

JAY JONES

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL

KEEPING VIRGINIANS SAFE FROM FENTANYL



Dear Virginians,

Keeping our communities safe is the most important responsibility of any Virginia leader. My parents, who served as violent crime prosecutors and later as state court judges, instilled this value in me from a young age. Now, as a lifelong Norfolk resident and father of two, I understand firsthand the importance of a safe, healthy environment where children can grow, businesses can thrive, and Virginians can live without fear.

But today, fentanyl and other illicit drugs are endangering our communities and tearing families apart in every corner of the Commonwealth. Fentanyl-related deaths remain the leading kind of overdose deaths in America. In Virginia alone last year, there were 1,403 overdose deaths, 962 of which were the result of fentanyl and other synthetic drugs.¹ We have seen time and time again that while the addiction crisis continues to evolve, it is not going away.

We must remain vigilant and stop the flow of fentanyl into our communities. As Attorney General, I will harness the power of collaboration with law enforcement, prosecutors, and public safety officials and leverage every tool at my disposal to crack down on traffickers, stop counterfeit pills, and get these deadly drugs off our streets. I will also work to expand treatment, support recovery, and prevent addiction before it starts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jay".

KEEPING VIRGINIANS SAFE FROM FENTANYL

AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, I WILL:

Create a dedicated Drug Trafficking Unit that will strengthen coordination and support for local law enforcement to stop fentanyl and drug trafficking throughout the Commonwealth.

We must get illegal drugs like fentanyl out of Virginia, and the Attorney General's Office has a critical role to play in that effort. As a multi-jurisdictional crime, drug trafficking can be challenging for local law enforcement to combat, placing a premium on inter-organizational cooperation and information sharing. As Attorney General, I will create a dedicated Drug Trafficking Unit within the office to serve as a partner to local law enforcement, providing information sharing, investigative support, and specialized resources to stop fentanyl and other illicit drugs. This unit will leverage existing regional partnerships, enhance communication, and formalize agreements with our neighboring states to fight trafficking across state lines.



Aggressively target criminal organizations and the illegal flow of money fueling them.

Identifying and prosecuting illicit drug manufacturers and money laundering operations presents many legal challenges, as they can often be clandestine, violent, and sophisticated multi-state, multi-national organizations. On a daily basis, much of this work is done by local law enforcement and prosecutors, where additional expertise and resources may be needed. As Attorney General, I will work hand-in-hand with local law enforcement officials, prosecutors, financial institutions, and the Fusion Center to provide and make available specialized training and experts to recognize these schemes and build strong prosecutions to shut them down and make them face tough penalties. My office will also take on companies and platforms that enable financial transactions related to drug trafficking. For example, companies like WeChat allow traffickers to discreetly move millions of dollars tied to fentanyl — that must stop. I will work with the Legislature and Governor's Office to require social media platforms to disclose their policies and enforcement data related to illicit substance transactions. We will also push to significantly increase the financial penalties for money laundering involving fentanyl, which are currently capped at just \$500,000,² so that the punishment truly matches the damage to our communities.

KEEPING VIRGINIANS SAFE FROM FENTANYL



Go after massive pharmaceutical companies that have profited from the addiction and overdose epidemic and leverage settlements to fuel treatment and recovery.

Massive pharmaceutical companies have fueled the addiction and overdose crisis for years, and in some cases, intentionally shielded patients from knowledge about the addictive nature of their drugs to pad their profits. It is critical that we continue to hold these bad actors accountable. As assistant AG, I took on major corporations to lower high grocery prices and hold big banks and landlords accountable for preying on consumers. As Attorney General, I will bring that experience and confront corporations fueling the addiction and overdose epidemic, using every legal tool available to secure settlements and judgments. These settlement funds will enable the Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority to support treatment and recovery programs, ensuring victims receive the resources they need to enter recovery and rebuild their lives, while reducing the strain on our law enforcement and health care systems.

Closely monitor and confront emerging drug trends and address new precursors for fentanyl analogs and other emerging illicit drugs.

