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**Delaware County Criminal & Juvenile Justice
host summit addressing the opioid and
mental health epidemic**

"Building Bridges...Creating Hope" A Cross Systems Approach

The Delaware County Criminal Justice Advisory Board in partnership with Neumann University's Center for Leadership is set to host a summit on Friday, October 5 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. focused on the opioid epidemic and mental health, held at the Mirenda Center on the campus of Neumann University in Aston. The Delaware County Criminal & Juvenile Justice Summit, titled "Building Bridges... Creating Hope: A Cross Systems Approach," will feature experts who work on the front-lines to help those who find themselves in the throes of the criminal justice system as a result of addiction and/or mental illness. Speakers will take a multi-layered approach to these important topics in an effort to ameliorate, eliminate and overcome these afflictions through treatment and education and to create awareness of the many resources available and how to access them.

"We believe that participants will find this program to be provocative, stimulating and most importantly, not only highly informative but transformational," said the Honorable Judge John P. Capuzzi, Sr., of the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas, Chair of the Criminal Justice Advisory Board. "We all must remain educated and aware of simple things that we can do every day to be proactive. By standing up to this problem together, we will be much more effective in combatting the opioid epidemic and mental illness, and the tragedy that comes with it."

A wide range of the aspects will be covered in this discussion, giving audience members various perspectives from legal professionals, law enforcement, and behavioral health and recovery professionals. David Schiller, morning keynote speaker, will provide perspective based on his 30 years of service with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Now retired, the last nine years of his career were focused on his supervisory oversight in the DEA's Diversion Control Program in Colorado, Montana, Utah and Wyoming. Over the last two years with DEA, he was the Vice Chairman of the National Diversion Field Advisory Committee and oversaw all of DEA's

issues relative to its 1.7 million registrants. On December 17, 2017, he was featured on 60 Minutes as their lead story, "Too Big to Prosecute."

Sessions will include a panel discussion with the Delaware County Heroin Task Force, moderated by Task Force Chair and District Attorney Katayoun M. Copeland, which will be focused on combating the opioid epidemic and available resources. Following a short break, the discussion will turn to the truth of addiction and mental health facilitated by Brian Corson, Founder & Executive Director of MVP Recovery. This session will identify, address, and discuss the stigma surrounding addiction, recovery, and mental illness, which hinders people from receiving all the necessary help, treatment and support they need to live a responsible, independent, and purpose-driven life. Afternoon sessions will include seminars on Delaware County's Mental Health and Drug Treatment Courts, including sessions on the "Delaware County Cares" and "Second Chance" programs. Afternoon keynote speaker is Edna McCutcheon, who is the Chief Executive Officer of Norristown State Hospital. Prior to coming to Norristown, she served as the CEO of Torrance State Hospital. With a master's in social worker, McCutcheon has worked in the Behavioral Health Field for most of her career since 1981. She has worked with several state hospital consolidations, has presented at various conferences and has authored several articles.

This summit is expected to be highly impactful and informative, providing potentially life-saving information to all that attend. The event is free and open to the public, providing attendees with complimentary lunch.

Individuals and organizations can register online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3YCS7RG>

WHO: Experts who work on the front-lines within the criminal justice system, and behavioral health and recovery fields.

WHAT: Delaware County Criminal & Juvenile Justice Summit on the **Opioid and Mental Health Crisis**

WHERE: This event will be held at Neumann University's Mirenda Center, 1 Neumann Drive, Aston, PA 19014

[\(Building #10 on the Campus Map\)](#)

WHEN: Friday, October 5, 2018, from 8 a.m. (registration opens) until 3:30 p.m