

## NASCOSA NEWS

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All this and more available anytime at [www.NASCOSA.org](http://www.NASCOSA.org).

## Your latest news from NASCOSA

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*Action item:*  
Verify your state profile  
today!

### STATE PROFILES

Take a moment to click the link above to view your STATE PROFILE information.

Please let us know about any changes/updates to your PROFILE, LINKS, or CONTACTS to ensure that we are providing the most accurate information!

Contact **Kathy via email** with any changes!

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### Travel Scholarships Now Available

Travel scholarship applications and instructions to attend this year's 38th annual conference that will take place October 23-26, 2023 in Minneapolis, Minnesota are now available online.

In order to accommodate agencies that may require additional time to receive out of state travel approval, the Membership Committee with approval of the Executive Committee has changed the deadline to apply to June 2, 2023, with applicants to receive notification on or before July 14,

## Save the Date for NASCOSA's Annual Conference 2023!

Plans are already underway for NASCOSA's 39th annual conference that will take place October 23-26, 2023 at the Embassy Suites Downtown, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Room rates are \$149 single/double occupancy. Conference registration information as well as room reservations information can be found [here](#) and will be updated frequently. We strongly urge members to book your hotel early as we only reserve a distinct number of rooms for the meeting

In the coming months the program will be posted along with additional information, however we already have a number of exciting sessions planned for the meeting so please stay tuned. In the meantime, if you have suggestions for speakers/topics please contact the office.

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## From the President...



### *A message from Alan McGill*

Friends and Colleagues,

As the new year kicks off, our committees are

2023. We strongly encourage regular members to consider applying. Up to 6 travel scholarships will be awarded.

More information is found [here](#).

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## Committee Happenings

### Executive Committee Update

NASCSA's Executive Committee will be holding an in-person meeting in early March. If any member has any items that should be considered or discussed, please contact the office. In addition, NASCSA's Executive Committee is developing a code of conduct policy for attendance at all NASCSA events and meetings, both in-person and virtual/on-line. NASCSA expects that all participants adhere to workplace standards and NASCSA takes inappropriate conduct seriously.

already hard at work. Kathy and the program committee have an early jump on the conference in Minneapolis but there is still much to be done. Our webinar series continues with exciting results as over 180 people registered for our latest. Many thanks to the Education Committee for their efforts in providing these opportunities. And our podcast series on the use of psychedelic drugs for treatment of mental health has been published as we further our educational discussions there.

On behalf of the executive committee, we express our sincerest gratitude to the many members who serve on our committees, and to the sponsors who provide so much to keep us going. NASCSA works when we work together.

Although winter is upon us all, our executive committee will be meeting soon at our annual mid-year meeting to continue tending NASCSA business. We will bring you updates on things discussed, decided, and voted on during our meeting, at our annual business meeting in Minneapolis.

For now, my thanks to you all and wish you a safe and warm winter season.

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## Policy & Communications Update

*Ralph Orr, Policy & Communications Director*

In December, I attended the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) PDMP Grantee meeting on behalf of NASCSA. Several topics of interest to Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) administrators were presented and there were multiple opportunities for networking with PDMP administrators from across the country. Major topics included use of PDMP data sets, aligning PDMP data with external datasets and 42 CFR Part 2.

I participated in a December virtual meeting with staff from National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP), select PDMP administrators, and representatives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Concerns with special conditions in current CDC grant funding were discussed. Participants requested that no special conditions regarding PDMP operations be included in future CDC funding programs.

Last fall, some member state PDMPs reported difficulties in accessing awarded grant funding from BJA. After collecting additional information and several interactions with affected PDMPs, NASCSA sent a letter to BJA leadership (found [here](#)) requesting specific guidance and steps necessary for the release of awarded funds. NASCSA offered to coordinate a meeting with appropriate BJA staff and affected PDMPs to facilitate solutions.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) published proposed regulations affecting 42 CFR Part 2 with comment period closing at the end of January. The NPRM may be viewed or downloaded [here](#). A major focus of the proposed rule is on consent, use and disclosure of Part 2 records, and to align the use of Part 2 records with

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## Education News

### Join Us for Our Next Exclusive Webinar

NASCSA's Education Committee is pleased to announce a number of exciting webinars that are offered for members and sponsored in the coming months. Click below for information and registration\*.

