



State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
PO Box 080
TRENTON NJ 08625-0080

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

CHRISTOPHER S. PORRINO
Attorney General

March 27, 2017

Francis A. Koch
Sussex County Prosecutor
12-21 High Street
Newton, New Jersey 07860

Dear Prosecutor Koch:

I want to thank you and the Sussex County CLEAR program for your invitation to the March 29, 2017, Press Conference. Due to previous meetings scheduled on that day, I am unfortunately unable to attend.

The proactive and collaborative efforts of your community as a whole in Sussex County, especially the Sussex County Prosecutor's Office, the Newton Police Department, the Sussex County Police Chiefs' Association, the Center for Prevention and Counseling of Sussex County, Atlantic Health and Newton Medical Center, community volunteer coaches, and treatment providers, among others, demonstrate that Sussex County is in the forefront of battling our opioid and other substance use epidemic by linking individuals with a substance use disorder and their families with access to treatment and a road to recovery. Only as an entire community will we be able to adequately address this important issue.

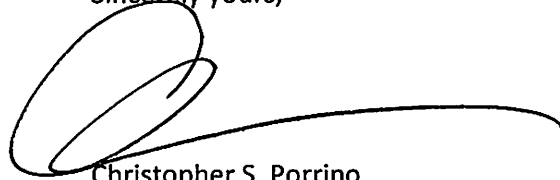
Governor Christie in his State of the State Address this past January emphasized the need for all of New Jersey to come together to work to help all of those struggling with a substance use disorder and to provide a pathway to recovery. It is heartwarming to know that Sussex County, as a community, has taken this issue on with such dedication in an effort to help some of our State's most needy citizens.

I was delighted to hear that on March 23, 2017, the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce recognized the great work of the Sussex County CLEAR Program by honoring the program with the Chairman's Award for its extraordinary contribution to Sussex County in the last twelve months. This honor is truly deserving.



Please keep up this important work, and I look forward to hearing about the CLEAR Program's future accomplishments.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'C' followed by a long, horizontal flourish that extends to the right.

Christopher S. Porrino
Attorney General