



**ATTORNEY GENERAL STEVE MARSHALL ANNOUNCES PARTICIPATION IN ONGOING MULTI-STATE INVESTIGATION OF NATIONAL OPIOID CRISIS**

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall announced that he is among a bipartisan coalition of Attorneys General from across the country participating in an ongoing investigation into whether drug manufacturers have engaged in unlawful practices in the marketing and sale of opioids.

“Alabama has disproportionately suffered from prescription painkiller abuse and I have joined with a majority of my fellow Attorneys General to investigate what role opioid manufacturers may have had in creating or prolonging the opioid abuse epidemic,” said Attorney General Marshall.

Opioids were involved in 33,091 deaths nationwide in 2015, and opioid overdoses have quadrupled since 1999. Alabama was among the top five states reporting opioid overdose death increases from 2014 to 2015 and opioid abuse remains one of the greatest challenges facing Alabama law enforcement.

The Attorneys General are currently issuing subpoenas for documents and testimony to determine the appropriate course of action in addressing opioid abuse.

The coalition of Attorneys General is not identifying any targets of its investigation, and no additional information is available at this time.

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