Webinars include the following:

- **February 9, 2023 at 3 pm ET** - Regulator and Dispenser Preparation for the Drug Supply Chain Security Act



[Register](#)

*\*Educational webinars are reserved for members and sponsors only!*

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### Attention NASCSA members: We Need Your Help Investigating Drug Diversion in Healthcare

*by Tom Knight, NASCSA member, and Chairman of HealthcareDiversions.com*

Our non-profit organization, [HealthcareDiversions.org](https://healthcarediversion.org), is looking to collaborate with state controlled substances authorities to investigate and reduce drug diversion in healthcare facilities.

I have had the pleasure of attending most of the recent NASCSA annual conferences and discussing this with many other NASCSA members, and I was delighted when Kathy Keough and Alan McGill suggested I write about this topic in this NASCSA newsletter.

#### Background on HealthcareDiversions.org

For anyone not familiar with our non-profit: our mission is to reduce drug diversion in healthcare, and thereby:

- Prevent diversion from harming patients and their families
- Deter diversion while giving coworkers with Substance Use Disorder the help they need
- Strengthen communities by preventing overdoses and the resale of stolen drugs
- Safeguard reputations by helping healthcare facilities lead the charge against the national opioid epidemic

HealthcareDiversions.org is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit corporation. We are a public-private partnership whose **advisory board** includes federal organizations such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), state

#### What we need now from NASCSA Members...

We are receiving many reports of drug diversion from across the country, which are submitted either to our 24 hour hotline, or on our website at <https://healthcarediversion.org/report/>.

In some cases, these incidents have already been investigated at the local, state, or federal level. However, a growing number of incidents we receive have not yet been investigated by anyone outside the healthcare facility, and many of these are reports from co-workers who feel management is not investigating it adequately.

**Our request:** Would you be open to talking with us about how we could forward incidents

licensure boards, patient safety advocates, and representatives from healthcare organizations across the nation.

Our website, as [www.HealthcareDiversion.org](http://www.HealthcareDiversion.org) provides a national network for reporting and researching diversion incidents, information to raise awareness about past diversion, and education and best practices to prevent future diversion. It also includes **a map showing several hundred drug diversion** criminal convictions or licensure board disciplinary actions.

We are excited to collaborate with NASCSA members on this mission, and open to any and all suggestions you may have.

in your state to you or your state colleagues for investigation?

Our hope is that we could forward the information we have to the appropriate investigator(s) in each state, such as investigators on the state board of nursing, board of pharmacy, or medical boards, and/or to the appropriate state or local law enforcement agencies. By providing the information to the appropriate investigators, we hope to get the information into the right hands who can conduct an investigation to determine if drug diversion is in fact occurring.

If you are open to discussing this with us, or have other ideas for potential collaboration, please email me at [tknight@healthcarediversion.org](mailto:tknight@healthcarediversion.org).

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## Sponsorship News



### IQVIA Compliance Solutions

**IQVIA** has been an industry expert in DEA and state operational compliance and a leading provider of regulatory services since 1991. Our long-standing compliance solutions support the industry and the health care community in the areas of the Controlled Substance Act, Prescription Drug Marketing Act and more specifically, state pharmacy and wholesale distribution regulatory issues, as well as operational best practices.

Staffed by former DEA investigators, policy makers and industry experts, IQVIA offers comprehensive solutions to support Registrants at any stage of the journey to achieve regulatory compliance. Our expert services also include:

- Unparalleled experience developing SOM solutions;
- State services for licensing assistance and other requirements;
- Proactively monitor the regulatory and enforcement landscapes; and
- Bridge the gap between regulation and practice.

### Welcome! NASCSA's Newest Sponsors

NASCSA would like to welcome our newest sponsors:

- COMPASS Pathways
- Albertsons

Please contact the office for more information on sponsorship and exciting benefits to sponsorship.

[Full Sponsor List](#)

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# NASCSA in the Media

Follow NASCSA on LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube.



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## Have you listened to our NASCSA Podcasts?

Plug into conversations that are relative to controlled substance stakeholders anytime on any format you use to get your content!

Topics include:

- Artificial intelligence and it's use to prevent drug diversion
- COVID-19 and its effect on the Opioid Epidemic
- and many more!



## Check out Our Latest NASCSA Podcast – The Use of Psychedelic Drugs In Treatment: A Patient’s Perspective

The final in our three-part series regarding the use of psychedelic drugs in the treatment of mental illness and traumatic brain injuries. This episode features a conversation with Andrew Marr, former Green Beret, who had personally benefited from this treatment. Andrew gives his insight into the therapy, its use, and how it benefits so many. The podcast can be found [here](#).

[Listen to a NASCSA Podcast](#)

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