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# THE COALITION

THE NATIONAL NARCOTIC OFFICERS ASSOCIATIONS COALITION



**THIS Issue:**  
**AMBUSH ATTACKS**  
**on police up 300%**  
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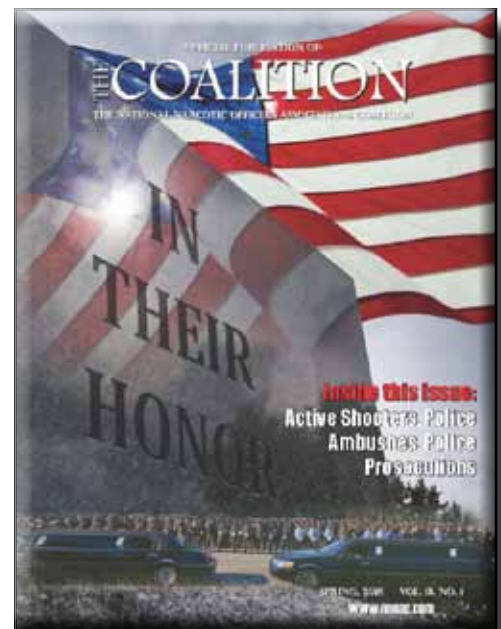
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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Bob Bushman



President Bob Bushman

In April, I had the pleasure of being hosted by the Swedish Narcotic Officer's Association at their Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden. NNOAC Counsel Peter Boyce and I attended the conference, which was opened dramatically by our friend and SNOA President, Mika Jornelius, as he rappelled down onto the stage to welcome the several hundred attendees, dignitaries and guests. Several internationally recognized experts provided some great training and topical discussions. In addition, some special social events made the conference a most enjoyable and memorable event. The Swedes are very good hosts!

Peter and I had the opportunity to tour their Police Communications and Operations Center and the detention center in Gothenburg, both very well equipped and efficient. The Swedes have done an especially impressive job of incorporating technology and information analysis into their police services. We also had an informative meeting with their Tactical Team. As with many departments here, tactical team members are some of their very best officers, well trained, fit and very professional. Having been a tactical team member myself, it was interesting to see how innovative the Swedish National Police are with the equipment and planning they put into their operations and tactics.

As NNOAC President, I had two opportunities to address the conference. During the opening ceremony, I spoke about our policy concerns regarding drug legalization, criminal

justice reform and the current state of drug law enforcement and policing in the US. On the last evening, I spoke at their dinner banquet and thanked the SNOA for their support and participation in the NNOAC. I presented President Jornelius with a crystal plaque conveying our appreciation for their friendship and loyal support.

Like many other countries, Sweden struggles with issues of drug abuse, crime and immigration. I learned that the media and some politicians in that part of the world tout marijuana legalization in Colorado as a success, seldom reporting the negative impact it has had on crime and young people. I met and spoke with narcotic officers and prosecutors from Norway and Iceland who were in attendance, and they asked for NNOAC assistance with developing strategies to combat drug trafficking and legalization initiatives in their countries. We are working with them to identify training and resources we can provide to help them address those issues, too.

I also had the privilege to attend State Association Conferences with our members in Illinois, North Carolina and Minnesota. As the NNOAC President, I believe that it is important to meet and speak to our members about



*Continued on page 3*

## President's Report, cont.

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what we are doing as an Association; I can tell you that they appreciate the work we do on their behalf. In May, I attended the South Dakota Drug Investigator's Meeting, where they formally established a South Dakota Drug Investigator's Association. I was especially proud to see our Minnesota and Iowa Associations step forward and make financial contributions to help get the South Dakota Association up and running. It is that type of support and commitment that makes NNOAC such a great organization.

We are moving ahead with the NNOAC Foundation, and we are actively seeking financial support and partnerships that will allow us to expand our footprint by sponsoring training programs, offering scholarships, and providing support for families of officers who sacrificed their lives for their communities. We are also putting the finishing touches on our NNOAC Foundation website ([www.nnoacfoundation.com](http://www.nnoacfoundation.com)), and I invite you to submit articles and information that we can post there. Remember, too, that you can submit articles, and training and conference info for the NNOAC website ([www.nnoac.com](http://www.nnoac.com)). Just send your info to [webmaster@nnoac.com](mailto:webmaster@nnoac.com).

The NNOAC is engaged in discussions with other law enforcement associations and criminal justice organizations to develop joint policy recommendations on crime, drug strategy and policing issues that will be provided to the incoming Administration to help guide discussions on those issues that are certain to get a lot of attention. It is heartening to see our colleagues coming

together to address these issues. We hope that the new Administration will be more law enforcement-friendly and willing to work with us, rather than ignoring the valuable advice and proven strategies we can recommend to help keep our citizens and communities safe from drug abuse, drug trafficking, and violent crime.

The unconscionable rush to judgment by some of our elected leaders and the media during recent high-profile incidents of police shootings are cause for grave concern within the entire law enforcement profession. In instances where police have been involved in shootings, there are many who are not content to rely upon the facts, or to let the justice system do its job. And in the cases where our brothers and sisters have been the targets of outright assassinations, there has been an unjustified lack of will by many of our leaders to honestly and objectively denounce the catalysts for those unprovoked attacks or to hold anyone accountable for the provocative activities that encourage such attacks on the police.

In the midst of all of this, I encourage all of you to continue to do the important work that you do, each and every day. Although seldom recognized for your efforts, the entire nation owes a deep debt of gratitude to you, our nation's narcotic officers, for your critical role in driving down the violent crime rates that our country has enjoyed during most of the past 20 years. Many of our leaders and outspoken critics should consider what things would really be like in our country without your commitment and

dedication. Keep it up!

The 2017 NNOAC DC Conference is fast approaching and will be held again at the Washington Court Hotel in Washington, DC, on February 5-8, 2017. The Conference Announcement and registration information will be posted on the NNOAC website at [www.nnoac.com](http://www.nnoac.com). With a new Administration coming to our nation's Capitol, there will be plenty to discuss. Please plan to attend, and make your reservations early.

Finally, this is an important election year. I constantly remind people – inside and outside of the law enforcement profession – that change does not happen by itself. We all need to get involved in the process and, to make our voices heard, we all need to vote. That is where it really counts. We do not need more elected officials who just talk about issues. We need to send people to Washington, DC, and to our state legislatures who will actually do the job they are elected to do, making it a priority to represent the honest, law-abiding citizens by passing good laws that will help law enforcement protect our communities. The current anti-cop climate and rhetoric will not solve anything and it cannot continue. I am going to take a leap of faith here and believe that the good citizens of our country have figured out what needs to be done.