The synthetic drug market is constantly evolving, and law enforcement and prosecutors must stay ahead of the game. While fentanyl remains the deadliest illicit drug, we are now seeing non-fentanyl synthetic opioids enter the market and present dangers to our communities. As Attorney General, I will strengthen partnerships with the Department of Forensic Science, the State Police Fusion Center, and the Department of Health to monitor drug trends, detect new synthetic precursors, and direct resources where they are needed most to stop them in their tracks. By combining law enforcement intelligence with public health data, we can more easily disrupt supply chains before they take hold.

Crack down on fake online pharmacies and work collaboratively to educate our communities about the dangers of fentanyl and counterfeit pills.

Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids are being mixed into heroin, cocaine, and meth, and pressed into fake pills that look like real prescriptions, and are even being sold online on fake pharmaceutical websites. This can be especially deadly, particularly for young people, who may have no idea what they're taking. To confront this crisis, I will work directly with law enforcement, Commonwealth's Attorneys, and public health leaders to identify fake online pharmacies and threats in order to issue rapid alerts and get these poisons off our streets. Through collaboration, education, and community engagement, we will give our youth the tools to recognize the risks and the support to stay safe. Protecting the next generation starts with prevention — and it starts with us.

KEEPING VIRGINIANS SAFE FROM FENTANYL



Support and help expand specialty court dockets using best practices across Virginia to ensure strong accountability is paired with treatment and services.

Addiction and co-occurring disorders drive criminal behavior, and incarceration without treatment will only lead to repeat offenses and new victims. In order to decrease criminal behavior and reduce recidivism, we must pair strong accountability with access to treatment and community resources. Specialty dockets offer just that — strict judicial supervision and intensive treatment, drawing collaboration from courts, treatment providers, attorneys, and law enforcement. As Attorney General, I will work with jurisdictions to share best practices, provide technical assistance, and work to improve outcomes, reduce recidivism,³ and save taxpayers millions.⁴

Support recovery and harm reduction programs.

There are still over a thousand fatalities from opioids in Virginia each year, and we must work with our law enforcement officers and prosecutors to eliminate these drugs from our streets. While we fight to hold bad actors accountable, we must also address addiction at its root and implement recovery and harm reduction strategies that have been proven to save lives.⁵ As Attorney General, I will support broad access to naloxone and fentanyl test strips for our communities and ensure law enforcement officers and other first responders have the tools to protect themselves from accidental exposure. I will also partner with courts, jails, community service boards, and local agencies to expand evidence-based programs in both secure facilities and recovery settings in order to help individuals remain accountable and rebuild their lives.

KEEPING VIRGINIANS SAFE FROM FENTANYL



CITATIONS

- 1 [Drug Overdose Deaths, Virginia Department of Health, 7/22/2025](#)
- 2 [Code of Virginia, § 18.2-246.3](#)
- 3

"The overall re-arrest rate for graduates (23.3%) was lower than for non-graduates (39.9%). These data suggest that not graduating from a docket increases risk for recidivism, but that being involved with the docket for a longer period may also have a protective factor, even if graduation is not achieved."

"FY 2021 Reconviction Rates: The data align with trends from previous annual reports, showing that graduates have a lower reconviction rate than non-graduates. Overall, the reconviction rate for those who did not successfully complete the program was higher than that of graduates..."

[Virginia Recovery Courts: 2024 Annual Report, Supreme Court of Virginia, Office of the Executive Secretary, 12/2/2024](#)
- 4 [Id.](#)
- 5

Data from 2023 shows that 30% of acute hepatitis C cases reported injection drug use as a risk factor.

[Drug Overdose Data, Virginia Department of Health, 7/23/2025](#)

**TO LEARN
MORE:**

JAYJONES.COM

[!\[\]\(0aff635c4179ba9e710b00f4b01d3b20_img.jpg\) @jayccjonesva](#) [!\[\]\(29658d981ebdf5edc259074cbf6110e0_img.jpg\) @jonesjay](#) [!\[\]\(9b3d169a802e50e3425ebff869ff6250_img.jpg\) @jccjones](#)

Paid for by Jay Jones for Virginia. Printed in-house, labor donated.

25JJJ016