

The logo for the Opioid Justice Team features the text "OPIOID JUSTICE TEAM" in a dark blue, serif font. The text is centered and framed by a dark blue horizontal line above and below it. The entire logo is set against a light yellow background.

OPIOID JUSTICE TEAM™

October 22, 2018

On behalf of the Opioid Justice Team, we wanted to provide an update on developments with the ongoing national opioid litigation and the progress we are making to fight on behalf of the babies and children affected by this national crisis. Our nation's children, especially our newborns born to opioid-using mothers, are suffering in this nation's clinics and hospitals from real, provable damages related to their parents' addiction to prescription opioids that will impact them for the rest of their lives.

As many of you already know, the Opioid Justice Team is a nationwide network of attorneys that is working with physicians, public health experts, civic leaders, and NGOs to seek justice and relief for babies born suffering from neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) and others who have been damaged by the crisis. You can find more information about us on our [website](#).

We have filed cases in California, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Tennessee, and West Virginia and more are planned in the coming weeks. An exciting recent update is that the NAS babies have been granted the opportunity to present oral arguments before the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation (JPML) on November 29, 2018 in New York City. We will make the case to the JPML that the NAS babies are uniquely situated in this national opioid crisis and need their own separate multidistrict litigation (MDL) to prevent the mistakes of the 1990's tobacco settlement.

This update details some of our recent work in the litigation and news coverage, and we will send updates on a regular basis. We are excited about the interest so many of you have indicated, and we look forward to collaborating with you on this critical issue. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Litigation Developments

PRESS RELEASE: Opioid Justice Team Petition For Opioid Affected Infants And Children To Be Removed From Multi-District Litigation

Opioid Justice Team – 9/4/18

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/opioid-justice-team-petition-for-opioid-affected-infants-and-children-to-be-removed-from-multi-district-litigation-300706452.html>

PRESS RELEASE: Unique Medical-Legal Partnership Moves to Protect Opioid-dependent Infants

Opioid Justice Team – 9/25/18

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/unique-medical-legal-partnership-moves-to-protect-opioid-dependent-infants-300718736.html>

NAS Babies In the News

**PDF copies are provided as links in the article title as some articles appear behind a paywall*

[Opioids' most innocent victims: Lawsuit takes aim at drug companies over effects on children](#)

Cleveland.com – Eric Heisig, 8/8/18

Original Link Here: <https://www.cleveland.com/expo/news/erry-2018/08/63beae5fdc7332/opioids-most-innocent-victims.html>

Attys Relaunch Bid for ‘Opioid Babies’ Track in MDL

Law360 – Emily Field, 8/21/18

Original Link Here: <https://www.law360.com/articles/1075607/attys-relaunch-bid-for-opioid-babies-track-in-mdl>

In the Opioid Litigation, Who Represents Addicted Babies?

The National Law Journal – Amanda Bronstad, 8/24/18

Original Link Here: <https://www.law.com/nationallawjournal/2018/08/24/in-the-opioid-litigation-who-represents-addicted-babies/>

New MDL Needed For ‘Opioid Babies,’ Attys Say

Law360 – Jeff Overley, 9/20/18

Original Link Here: <https://www.law360.com/articles/1084765/new-mdl-needed-for-opioid-babies-attys-say>

Lawyers for Opioid-Addicted Babies Push for Separate Legal Proceedings

Bloomberg Law News – Julie Sternberg, 9/21/18

Original Link Here: <https://bna.news.bna.com/product-liability-and-toxics-law/lawyers-for-opioid-addicted-babies-push-for-separate-legal-track-1/>

What We’re Saying

The Pursuit of Justice for America’s Opioid Babies and Children

Stuart H. Smith – Medium, 8/30/18

<https://medium.com/@StuartHSmithLaw/the-pursuit-of-justice-for-americas-opioid-babies-and-children-eb3b1522d0ee>

What Our Partners Are Saying

I Was Addicted to “Helping” My Family. It Didn’t Work

Facing Addiction with NCADD – 10/17/18

<https://www.facingaddiction.org/news/2018/10/17/addicted-helping-family-didnt-work>