***Stay safe.***

***Make your voice heard.***

***Please vote!***

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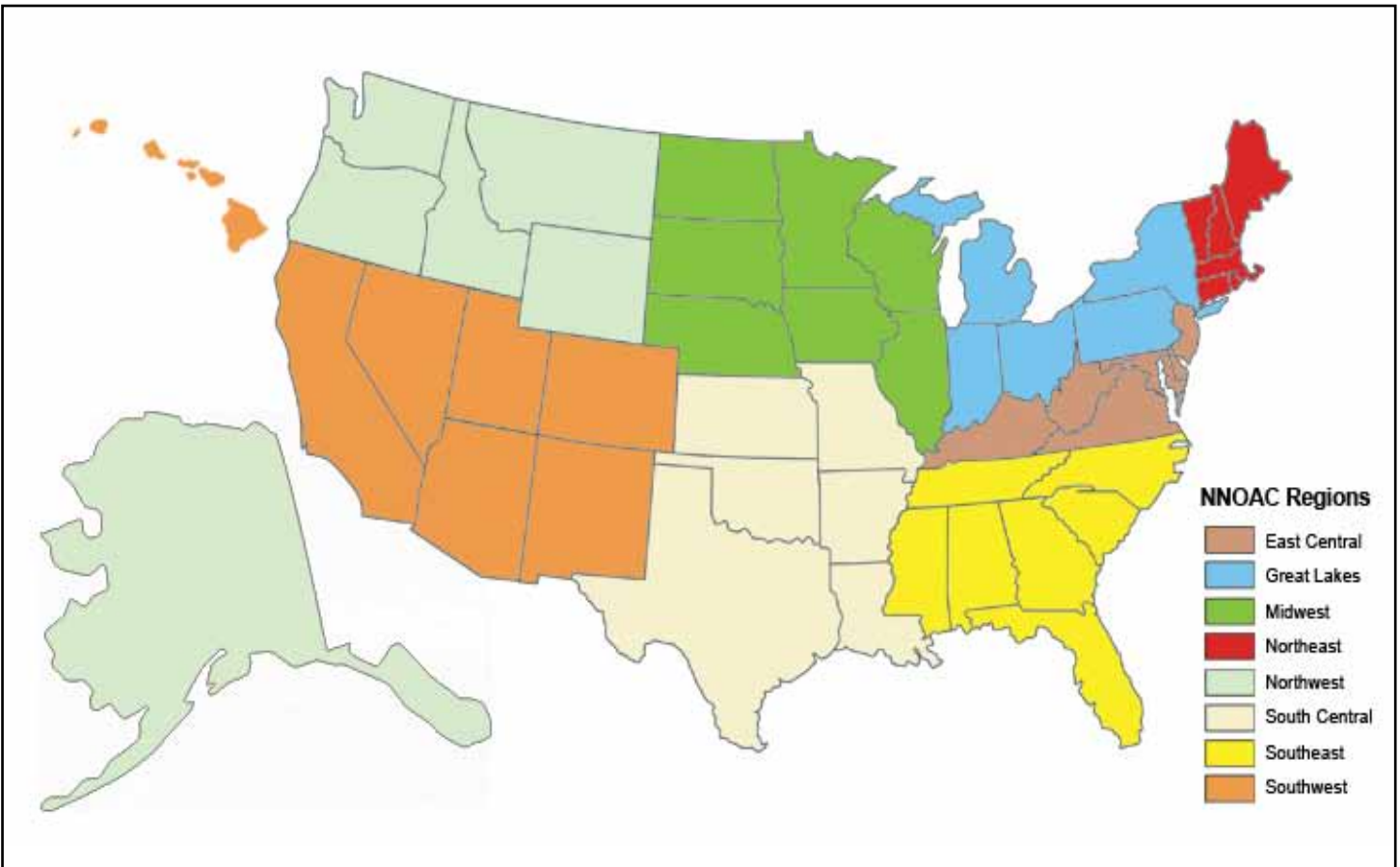


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# NATIONAL NARCOTIC OFFICERS' ASSOCIATIONS' COALITION

## REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

### Midwest Region - Brian Marquart

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Minnesota has had a number of opioid overdoses in the past year, including the highly publicized death of “Prince” from a fentanyl overdose in April. Fentanyl, prescribed by doctors generally as a patch or as a gel for severe pain, is an opioid analgesic and is 50 times more potent than pure heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine. Fentanyl can also be manufactured illicitly. It’s being seen on the street in the Midwest Region as a powder, and it is commonly mixed with heroin or is sold disguised as heroin. Fentanyl is deadly in very small amounts and is being measured in micro-gram doses.



No dose of heroin is safe, but when laced with fentanyl is even more potent. Overdose deaths are very concerning, not only for the user but law enforcement, as well. These powerful drugs have caused overdoses for law enforcement officers who came in contact with unknown powders. In response to the increased risk of exposure, many drug investigative units and law enforcement agencies are equipping officers with naloxone, a drug that reverses the effects of an accidental exposure to, and overdose of, fentanyl.

Fentanyl is not only sold in powder form, but is also being seen in counterfeit prescription pills across the country and here in the Midwest. The Drug Enforcement Administration has sent an advisory to law enforcement after having seized thousands of counterfeit pills, some containing deadly amounts of fentanyl.

Nobody wakes up one day and says “I’m going to try heroin.” The use and abuse of heroin progresses from the abuse of prescription pills. The Prescription Monitoring Program in South Dakota indicates that 28 million doses of opioids were prescribed in 2013, and increased to 49 million doses in 2015. We have seen many people who, having

become addicted to pain killers, often find themselves no longer able to get a prescription or find that the cost of the pills on the street becomes too high; that is why they switch to the cheaper alternative, heroin.

The region’s methamphetamine seizures have closely paralleled the 200 percent increase in drug seizures from the Southwest Border since 2009, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. We have seen record seizures of methamphetamine across the region as a result of trafficking by Mexican drug trafficking organizations, including a 150-pound seizure in Minnesota. As another example, South Dakota has seen a dramatic increase in their methamphetamine arrests – from 503 in 2003, to 2,125 in 2015. Mexican drug trafficking organizations control a majority of the delivery and distribution of methamphetamine that arrives in the region. It is generally coming from the Southwest Border and is being transported in commercial and private vehicles. An alarming trend is the increased use of mail delivery for large quantities of methamphetamine, as well as bulk cash shipments being sent back to the organization. Methamphetamine prices that were around \$20,000 per pound in 2009 have dropped to as low as \$6,500 per pound this year, making it more affordable for users.

The region continues to see marijuana and marijuana products being transported or shipped into the region from states that have passed recreational marijuana laws. We have also seen an increase in the manufacturing of butane hash oil, which is an extremely dangerous process using butane to extract the THC out of marijuana. Butane is extremely flammable and has caused many explosions and deaths across the country, including the Midwest Region. In 2005, only 57 grams of hash/hash products were seized in Minnesota; seizures increased to more than 12,000 grams last year. Many states are facing difficulties in determining the appropriate charging level for the marijuana-infused edible products being sold, as current laws have not kept up with the market. This highly concentrated marijuana can have THC levels of 30-90 percent, while the average THC being sold on the street is around 16 percent. ○

**South Central Region - Leland Sykes**

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Thanks to the Association of Oklahoma Narcotic Enforcers (A-ONE) for inviting me to represent the NNOAC and speak at their annual conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma. While at the conference, I had the opportunity to meet with representatives of the Arkansas Narcotics Officers Association, and we discussed plans to bring them back to being active members of the NNOAC. We very much look forward to their return.

