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Contact: Kristen Hernandez
khernandez@skdknick.com
(202) 464-6620

**Shatterproof Commends Senators King, Klobuchar and Manchin
for Introducing Stronger Opioid Bill**

WASHINGTON (July 15, 2016) – This week, Senators Angus King (I-Maine), Amy Klobuchar (D-Minnesota) and Joe Manchin (D-West Virginia) introduced the [Prescription Drug Monitoring Act](#), which would restrict federal grants to fight the opioid epidemic to states that require prescribers to use a prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP). States would also have to make their PDMP data available to other states.

Gary Mendell, the founder and CEO of Shatterproof, released this statement:

“The evidence is clear: Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs would save tens of thousands of lives if more states require doctors to use them. I want to thank Senators King, Klobuchar and Manchin for their leadership on this issue.

“While nearly every state has a PDMP, only eight require their use. When PDMP use is not mandatory, research shows that prescribers rarely check the database. PDMPs cannot be an effective tool to fight addiction if they are not used as a resource.

“While I was deeply disappointed that this provision wasn’t included in CARA, I am grateful to these senators for taking the initiative to introduce this common-sense bill. Upon returning from recess, it should immediately be brought to the Senate and House floors and passed without opposition. We as parents deserve no less.”

Gary is available for on-the-record or background interviews.

For more on PDMPs, please see Shatterproof’s comprehensive report at: <http://bit.ly/2803Etc>

About Gary Mendell:

Gary Mendell is the founder and CEO of Shatterproof. Mr. Mendell founded Shatterproof to spare others the tragedy his family suffered with the death of his son Brian, who lost his battle with addiction in 2011. Mr. Mendell is the founder and former CEO of HEI Hotels & Resort and the former president of Starwood Lodging Trust.



About Shatterproof:

Shatterproof is a national non-profit dedicated to reducing the devastation that addiction to prescription drugs, illicit drugs, and alcohol cause to families, and ending the stigma of those affected by this disease. Shatterproof provides information and resources for those living with addiction and their families, enabling powerful new evidence-based approaches to prevention, treatment and recovery, and takes the issue to the steps of Capitol Hill.

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