



# ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

## Opioid Alert - August 23, 2022



### **Counties sue over opioid crisis**

Chicago area points fingers at pharmacy chains for improper prescriptions

Nineteen Illinois counties, including five of six in the Chicago area, are suing some of the nation's largest pharmacy chains, alleging the companies contributed to the overdose crisis by failing to monitor and restrict improper prescriptions.

The lawsuit, filed last week in Cook County, adds to the growing pile of opioid litigation being pursued by state and local governments against drug manufacturers, distributors and retailers.

The plaintiffs in the pharmacy lawsuit include all counties in the Chicago area except Lake. A spokeswoman for Lake County State's Attorney Eric Rinehart said the county, which is represented by a different law firm than the one used by the other counties, is considering its own litigation.

The counties allege pharmacies run by Walgreens, CVS, Kroger, Meijer, Albertsons and Walmart "failed to design and operate systems to identify suspicious orders of prescription opioids, maintain effective controls against diversion and halt suspicious orders when they were identified, and instead actively contributed to the oversupply of such drugs and fueled an illegal secondary market."

The lawsuit says some of the chains used performance metrics that encouraged pharmacists to fill prescriptions without questioning whether they were legitimate — a sign the companies "put profits over safety."

Jim Cohn, the spokesman for Deerfield-based Walgreens, disputed the allegations. [READ](#)

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action (tax deductible)



---

[www.ilcaaap.org](http://www.ilcaaap.org)  
1132 W Jefferson  
Springfield, IL 60702

STAY CONNECTED



Illinois Church Action on Alcohol and Addiction Problems | 1132 West Jefferson, Springfield, IL  
62702

[Unsubscribe ilcaaap@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ilcaaap@sbcglobal.net)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data  
Notice](#)

Sent by [ilcaaap@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ilcaaap@sbcglobal.net) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!