In our region, heroin and Mexican meth continue to rage. Marijuana coming from “legalized” states and indoor grows continues to push the THC content ever higher. Speaking of marijuana, I am pleased to report that Drug Enforcement Administration Acting Administrator Chuck Rosenberg recently denied two petitions, one of which was filed by the Governors of Rhode Island and Washington, to reschedule marijuana from Schedule 1. This is a huge development for those of us who have spent our careers fighting the legalization movements. If Acting Administrator Rosenberg had granted the petitions, it would have given a measure of legitimacy that the legalizers do not deserve. If we can continue to tread water on this issue, I believe that, when the effects coming out of the states that have legalized marijuana are truly known, we have an opportunity to prevail on this issue. The science and the facts are on our side. I applaud the courage of the Acting Administrator in making this correct decision.

It has been a tough summer in Baton Rouge, from the protest, to the officer assassinations, to unprecedented flooding. After so much conflict, tragedy and devastation, we all need a change of focus – something to look forward to. I am ready for Fall and the start of college football! ○

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Every US region now reports record drug overdose deaths. In 2014, Connecticut recorded 558 overdose deaths and 272 motor vehicle deaths. To put that in perspective, Connecticut’s overdose deaths were approximately twice the number of lives lost to motor vehicle accidents and more than five times the number of homicides (101). In 2015 Connecticut recorded 729 overdose deaths and a projected 832 deaths this year. This trend is projected in the entire Northeast, despite the overwhelming use of Narcan by our first responders saving hundreds of lives.

Nationwide, there were 41,502 drug overdose deaths – that’s nearly 3 times greater than the number of murders, 14,196. Abuse of tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs cost this nation \$700 billion dollars annually in costs related to crime, lost work productivity and health care. This administration considers this non-violent crimes.

Abusers need an incentive and specific consequences for their actions if they reject treatment. Most violent crimes, homicides, robberies, gang violence and larcenies have a drug nexus. At the same time, drug dealers should be dealt with quickly and lose all profits. Our Federal and State Politburos should encourage the enforcement of current laws and not try to dilute them or change them for political correctness. Let’s make America great again for ALL Americans.

All lives matter, and these administrations’ (federal and state) drug policies and ideological mandates are a disaster.



**MEDIA AMBUSH NOT A METAPHOR**

Once again, law enforcement is experiencing ambush assaults, resulting in deaths of our brothers and sisters. Political rhetoric, false media stories, and privately funded anti-police groups continue to fuel the hatred towards law enforcement and collapse of our criminal justice system. **The result: a 300% increase in police ambush killings.** We saw this type of movement during the 60’s and 70’s, and law enforcement continued to perform as expected, despite anti-police sentiment. Law enforcement is continuing to do the same today, even under government persecution. ○

# McConnell touts Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act

*Bowling Green Daily News* - [Deborah Highland](#)

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*U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell met with narcotics officers in Bowling Green on Wednesday to discuss the bipartisan Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act signed into law last week by President Obama.*

The law takes a three-prong approach to combat the opioid addiction gripping the nation — prevention, recovery and law enforcement.

It will expand the availability of naloxone, a drug which can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, to law enforcement and other first responders. The new law also will improve prescription drug monitoring programs and move resources to treat incarcerated addicts.

The law is an authorizing bill and does not include funding. It is backed by an appropriations bill which McConnell said will provide a 50 percent increase in funding this year to combat opioid addiction and a 93 percent increase in funding for the same the following year.

In dollars, that amounts to a jump from \$131 million to \$261 million over and above last year's increase for federal opioid programs within the Labor-Health and Human Services and Commerce, Justice and State spending bills.

The funds will be awarded using a grant-based system to the communities best organized to spend the money in an effective way, he said.

“This is a particularly important moment in the war on drugs in America,” McConnell said during a press conference Wednesday afternoon following his meeting with law enforcement officials held at the Bowling Green-Warren County Drug Task Force office.





During this year's presidential races, candidates returned to the Senate from New Hampshire — the state that holds the first presidential primary in the country's presidential-election cycle — and talked about the heroin problem facing New Hampshire, he said.

“So if the issue has gotten up to that level, you know we have a national epidemic,” McConnell said Wednesday.

Last year, 1,248 people died from drug overdoses in Kentucky.

While heroin hasn't hit this area hard like it has in other parts of the state, southcentral Kentucky law enforcement officials are still seeing drug crimes fueled by opioid pill addiction, Bowling Green-Warren County Drug Task Force director Tommy Loving said. Local opioid cases here are up by about 20 to 30 percent over the last two years.

Loving anticipates his office will apply for grant funding through the appropriations attached to the CARA law.

McConnell said the funding will be used in each of the three focus areas.

“For the people who are using, you know, it's obviously a sickness,” McConnell said. “They've got to be cured. And (while) these guys have a lot of sympathy for those people, they have no sympathy, I assume, for the people who make it possible for this addiction to be fed. And the other issue that is related to this whole question is the issue of criminal justice reform.

“If you want to reduce sentences, what kind of people do you want to reduce sentences for,” he said. “And we're in a big national debate over that. That issue is not going to be resolved this year.”

The Kentucky Narcotics Officers Association has discussed federal criminal justice reform with McConnell and raised objections to federal sentencing reduction legislation.

McConnell asked Loving to explain the type of people who are serving federal prison sentences on drug crimes.

Loving described those serving federal drug sentences as people who have been convicted multiple times at the state level for selling drugs and who “work really hard to get there” in the federal system.

The federal system at least gets a dealer off of the streets, Loving said after McConnell asked him to explain the type of person serving federal time for drug offenses.

“I truly considered it an honor for Senator McConnell, the leader of the Senate, to take time and talk to all of the regional drug task force directors along with the state police, Bowling Green police ATF and FBI,” Loving said after the press event. ○

— Follow Assistant City Editor Deborah Highland on Twitter @BGDNCrimebeat or visit [bgdailynews.com](http://bgdailynews.com).



# ATF: A Partnership Driven Agency

By Thomas E. Brandon Deputy Director

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is a partnership-driven agency that utilizes real-time intelligence to direct our enforcement and regulatory activities and combat gun violence and illegal firearms trafficking throughout America. Throughout my 27 years as an ATF special agent, we have worked with state and local law enforcement to protect communities from violent criminals and criminal organizations. ATF is proud of the strong relationships we have with law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and around the world. Leading ATF since April 2015, I have been working to make those relationships even stronger. While many departments are working with ATF, we want to encourage others to take advantage of the ATF resources at their disposal.

It can't be emphasized enough that strong partnerships with federal, state and local law enforcement are absolutely essential to ATF's mission. With 25 field divisions and nearly

2687 special agents and 800 industry operations investigators, ATF works shoulder to shoulder with American law enforcement, ensuring our resources are focused on the most violent and dangerous offenders in a community. We work to complement, not supplant, the work of state and local law enforcement by offering insight into strategies and tactics towards the reduction of violent crime.

ATF's intelligence-driven enforcement strategy is a collaborative effort that identifies those responsible for criminal activity by analyzing firearms-related information in partnership with local law enforcement. Many of our special agents are experts in the intricacies of illicit crime guns markets, actively working with local law enforcement to stop the encroachment of illegal firearms into their communities. For example, in March 2015, the Camden County Crime Collaboration (C-4), consisting of the combined efforts of ATF's Charlotte, Newark, and Philadelphia Field Divisions, the Camden

Metropolitan Police Department, and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies, led to the arrest of 10 criminals for illegally possessing and selling 82 firearms in the Camden area<sup>1</sup>.

