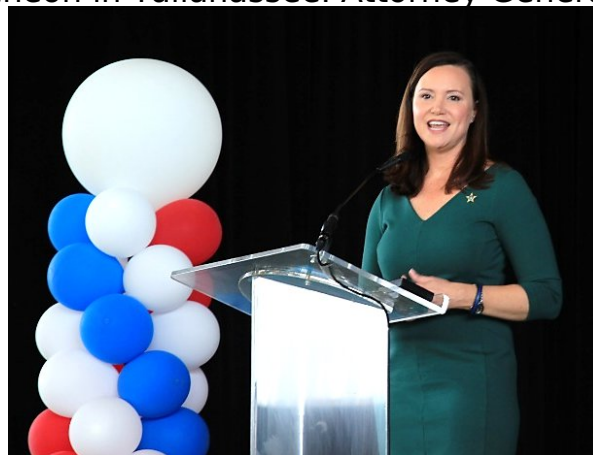
Events

This week, Attorney General Ashley Moody joined attorneys general in front of the U.S. Supreme Court to announce an antitrust investigation into Google. To watch highlights from the news conference, click below. [here](#)



Moody and Rick Scott on

Attorney General Moody delivering the keynote address at the Leon County Sheriff's Office First Responders Appreciation Luncheon in Tallahassee. Attorney General



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Attorney General Moody presenting Back the Blue Awards to three Seminole County



Attorney General Moody meeting with seniors at the West Miami Senior Center to talk about common fraud schemes.



Attorney General Moody meeting with West Miami city and law enforcement officials.



From left to right: City Manager Yolanda Aguilar, City Commissioner Eric Diaz-Padron, Deputy Chief of Police Carlos Avila, AG Moody, Chief of Police Nelson Andreu and West Miami Mayor Rhonda Rodriguez

Attorney General Moody with officers of the Miami-Dade Police Department. Attorney General Moody and MDPD Director Juan Perez spoke about fighting the opioid epidemic, violent crime and human trafficking.



From left to right: Criminal Investigations Division Chief Richard Amion, Director Juan Perez, AG Moody, Deputy Director Alfredo Ramirez III and Assistant Director Thomas Hanlon