

**May 2022 Newsletter**  
**Prepared by Van Scoyoc Associates**

**FDA Cracking Down on Hemp Businesses For Marketing Delta-8 THC Products**

On May 4, the FDA sent warning letters to five hemp product manufacturers warning them of public health risks and calling out the companies' medical claims. Read more [here](#).

**House Labor HHS Hearing on FY23 NIH Budget**

On May 11, the House Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee held a hearing on the FY23 Budget Request for the National Institutes of Health. Watch the hearing [here](#).

**Research to Address the Real-Life Challenges of Opioid Crisis**

The May 10<sup>th</sup> NIH Directors Blog addressed the real life challenges of the opioid crisis. Read more [here](#).

**Drug Overdose Deaths Hit All-Time High**

The latest data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show US drug overdose deaths reached an all-time high in 2021, climbing to an estimated 107,622. Read more [here](#).

**Senate Labor HHS Hearing on FY23 NIH Budget**

On May 17, the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee held a hearing titled, "A Review of the President's FY2023 Funding Request and Budget Justification for the National Institutes of Health." Watch the hearing [here](#).

**Drug Overdose Deaths Among Older Adults Skyrocket**

According to a report released by the United Health Foundation, deaths due to drugs in adults over 65 increased 100 percent between 2008 and 2010 and 2018 and 2020. For adults aged 65 to 74, drug deaths rose 147 percent - the highest increase of any age group in the country. Read more [here](#).

**Pandemic Widens Embrace of Long-Lasting Drugs for Addiction, Mental Illness**

During the pandemic, doctors increasingly began using expensive, long-lasting injectable drugs for mental illness and addiction. Read more [here](#).

**Federal Court Finds Delta-8 THC Hemp Products Legal**

On May 19, a federal court said that Delta-8 THC products are federally legal and eligible for intellectual property protections. Read more [here](#).

**NIDA Seeks Sources of Research Marijuana**

According to a recent notice in the federal government's award management website, NIDA is seeking more sources for federal research marijuana. The agency wants to obtain information for businesses that could potentially provide "cannabis, cannabis extract and other cannabis-derived materials" for research purposes. NIDA wants to hear capability statements from potential parties by June 6. Read more [here](#).

**Schatz, Booker Call For More Research On Therapeutic Potential Of Psychedelic Drugs**

On May 11, Senators Brian Schatz (D-HI) and Cory Booker (D-NJ) called on the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to conduct more research into the potential therapeutic uses of psychedelics. Read more [here](#).