Although law enforcement agencies might not always need the intensity of a formal task force for every investigation, ATF has several resources state and local law enforcement can use routinely such as the National Tracing Center (NTC) and the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN). As a result of the Gun Control Act of 1968, ATF is the sole law enforcement agency responsible for firearms tracing. ATF created the NTC which enables law enforcement agencies to electronically submit firearms trace requests on an internet-based application called eTrace. Through eTrace the origin of a firearm can be determined. In FY2014 alone, over 5,500 law enforcement agencies submitted over 364,000 tracing requests to the NTC. The trace results provide crucial leads in investigations across the country.

Since NIBIN's inception in 1999, it has been essential in identifying, targeting, and prosecuting "shooters" and determining the sources of crime guns. This ATF-managed investigative tool lets law enforcement agencies capture digital images of markings on spent ammunition recovered from a crime scene or a crime gun test fire. These are matched and compared with images of previous entries made by other law enforcement agencies. In 2015, over 76,500 casings were recovered and 130,000 test fires from



<sup>1</sup> NJ USAO Press Release "10 Men Charged with Trafficking Guns into Camden, New Jersey, and Related Firearms Offenses" March 4, 2015 <https://www.atf.gov/news/pr/10-men-charged-trafficking-guns-camden-new-jersey-and-related-firearms-offenses>

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## ATF, cont.

crime guns were entered into the ballistic imaging system. This led to over 7,800 leads given to federal, state, and local law enforcement. Departments are using NIBIN to piece together crime scenes and close cases that were, only a decade ago, unsolvable. NIBIN helps local police agencies link multiple crimes committed with the same gun, identify suspects and increase the number of charges that can be made against repeat offenders.

NIBIN provides thousands of leads to investigators and has revolutionized gun crime investigations throughout the country. However, the law enforcement community told ATF there was room for improvement in investigating NIBIN leads. To address this shortfall, ATF developed the concept of Crime Gun Intelligence Centers (CGIC). A CGIC leverages the advantages of firearms tracing and NIBIN with real-time technology and dedicated investigative teams to identify the source of crime guns and track down criminals before they can commit additional violent acts. Through communication, collaboration, and de-confliction, CGICs strive to complete the NIBIN and intelligence gathering process, which includes shell casing collection, entry, and correlation, within 24 to 72 hours. This timely execution lets investigators quickly access and respond to information,

leading to the apprehension of suspects. The results are definitive. For example, within the first 12 months of the Denver CGIC initiation, investigators matched shell casings leading to 25 arrests in more than 40 shootings.

As the CGIC concept improved, it expanded to multiple cities across the country. Today there are several CGIC sites spread out across the nation including Los Angeles, Denver, New Orleans, Boston, Chicago, and Milwaukee, working in partnership with federal, state, and local law enforcement to address firearms crimes.

ATF is proud of our reputation of working collaboratively for the past 40 years with our law enforcement partners. As we look to the future, carrying out our mission to address violent crime in America, ATF will not only maintain these valued partnerships, but will continue to seek new opportunities for coordination and collaboration. For more information on ATF, please visit our website at [www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov) and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

On behalf of ATF, I want to thank all of American law enforcement for the work you do – and as always stay safe.○

***Thomas E. Brandon***  
***Deputy Director***



## ABOUT THOMAS E. BRANDON

*Deputy Director/Head of Agency Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives U.S. Department of Justice*

Thomas E. Brandon became the Agency Head of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) on April 1, 2015. He was appointed ATF's Deputy Director in October 2011. Deputy Director Brandon is responsible for a unique law enforcement agency within the U.S. Department of Justice charged with enforcing firearms and explosives laws and regulations that protect communities from violent criminals and criminal organizations.

At the time of his appointment as Deputy Director, Mr. Brandon was serving as the Special Agent in Charge of the Phoenix Field Division, directing field operations for ATF in Arizona and New Mexico.

A member of the Senior Executive Service and a seasoned law enforcement professional, Mr. Brandon began his ATF career as a Special Agent in 1989, with Detroit, Michigan, as his first office assignment. Rising through the ranks at ATF, he served in many management positions including Special Agent in Charge of the Phoenix Field Division and Special Agent in Charge of the Detroit Field Division; Supervisory Special Agent of the Detroit Arson and Explosives Enforcement Group; Special Agent with the Office of Inspection in Washington, DC; Supervisory Special Agent of the Achilles Enforcement Group in Los Angeles, California; and as the Division Intelligence Officer with the Phoenix, Arizona, Field Division. Mr. Brandon also held the position of Chief, ATF National Academy, in Glynco, Georgia.

Mr. Brandon is a member of several professional organizations including the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, in 1987.

Mr. Brandon proudly served in the United States Marine Corps from 1978 to 1982, where his assignments included Embassy duty in Rome, Italy, and Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Mr. Brandon is a native of New Jersey.



# RISSafe: Enhancing Officer Safety Through Nationwide Event Deconfliction and Information Sharing

Submitted by MOCIC (Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center)

Every single day, from the largest cities to the smallest towns, law enforcement officers risk their lives to protect and serve our communities. That is why it is vital to ensure that law enforcement agencies have the necessary tools and resources to protect the safety of their officers.

RISSafe, the Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Officer Safety Event Deconfliction System, is one such tool. This event deconfliction system stores and maintains data on planned law enforcement events such as raids, controlled buys and surveillances, in order to identify and alert affected agencies and officers of potential conflicts.

“RISSafe was deployed as part of the continued RISS commitment to promote and enhance officer safety,” said Michael Snavelly, Executive Director of Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center (MOCIC), the regional RISS center that serves the Midwest. “RISSafe also provides an opportunity for increased information sharing among agencies.”

He explained that investigative efforts, such as undercover operations, often create the potential for conflict between



agencies or officers who are unknowingly working in close proximity to each other. In other instances, agencies or officers may be coordinating events focusing on the same subject at the same time. In either case, agencies or officers might interfere with each other, causing investigative efforts to be disrupted, or worse, officers to be unintentionally hurt or killed.

By entering each planned event or investigative activity into an event deconfliction system, officers can check to see if other law enforcement personnel are conducting an event in close proximity at the same time. When certain elements of the event, such as time, date or location, are matched between two or more events, a conflict results and immediate notification is made to all affected officers or agencies.

Using an event deconfliction system allows officers engaged in high-risk operations to enhance their personal safety and the safety of those around them. Event deconfliction also helps reduce risk and liability, and helps safeguard citizens. These systems also enable officers to collaborate with each other, leveraging each other's information to successfully apprehend criminals. For more information about the importance of event deconfliction, visit <https://www.ncirc.gov/Deconfliction/> (Nationwide Officer Safety Event Deconfliction).

**RISSafe is used regularly throughout the country.** Since its inception in 2008, more than 1,175,800 operations have been entered into RISSafe, resulting in more than 362,000 identified conflicts.

