

June 30, 2016

Council President Zachary M. Klein  
Columbus City Council  
90 West Broad St.  
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Naloxone

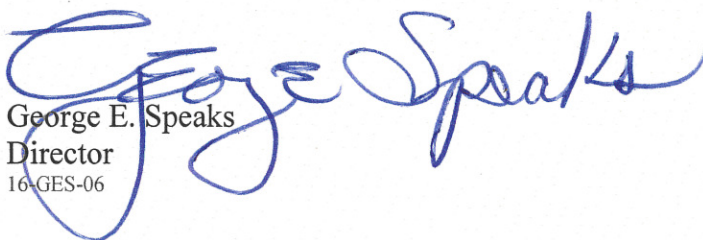
Dear Council President Klein:

I wanted to reach out to you after the press conference this week to express my gratitude for the forward movement on the efforts to prevent heroin overdoses. As you know, in the four weeks that patrol officers have carried naloxone, seven lives have been saved. This pilot project, utilizing officers who volunteered, is just the beginning. In the end it is our hope to determine the best process for training and equipping even more officers, should they arrive on the scene of an overdose before the paramedics.

It is because of your urging last year to equip police officers with naloxone that we have been able to research and kick off this pilot with 115 officers trained to carry this life-saving drug. As Chair of Council's Safety Committee, you were aware of the dramatic increase in our heroin epidemic and the fact that police are sometimes the first on the scene of an overdose incident. Because of your passion relating to this issue, the Columbus Division of Police examined the issue and determined that your suggestion could save lives. As a result, a pilot program has been implemented which has already given several people a second chance at life.

Thank you for your dedication to this issue!

Sincerely,

  
George E. Speaks  
Director  
16-GES-06

