

Georgia Lawmakers Crack Down on Drug Abuse, Atlanta Criminal Attorneys Report

Prescription drug use and abuse is a rising problem in our country, according to [Atlanta criminal attorneys](#), and Georgia lawmakers and state officials are cracking down on dealers and users across the state.

The recent arrest of Richmond County family physician Dr. John Rumbaugh has gained national attention as the state of Georgia attempts to rein in prescription drug fraud. Rumbaugh was indicted in July on 37 counts of prescription drug fraud after evidence showed that he had been writing prescriptions for restricted painkillers, including oxycodone and hydrocodone. Dr. Rumbaugh used these pills for his personal use for more than a year, and continued to see and treat patients while employed at the University Prompt Care in Evans County. [Atlanta criminal attorneys](#) usually label prescription drug fraud as a first degree forgery offense, with a sentence of one to ten years in jail, if convicted.

While most Georgia residents are not writing fraudulent prescriptions to illegally obtain painkillers, prescription drug fraud is one of many charges a Georgia resident may face if found with painkillers or other narcotics, and the penalties these charges carry are harsh. One ounce of marijuana is a misdemeanor, but possessing Schedule 1 substances such as LSD or heroin can carry a sentence of fifteen years, in some cases. Depending on the amount of drugs found by law enforcement, drug possession charges may escalate to include intent to sell. Atlanta residents who are convicted on drug trafficking or possession charges could also face license suspension and a felony offense on their permanent record.

The [Atlanta criminal attorneys](#) at The Margolis Legal Group, P.C. represent many of these drug cases, and their experience with the Atlanta court system and state drug laws can assist you if you are facing drug charges of any kind. The jail time and permanent criminal record that comes with a drug conviction can be detrimental to your way of life, and our Atlanta criminal attorneys can help you build the strongest defense possible. Call an experienced [Atlanta criminal lawyer](#) at The Margolis Legal Group, P.C. today for a free consultation and plan of action.