In May 2015, RISSafe and the two other nationally recognized event deconfliction systems – Case Explorer and SAFETNet – were integrated, thanks to the Partner Deconfliction Interface (PDI), created by the technical staffs affiliated with each of the partner systems. The PDI serves as a pointer (or system-to-system) solution. When a submission is made into one of the event deconfliction systems, the PDI enables a location query against the two other systems. If a conflict is identified, information regarding that conflict is returned to the submitter and notifications are made to the affected officers.

**RISSafe is used in conjunction with mapping software to verify data on event locations when an event is entered into the system,** according to Karen Aumond, executive director for Western States Information Network (WSIN), the regional RISS center that serves the West Coast. While its primary function is to identify and mitigate conflicts involving the location and time of entered events, an officer may also include additional information for comparison, such as subject, vehicle and gang data.

Because RISSafe is not an intelligence database – there is no criminal predicate required to post an operation – it allows law enforcement to not only enter investigative operations,

but also noncriminal public events, such as dignitary visits or ceremonies, which could impact law enforcement activities.

The RISSafe Watch Centers monitor all events entered into the system 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. RISSafe is designed to allow for multiple Watch Centers to work together; currently, 28 RISSafe Watch Centers are operating throughout the U.S., 22 of which are operated by entities other than RISS.

**Each RISSafe Watch Center is staffed with specially trained personnel who are responsible for assisting officers, entering and monitoring events, responding to conflicts and notifying affected parties.** Officers can contact their assigned RISSafe Watch Center by telephone, fax or e-mail to enter an event. RISSafe also allows events to be entered by authorized remote law enforcement users. In the event of a conflict associated with a remote entry, RISSafe Watch Center staff will receive an alarm. A RISSafe Watch Center staff member will personally contact all involved parties to notify them of the pending conflict. Remote users are only able to view their own entered events and do not have the ability to search or view other officers' RISSafe entries.

RISSafe has proven to be beneficial to those states, such as Minnesota, that have elected to participate actively in this event deconfliction system. "RISSafe has helped to identify several occasions where officers had plans to be working in the same place at the same time – it can even let them know they are investigating the same suspects," said National Narcotics Officers' Association Coalition President Bob Bushman. Bushman, currently a MOCIC Law Enforcement Coordinator, was formerly the Statewide Gang and Drug Coordinator with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. "Being able to identify these conflicts keeps officers safe. It reduces risk by keeping them from getting in each other's way or getting someone hurt." While the officer safety aspects of RISSafe are of primary importance, Bushman also highlighted RISSafe's contribution to increased information sharing and investigative coordination. "As our officers work through conflicts identified by RISSafe, their discussions often lead to sharing of information and resources, which saves investigative time and money. In these times of tight budgets, effective programs like RISSafe serve the public very well."

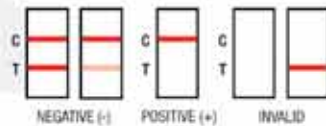
**RISSafe is available at no cost to all public law enforcement agencies, whether or not they are currently members of RISS.** To participate, agencies must sign a RISSafe acknowledgement that addresses RISSafe qualifications and policies, and receive the required RISSafe training. Agencies interested in participating should contact their regional RISS Center ([www.riss.net](http://www.riss.net)).○

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Test Strip	Drug	Urine 510(k) Cleared	Urine Health Canada Class-III Licensed	Urine Forensic Use Only	Oral Fluid Forensic Use Only
ALC ALC ALC ALC	Alcohol	-	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%
AMP AMP AMP AMP	Amphetamine	1000	1000	300, 500	50
BAR BAR BAR BAR	Barbiturate	300	300	-	50
BZO BZO BZO BZO	Benzodiazepine	300	300	200	10
BUP BUP BUP BUP	Buprenorphine	10	5, 10	5*	5
COE COE COE COE	Cocaine	150, 300	150, 300	100*	20
COT COT COT COT	Cotinine	-	200	200	50
EDD EDD EDD EDD	OP/Methadone	-	100	100	20
ETG ETG ETG ETG	EtG (Ethyl glucuronide)	-	-	500	-
FYL FYL FYL FYL	Fentanyl	-	10	10	-
GHB GHB GHB GHB	GHB	-	-	10	-
K2/SPICE K2/SPICE K2/SPICE K2/SPICE	K2/Spice	-	50	25, 50	-
KET KET KET KET	Ketamine	-	1000	1000	50
THC THC THC THC	Marijuana	50	50	25*	50**
MDMA MDMA MDMA MDMA	MDMA/Ecstasy	500	500	-	-
MET MET MET MET	Methadone	300	300	200*	30
MET MET MET MET	Methamphetamine	500, 1000	500, 1000	300	50
OPN OPN OPN OPN	Opiates	300, 2000	300, 2000	100*, 3500*	40
OXY OXY OXY OXY	Oxycodone	100	100	-	20
PCP PCP PCP PCP	Phencyclidine	25	25	-	10
PPP PPP PPP PPP	Propoxyphene	300	300	-	50
TRM TRM TRM TRM	Tramadol	-	200	200*	-
TCA TCA TCA TCA	Tricyclic Antidepressants	1000	1000	-	-

All cutoffs ng/mL except alcohol (BAC) and GHB (µg/mL). \* Available by special order only. \*\*Parent drug

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- PATENTED
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# CAN OFFICERS PROTECT & SERVE UNDER ADVOCATED CONSTRAINT?

by Peter F. Boyce, General Counsel

*National Narcotics Officers Association Coalition*

The last three years have seen unparalleled attacks by news media, social media, politicians, and internet groups against virtually anyone who has taken the oath to serve and protect the citizens of this great country. From this fire storm a significant force has emerged that is committed to revolutionizing the law enforcement profession no matter the cost to this great country's values, safety, and heritage. These groups seek to bury decades of law regarding maintaining a safe community by imposing their concept of fairness and internationalism on the law enforcement community to the detriment of all who want to maintain a civilized law centered constitutionally based society.

Some of the advocacy groups' websites, when examined under close security, seem to advocate Marxist principles that if implemented would result in power being controlled by a federal government who would impose onerous conditions on state and local police departments resulting in dramatic changes to the police profession.

Even consecutive political groups now seem to advocate substantial changes in law enforcement throughout the country. Many people want these changes mandated by the federal government at the state and local level.

Will officers be required to use only their service weapon when they are confronted with a dangerous felon who first must show and point the weapon at the officer?

Will officers be prevented from using deadly force and instead taught to shoot to wound as they do in some European countries?

Will officers have to use force only in proportion to the force directed at them? A taser against a knife wielding subject?

Will officers be required to back down and retreat when faced with a potential threat?

Read some of the recommendations from Amnesty International, PERF, Black Lives Matter, or even the President's Report on 21st Century Policing. Some of the recommendations promote radical ideas and procedures that will affect both public safety and officer safety.

The law enforcement community has not done an adequate job in communicating the perils they encounter each day, nor have they highlighted the successes of their departments. The main stream media and social media have taken isolated events, omitted pertinent facts and often made lawful police encounters seem like unconstitutional use of force. The media then presents to the public that cops committed unlawful use of force, suggesting the media's rendition of the facts is business as usual for all police officers. There

is much work to be done by law enforcement to counter the liberal media bias and it needs to be done NOW. All police departments at the local and state level MUST become media active NOW before it is too late. Law Enforcement must share positive stories and successes with broadcast media and throughout multiple internet sites.

