

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Office of the Attorney General

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Attorney General

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October 30, 2023

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden:

The opioid crisis is the public safety challenge of our lifetimes. It is a crisis fueled in large part by fentanyl. But your Administration's response to illicit fentanyl has been tepid, disjointed, and downright negligent. So earlier this year I wrote letters to three members of your Cabinet, informing them about fentanyl's deadly effect on Kentucky and pressing them to action. They have ignored me and, by extension, millions of Kentuckians.


In March, I explained to Attorney General Garland how relaxing criminal penalties for fentanyl traffickers incentivizes crime and how supporting supervised injection sites gives the federal government's stamp of approval to profoundly dangerous drug activities. Attorney General Garland failed to respond. In July, I implored Secretary Blinken to crack down on fentanyl precursor production in China and to declare Mexican cartels what they are: foreign terrorist organizations. Secretary Blinken failed to respond. And earlier in October, I demanded that Secretary Mayorkas get control of our borders and end your Administration's soft-on-crime policies that have contributed to the fentanyl flooding our communities. To date, Secretary Mayorkas has failed to respond.

The stakes could not be higher in the fight against fentanyl. In Kentucky, we are deploying the first phase of the nearly \$900 million in opioid settlement funds that I secured over the last four years. These funds will help law enforcement combat fentanyl—and all illicit opioids—and help Kentuckians treat and recover from the devastating results of addiction.

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Your Administration must respond to this crisis with an equally significant commitment. So far, it has failed to do so. Kentucky deserves better than this. The thousands of men, women, and children who are poisoned annually by fentanyl deserve better than this. I urge you to wake up and take action.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Cameron", written in a cursive style.

DANIEL CAMERON
Attorney General of Kentucky