

P.O. Box 957  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
Phone: 414-909-2827  
www.watcp.org



**Emily Nolan-Plutchak**  
*President*  
**J.C. Moore**  
President-elect

**MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 4/26/17**  
CONTACT: Jodi Severson  
Ph: 414-909-2827  
Email: [watcp.assistant@gmail.com](mailto:watcp.assistant@gmail.com)

### **Problem Solving Court's Statewide Gather To Learn Ways to Combat the Rising Opioid Epidemic**

(Stevens Point) The Wisconsin Association of Treatment Court Professionals (WATCP) is pleased to announce their upcoming conference to be held May 10-12, 2017 at the Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells. This two and a half day event will feature a number of national, state and local experts in the field of treatment courts and treatment modalities. National speakers include experts such as Douglas Marlowe J.D. Ph.d speaking on risk, need, responsivity, sanctions and incentives and medication assisted treatment, Charlene Jackson on tribal healing to wellness courts and treatment court roles, Vanessa Price addressing law enforcement issues and equity in dispositions and Linda Hedenblad on ethics. Additionally, WATCP, in conjunction with the Battered Womens' Justice Project, will be offering a track focused on veterans, treatment courts and domestic violence concurrent with many other breakouts on topics of interest to the treatment court community. Team members from problem solving courts in more than 40 Wisconsin counties are planning to attend.

Also of note, daily keynote speakers will present on state efforts to curb the opioid addiction including: Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch (5/10), Representative Evan Goyke (D-Milwaukee) (5/11) and Attorney General Brad Schimel (5/12). Professor Michael O'Hear will provide insight on the history of and alternatives to mass incarceration as detailed in his newly released book: *Wisconsin Sentencing in the Tough on Crime Era: How Judges Retained Power and Why Mass incarceration Happened Anyway*. Finally, Dane County Circuit Court Judge John Markson will be honored for his lifetime contributions to treatment courts in Wisconsin as the 2017 Aulik Award recipient.

"This years conference has a diverse line-up in store" stated Attorney Emily Nolan- Plutchak, current president of WATCP. "No matter if your court is brand new, or longstanding, or it addresses adult drug offenders or targets a more specific participant, there will be something for everyone."

Registration is open for this exciting event. Register for specific days at a rate of \$100/per day or \$250 for the full event. Lodging is available at the state rate of \$82/night through the Kalahari. This event is sponsored by Avertest© and Alkermes©

More information is available at our website [www.WATCP.org](http://www.WATCP.org)

##