Perception may not be reality but the perception of the law enforcement community by a segment of society leads them to believe that police unconstitutionally target them for enforcement and use excessive force to accomplish their police powers. It may not be possible to convert all who believe police target minorities, but a large portion of our society can be educated on the dangers that police face during seemingly routine police encounters. Police must use the same social media to tell the real story. Every department and agency should be actively involved in community policing, have citizen police academics, and be proactive with the citizens they serve and protect. Americans want to be safe and secure at home and work. They do not want protests in the street, or cops gunned down by rouge gunman who espouse hate speech promulgated by some of the protest groups. The media needs to be called out for enticing much of this violence as they continue to push an agenda they know to be blatantly

## PROTECT & SERVE, CONT.

false like “hands up, don’t shoot”.

Political correctness has become the catch word. Some law enforcement bosses are more concerned with keeping their jobs rather than telling the real story of the perils police encounter on the street. You must insist the successes in your department are well published throughout all media outlets. Share actual positive outcomes. Tell your department’s side of any critical incident that occurs.

The Dallas Police chief, David Brown, is a credit to his officers and to his profession. He acted to alleviate a threat and he told the real story to the press and public. From his eyes the concerned public could see the pain and despair confronting his department. Baton Rouge Chief Carl Dabadie, with much emotion, told the public that his SWAT team using military style tactics made a “hell of a shot” to kill the former military sergeant who planned on next heading towards the police precinct

to kill more officers. We need more of this direct and decisive leadership if the professional law enforcement officer is to survive. We cannot tolerate another Dallas or Baton Rouge.

All officers need to confront the realization of Black Lives Matter, De-escalation, Proportionally and Constitutionally Policing and make some changes. The political groups that control the budget MUST provide the funds that will enable law enforcement to train and equip the professional law enforcement officer. Only then will the public come to understand what each officer confronts each day, then and only then will the bulk of the people of this great country come to the realization that 99.9% of the cops do their absolute best each day to see that all are free to enjoy the benefits each law abiding citizen is entitled to under our constitution. ○

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“Thanks to Leland Sykes for securing the photos and obtaining permission from *The Advocate* to reprint.”

## Slain Baton Rouge Cop’s Haunting Facebook Plea: ‘Please Don’t Let Hate Infect Your Heart.’

‘I swear to God I love this city but I wonder if this city loves me,’ Baton Rouge officer Montrell Jackson wrote shortly before his death.

BATON ROUGE, Louisiana — Two weeks before he was killed on the job, Baton Rouge police officer Montrell Jackson wrote on Facebook what it was like to be black and a cop.

Jackson, 32, was killed along with [police officer Matthew Gerald and sheriff’s deputy Brad Garafola](#) on Sunday morning in Baton Rouge by [Gavin Long of Kansas City, Missouri](#). Long, who was wearing body armor and carrying a rifle, wounded three others before he was killed by police. The killings completed a circle of violence involving police across the country that began when [two white Baton Rouge police officers shot and killed Alton Sterling](#), a black man selling CDs in a parking lot, on July 5.

Two days later, black militant Micah Johnson shot and killed five white police officers in apparent revenge for Sterling’s death and that of Philando Castile, who was also killed by police.

That was the week Jackson was reflecting on when he took to Facebook.

“I’ve experienced so much in my short life and the past 3 days have tested me to the core,” he wrote. “I swear to God I love this city but I wonder if this city loves me. In uniform I get nasty hateful looks and out of uniform some consider me a threat.”

Jackson remained hopeful, though.



“PLEASE DON’T LET HATE INFECT YOUR HEART.



Montrell Jackson

July 8 at 11:32 AM - Baton Rouge - 11

I'm tired physically and emotionally. Disappointed in some family, friends, and officers for some reckless comments but hey what's in your heart is in your heart. I still love you all because hate takes too much energy but I definitely won't be looking at you the same. Thank you to everyone that has reached out to me or my wife it was needed and much appreciated. I swear to God I love this city but I wonder if this city loves me. In uniform I get nasty hateful looks and out of uniform some consider me a threat. I've experienced so much in my short life and these last 3 days have tested me to the core. When people you know begin to question your integrity you realize they don't really know you at all. Look at my actions they speak **LOUD** and **CLEAR**. Finally I personally want to send prayers out to everyone directly affected by this tragedy. These are trying times. Please don't let hate infect your heart. This city **MUST** and **WILL** get better. I'm working in these streets so any protesters, officers, friends, family, or whoever, if you see me and need a hug or want to say a prayer. I got you. 🤝🙏

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# THE BLUNT TRUTH, A COLORADO UPDATE

By Ernie Martinez, NNOAC Director-At-Large  
Past President, Colorado Drug Investigators Association

The unfortunate circumstance in writing about marijuana legalization in Colorado is that there are many issues from which to choose. This installment will focus on recent regulation changes for marijuana businesses promulgated by the Colorado Department of Revenue (CDOR).

Before I do, however, there needs to be background. In 2009-2013, when I was part of the CDOR policy meetings with the marijuana industry, treatment, addiction, and licensing representatives, many topics of regulations were discussed. Outside of pesticides and chemical use for grows, the topics of plant size, grow room dimensions, and limiting plant yield were the most contentious.

Consensus in the architecture of an ideal legalization framework still presents as a popular civic exercise with legalization advocates. The ‘Monday morning quarterbacking’ has led to the chipping away at the original foundation in the interest of lessening restrictions. The typical reactions were that any design would be an improvement over the then-status quo, which was a non-existent regulatory structure. The marijuana industry’s push for legalization centered on what has turned out to be a socially accepted and ‘optimal’ regulatory scheme. The concern of law enforcement (and other civic-minded partners) was that the design based on the ‘Alcohol’ model was problematic, simply due to the fact that, as with most legislative laws and statewide voter propositions, they were drafted by activists with an agenda and influenced by purely private interests. Correspondingly, at issue is the lack of reciprocity with this federally illegal drug, as opposed to legal tobacco and alcohol regulation across state lines. As with other illegal drugs, there has been an orchestrated revelry with interest groups and financiers, which has challenged the integrity of time, staffing, and influence of our most precious institutions and populations.

State-sanctioned grows occur indoors. This method is not only mandated by statute, but is also optimal to the marijuana industry due to the high plant yields. It is common knowledge that, based on known grow operations, densities of fifteen plants per square meter can produce approximately 34 grams of sinsemilla from each plant per harvest. Using a low average of four harvests a year and retail prices of \$300 per ounce (average for sinsemilla in Colorado), that suggests revenues of well over \$3,000 per square foot per year.

Moreover, marijuana cultivated in a 1,000-square-foot commercial warehouse grow room could produce for marijuana owners revenues of \$2.5 million per year when sold as ounces, and over \$1 million per year even at typical wholesale prices. In their outstanding publication, ‘Marijuana Legalization: What Everyone Needs to Know’ (Oxford University Press), Jonathan Caulkins, et al, gives us the proposal this way: in cost per gram, per hour of intoxication, or per year of use, marijuana is much cheaper than cocaine or heroin. However, in terms of value per square foot at current U.S. retail (black market) prices, marijuana grown indoors can produce about five hundred times as much revenue per square foot as either coca or poppy crops do. Unlike cocaine and heroin, marijuana need not be extracted or refined; the dried plant material is the drug.

