## ROBERT MENENDEZ

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March 29, 2017

Dear Friends,

Please accept my deepest apologies for being unable to attend today's event. Although I am not present today, please know that I stand in solidarity with your efforts to fight against the opioid epidemic in Sussex County and throughout the State.

The Sussex County Community Law Enforcement Addiction Recovery (C.L.E.A.R.) program aims to address the alarming rise in use of heroin and other opioids. Sussex County has recognized the serious impact that addiction has on New Jersey's families and seeks to prevent more families from experiencing heartbreak. The Sussex County C.L.E.A.R. program has a clear mission to form a collaborative network of professionals who can facilitate medical intervention and improve access to treatment and recovery for those struggling with drug addiction. Through the C.L.E.A.R. program, Sussex County is able to assist those with addiction without fear of arrest or prosecution.

Again, I apologize for not being able to attend today's event. I am grateful for the hard work of everyone involved in the C.L.E.A.R. program and believe its efforts will help those struggling and their families. As your Senior United States Senator, I am dedicated to improving the lives of all New Jersey residents. I am thankful to the Sussex County C.L.E.A.R. program for aiding me in that mission.

Sincerely,

Robert Menendez

United States Senator