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**NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**AG Schimel Welcomes AG Sessions to Wisconsin, Supports Federal Efforts  
on Drug Abuse Prevention**

GREEN BAY, Wis. – Today, Attorney General Brad Schimel welcomed United States Attorney General Jeff Sessions to Wisconsin for the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (National DEC) annual conference.

“The fact that Attorney General Sessions is here to speak to this group says a lot about the work National DEC does,” Attorney General Schimel told the more than 600 National DEC conference attendees. “The Trump administration has proven to be a strong partner in our fight to protect our communities from the effects of drug abuse, and especially the innocent bystanders of the drug epidemic, children.”

National DEC is a collaboration between law enforcement, prosecutors, social services, medical personnel, treatment providers, prevention experts, probation and corrections, and first responders dedicated to helping children endangered by substance abuse.

“Attorney General Schimel, thank you for your leadership on this issue. Your work has had direct results—opioid prescriptions in Wisconsin dropped 10 percent from 2015 to 2016 thanks to your efforts. We need to see that nationally,” said Attorney General Sessions. “Our current drug epidemic is the deadliest in American history, and it is one of the most serious and lethal issues facing this country.”

Attorney General Sessions’ remarks focused on the need for prevention and to “stop use and addiction before they start.” Attorney General Sessions, a former state attorney general and federal prosecutor also discussed the need to strengthen the

nation's southern border and create a culture that does not encourage drug use of any kind.

"In recent years, some of the government officials, media and Hollywood elites in this country have sent mixed messages and accommodating messages about the harmfulness of drugs. This is unacceptable: we must not capitulate intellectually or morally to drug use. We must create and foster a culture that is hostile to drug abuse. Accommodation to a rattlesnake in your bed is a path to disaster."

Attorney General Schimel praised Attorney General Sessions and President Trump's administration for their approach to protecting Wisconsin families from drug abuse and their commitment to stopping the flow of illegal drugs into the country.

"Mexico and Central America are the largest sources of methamphetamine, fentanyl, and heroin that law enforcement are encountering in our state," said Attorney General Schimel. "I am happy to hear the Trump administration's commitment to stopping these deadly drugs from flowing over the border and into our communities and appreciate the administration's efforts to discourage the use of all illegal drugs, including marijuana."