The fact that we have affordability, driven by the marijuana micro-economy in Colorado per ounce, availability, accessibility and acceptability loom as the fuel of dependency and addictions to our most vulnerable populations. This abuse triangle continues to grow because of the drive for the dollar, and the risk of harm has significantly been reduced. No more is the business being driven by ‘hippies’ growing marijuana; now it is investors with business savvy and growers with botanical acumen that drive this micro-economy.

It is in this environment that the State of Colorado recently decreased renewal fees for ‘medical’ marijuana licenses, and the way retail (recreational) marijuana grow facilities are categorized. To be more specific - plant numbers are separated into smaller element sizes. Unbelievably, its now more expensive to set up a dispensary that serves ‘medical’ marijuana customers than dispensaries, which sell only recreational marijuana. Below is the former, tiered fee structure:

	<b>Type 1 Center (1-300 patients)</b>	<b>Type 2 Center (301-500 patients)</b>	<b>Type 3 Center (501 or more patients)</b>
Application Fee	\$6,000	\$10,000	\$14,000
License Fee	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$8,000
Renewal License Fee	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$7,000

## COLORADO UPDATE, CONT.

The revised five-tier structure for recreational grow/distribution ‘centers’ transitioned away from being categorized by the number of ‘patients’ served; rather, the size of recreational marijuana dispensaries is now being determined by the number of plants grown.

Under recent legislative mandates, the rules and their application put into effect have been inadequate and deficient, at best, to regulate marijuana. Moreover, totally uncontrolled/ unregulated residential marijuana cultivation operations take place anywhere, including next door to you.

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
1-1,800 plants	1,801-3,600 plants	3,601-6,000 plants	6,001-10,200 plants	10,201-13,800 plants

Grow centers with 1,800 plants or fewer are classified into the first tier; those which cultivate up to 13,800 plants conclude with the fifth tier. It should be noted that several larger dispensary franchises have already capped at this limit and are expanding their reach of commercial marijuana business to other states!

There is no way to restrict marijuana edibles or dangerous butane extraction methods in residential areas; only recently has commercial regulation has been enacted.

**Why would abusers of legalized drugs act differently from those of the same illegal drugs?**  
Behavior does not change because society sanctions drug use. Legalizing alcohol has not negated assaults, domestic violence incidents, or drunk driving. Legalizing marijuana will not diminish mental and physical destruction to lives. Proponents for legalization encourage each generation of users to follow the same erratic and directionless footsteps of the previous generation of users and addicts. ○

As opponents to this marijuana free-for-all, is it time to look at other strategies to influence change that will resonate and be sustainable? Do we scale back the “war on drugs?” No, but the “war” analogy isn’t a good descriptor, since wars have defined strategies and timelines with resources. We know that, even if we were to prevent all drug use from happening among today’s generations, we’d still have to educate the next generation about the dangers of drugs. My good friend, Kevin Sabet, stated that fighting drug addiction is analogous to our efforts against cancer – something that we should continually prevent, treat, and recover from. Unlike cancer, there is a market for drugs. Finding a smart way to reduce that market – by cutting its demand and supply – is the shortest route out of the \$193 billion in costs that society each year incurs as a result of drug use in America. What are some smart ways to reduce supply and demand? Fortunately, we do know what can work to reduce drug use and its consequences. Our challenge remains in scaling up these methods and having the will to fully implement them through prevention, intervention, and treatment. These elements have been proven to, and can continue to, significantly reduce drug use and help people live a better life. This does not happen with “normalizing” the use of marijuana.



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#ATA-010

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  - Three threshold levels: 0.02%, 0.05%, and 0.08%
  - Plastic tube design allows test to be carried anywhere
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 # 50905K – 0.05 AlcoCheck (25 per box)  
 # 50908K – 0.08 AlcoCheck (25 per box)

### FC300e BREATH ALCOHOL TEST (AT576)



- 510(k) cleared for OTC
- European fuel cell sensor: 3/4" (19mm)
- Detect: 0.00 - 0.50%
- Color change of display if above legal limit
- Accuracy: +/- 0.005% at 0.05%
- Memory: 1000 records
- Memory download to PC
- Power: 9V battery or DC 12V
- OPTIONAL PORTABLE PRINTER AND CASE

### SALIVA ALCOHOL

- 510(k) cleared for OTC and CLIA waived
  - Gender-neutral, observed collection
  - Results in 2 minutes
  - Indicates recent alcohol consumption
  - Easy interpretation
- # 40900



### ETG (ETHYL GLUCURONIDE)

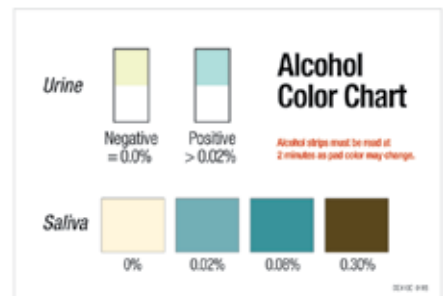


- 48-hour detection time in human urine
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### URINE ALCOHOL

Urine is the most practical specimen for alcohol testing in the workplace, specifically when the purpose of testing is to demonstrate that alcohol consumption has occurred. Peak urine alcohol levels are reached 45 to 60 minutes after alcohol ingestion, when they are typically about 1.3 times greater than the blood alcohol concentration. Alcohol may be detected in urine 1 to 2 hours longer than it is detected in the blood. Available in cup and dip formats.



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# Is it Possible to Develop a Cannabidiol (CBD) Medication Through the FDA Approval Pathway?

## *Update on GW Pharmaceuticals' Research*

*Alice P. Mead, Vice President of U.S. Professional Relations, GW Pharmaceuticals*

Over the past 20 years, since the first law decriminalizing the medical use of cannabis was enacted in California, public and media interest in the medical potential of cannabis (marijuana) has increased. At present, 25 states and the District Columbia have such laws, and another 17 states allow access to products high in cannabidiol (CBD), a component of the cannabis plant that does not have THC-like psychoactivity. In many cases, patients or their families are obtaining these products on the internet or from dispensaries. However, none of these products has been assessed for safety and efficacy by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Indeed, many cannabis advocates (and even elected officials) claim that, because of cannabis's Schedule I status in the U.S. and around the world, neither it nor its components can ever be developed into a prescription medication. However, the research conducted by GW Pharmaceuticals contradicts this claim.

### **The Importance of the FDA Approval Process**

GW is committed to conducting research, and developing medications, in accordance with modern regulatory requirements. The FDA approval process has been established over the past 100+ years to protect public health and safety and to ensure that medications are both safe and efficacious for their intended use. This process is rigorous, and it takes time. Understandably, patients (and their families) may be impatient to obtain relief from their symptoms or conditions; sometimes, they may seek treatments that have not been approved by FDA. However, many products being sold at dispensaries and on the internet do not have the content that is indicated on the label, are contaminated with heavy metals and dangerous microbes, and are making unwarranted and unlawful medical claims. Finally, since these products have not been studied in clinical trials, there are no data to tell us what percentage of patients actually benefit, how large the benefit is, what types of patients do not benefit, and what the side effects and drug/drug interactions are. This can result in harm to patients and, at the least, shattered hope. Fortunately, this research is now taking place.

