

**REAL**

“In 2015, a record-setting 52,404 people died from a drug overdose.”

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2015)

## Be The Change!

The Stutman Switalski Group is the nation's premier speaking and consulting organization on the drug abuse epidemic and ***what can be done.***

Recently CBS reported on a joint investigation by “60 Minutes” and The Washington Post on the opioid crisis..

The report centered around Joe Rannazzisi, former head of the DEA's Office of Diversion Control, who says drug distributors pumped opioids into U.S. communities -- knowing that people were dying -- and says industry lobbyists and Congress derailed the DEA's efforts to stop it.

If you haven't caught the 60 minutes piece, [click here to watch it now](#) .

Here is our response.

**Retired New York DEA Special Agent in Charge Robert Stutman and The Stutman Switalski Group, a national consulting organization's, response to the 60 Minutes "Whistleblower" piece:**

The Stutman Switalski Group is a consulting group devoted to advancing knowledge and solutions to the drug epidemic of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Composed of one of the most respected DEA agents in the country and a former judge and advocate, Robert Stutman and Judge Jodi Debbrecht Switalski perform well over 125 presentations annually and numerous consulting engagements from coast to coast to medical and dental practitioners, communities, workplaces, schools, law enforcement, legislators and various topics to include the substance abuse epidemic, interpersonal violence, mental health and solutions for change.

In response to the negative attention drawn to efforts of the DEA, founder and partner Robert Stutman writes the following:

"As Special Agent in Charge of DEA New York, I ran some of the largest cases in the world. No lawyer from headquarters would ever ask me to 'go easy' on a criminal case. It should never happen with Diversion cases.

If the recent piece in *The Washington Post* and the segment on *60 Minutes* is accurate, then the DEA is in an unenviable position. If lobbyists and Big Pharma are interfering with investigations as these stories allege, this is truly unacceptable. Even worse, Congress passed a law that makes it extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the DEA and the Justice Department to prosecute Big Pharma.

Even though Congressman Tom Marino has withdrawn his name for consideration as drug czar, this is just one step in the fight against the greatest drug epidemic to face our country. Tens of thousands of people are dying annually. Many, many more will suffer and die if this epidemic continues. I have committed my life to fighting the 'Drug War.' But the Drug War has changed – no longer is the 'enemy' on foreign soil. I agree with *60 Minutes*, today's epidemic makes epidemics of the past look small in comparison, even though we know they too impacted thousands. I am not, and I will not, give up now when statistics estimate that almost 65,000 people died last year – and this is probably a low number. For every (one) person who dies, tens of thousands more are suffering! How can I justify this crazy life that I led and walk away now – during the greatest drug epidemic our country has ever seen?!

And I know there are members of my agency who feel the same.

I am proud of the agency that I served. I am proud of my service. This is a defining moment for us all."

**Robert Stutman,**

**Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division, Retired**

Our country is formed with a system of checks and balances. It is designed to prevent and control corruption and ensures a measure of influence over other governmental entities. The Pharmaceutical industry, Congress and drug distributors have paid their way around or have muddled that system. The DEA of the Stutman era appears to be gone or significantly compromised. The Drug War has changed and the enemy is no longer just abroad. The Drug War is now fueled by white lab coats and executives with distinguished class rings from American institutions. The enemy is born on our soil, supported and enabled by influence peddlers, highly paid mouthpieces and lobbyists, and officials greased by campaign cash.

The cost? Our lives.

The solution? Your voice.

Your voice is powerful. Our voice is powerful. Together, they are even stronger.

It is our hope, at The Stutman Switalski Group LLC, to join forces to effect change in every way possible to save lives and impact the greatest drug epidemic this country has ever seen. Only through joining this militia can we be that voice of change that no industry can buy, and no drug dealer can escape. As for those Congressional enablers, we look forward to Election Day. Our elected officials will face our judgment.

Your vote is powerful. Our vote is powerful. It takes action on the part of ALL of us!

Be the Change.

Do Something. I promise you it will save a life. That life could be your own.

**Written and submitted respectfully by Robert Stutman and Judge Jodi Debbrecht Switalski, partners in The Stutman Switalski Group LLC.**

**"I wanted to let you know that I enjoyed your talk tonight with Judge Jodi...Your talk tonight continues to inspire me in my pursuit to "be the change". Thank you for your dedication, your passion and your commitment to share your knowledge with doctors, patients, and families. You are making a difference!"**

Rachel Young, DO, Family Medicine, Fenton Medical Center, PC

Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physicians President-Elect

and Government Affairs Committee Chair

**Bob and Judge Jodi are frequent guests on television and radio and provide over a hundred presentations annually both across the country and internationally. To learn more about our programs, visit our [website](#) or contact Sue at 716-969-2579**