### **Introduction to GW Pharmaceuticals**

In the late 1990s, the U.K. government became interested in separating the medical use of cannabis from its recreational use. The government let it be known that it would be receptive to allowing legitimate research to develop a prescription medication. As a result, GW Pharmaceuticals was founded in 1998. The goal was to develop a wide range of such medications derived from components-- or combinations of components--of the cannabis plant, researched and developed in accordance with modern scientific standards. GW grows various cannabis varieties that are bred to maintain a precise chemical composition; the plants are cultivated under rigorously-controlled conditions, and the active components are extracted with liquid CO<sub>2</sub>. In the case of our investigational CBD product, we put the extract through a purification process to remove the THC. All stages of manufacture are strictly quality-controlled.

Since 1998, GW has made significant progress. Its first product, Sativex, is approved in 27 countries as a prescription medicine for the treatment of spasticity in multiple sclerosis.



### **Cannabidiol Research Being Conducted by GW in the United States**

In 2007, GW embarked on extensive preclinical (animal) research to explore a number of different cannabinoids in various animal models of human disorders. From that research, it appeared that CBD and a related cannabinoid, cannabidivarin (CBDV), were strongly anti-convulsant (i.e., reduced seizures). As a result, GW decided to pursue research with CBDV in patients with epilepsy. However, in 2012, after the preclinical research was published, and families of children with epilepsy in the U.S. became aware of the results, they contacted GW to ask if GW would develop a CBD (rather than CBDV) product in the U.S.

GW was very familiar with Schedule I research requirements, having imported Sativex into the U.S. to conduct clinical trials since 2006. In the Sativex studies, GW had worked effectively with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and state controlled drug agencies to implement the security and other requirements that were necessary to secure Schedule I research registrations from DEA and Schedule I licenses from the states. (Interestingly, cannabis and cannabinoids like CBD are still in Schedule I under state law even in “medical marijuana” states.)

In early 2013 (well before Sanjay Gupta’s CNN program “Weed”), independent physicians began to apply to FDA for permission to use GW’s pure liquid investigational CBD product (known as Epidiolex®) to treat children with various types of intractable epilepsies, under FDA’s “expanded access” regulations. Then, in the spring of 2014, GW met with the FDA to open an Investigational New Drug (IND) program to conduct research down the FDA pathway with Epidiolex. GW is currently

researching four types of rare, severe, drug-resistant childhood-onset seizure disorders: Dravet syndrome, Lennox Gastaut syndrome (LGS), Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC) and Infantile Spasms (IS). GW has received Orphan Designation from FDA for all these syndromes and also Fast Track Designation for Dravet Syndrome.

GW is conducting randomized, double blind, placebo controlled trials (RCTs) in all these conditions. The results of the research thus far are very encouraging. In March and then in June 2016, GW reported positive results from the first Phase 3 trials of Epidiolex in Dravet syndrome and in LGS. (Phase 3 is the advanced and final stage of clinical research.) GW expects to submit a New Drug Application, or NDA, to the FDA in the first half of 2017 for Epidiolex in both Dravet syndrome and LGS. If FDA grants Epidiolex a Priority Review track, approval could be forthcoming in as early as eight months. Pursuant to a new federal law, DEA then has 90 days to schedule or reschedule a newly-approved product.

The physician-initiated expanded access programs with Epidiolex have become very robust. Many physicians are generally following a consistent protocol, which enables them to pool their data for scientific publications. To date, the FDA has granted 20 intermediate-size expanded access INDs to physicians in to treat a total of 465 children and young adults suffering from a number of intractable epilepsies. In addition, the FDA has granted further INDs to treat 455 additional patients under expanded access programs supported by six U.S. states. These programs are being conducted at major medical centers around the U.S. In December, 2015, early data from these programs were published by the treating physicians in *The Lancet Neurology*, a highly-respected medical journal. GW

provides Epidiolex to these programs without charge. These programs will continue until Epidiolex is available by prescription.

GW is also researching other serious medical conditions, with an increasing focus on orphan pediatric neurologic conditions. We are studying CBDV in Europe in partial onset seizures, as well as in the field of autism spectrum disorders, or ASD. In addition, we have received Orphan Drug Designation and Fast Track Designation from the FDA for intravenous CBD for the treatment of Neonatal Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy, or NHIE (babies who are deprived of oxygen during birth). GW is also conducting clinical research in schizophrenia, Type-2 diabetes, cancer pain, and cerebral palsy in children, as well as animal research in a number of other conditions, including a type of brain cancer called glioma.

### **Legal Status of CBD**

The major cannabinoids produced by the cannabis plant are THC and CBD. CBD does not directly activate the body’s cannabinoid receptors (called CB1 and CB2) at doses that are being studied in clinical trials. That is why CBD does not have THC-like psychoactivity. However, because CBD falls within the definition of marijuana under federal (and state) law—as a “component” or “derivative”—it is a Schedule I substance, regardless whether it is derived from the hemp variety of cannabis, from a higher drug-containing variety, or from synthesis in a laboratory.

### **What About Hemp?**

Industrial hemp is increasingly used as the source of CBD for CBD artisanal products. However, hemp has historically been grown for its fiber and seeds, not for its flowering

parts. (Indeed, in the U.K., it is unlawful to harvest and use those parts.) In Europe, only specific hemp varieties may be grown, and they must have a THC content (measured in the dried flowering portion of the plant) of not more than 0.2% THC. The flowering portion is also quite low in CBD; it typically contains 1-3% CBD. The seeds, while rich in omega 3 and 6 fatty acids, contain **no** CBD or other cannabinoids. Therefore, hemp is a very inefficient source of CBD, and many acres must be grown to extract meaningful amounts of CBD. Since hemp is a “phytoremediator,” i.e., absorbs heavy metals out of the soil, it is critically important that the plants be cultivated under carefully controlled conditions, which is especially uncertain if the extracts are (illegally) imported from China or Europe.

CBD extracted from the plant is thick and sticky. Therefore, it must be dissolved in some oily material so it can be administered (cannabinoids do not dissolve in water). Often CBD extract is dissolved in hemp seed oil--hence, the name “CBD hemp oil” or “CBD oil”--but olive, coconut, or other oils may be used.

### **FDA Enforcement Action**

In 2015 and 2016, FDA sent Warning Letters to vendors who were selling CBD products online. FDA stated that these products were “misbranded” because they were making medical claims. (Only a product that has gone through the FDA approval process can make such claims.) In addition, FDA tested the products and determined that most of them contained little or no CBD; and some had more THC than was on the label.

In addition, in the 2016 Warning Letters, FDA notified vendors that CBD could not be sold as a dietary supplement. There is a provision in the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act (DSHEA—incorporated into the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act) that does not allow a substance to be sold as a dietary supplement if clinical trials with that substance had begun and the substance had not, before the clinical trials, been sold as a food or dietary supplement. FDA determined that such clinical trials had begun in 2006, and that CBD had not been previously marketed as a dietary supplement or food.

### **The Impact of the Farm Bill**

The Agricultural Act 2014 (7 U.S.C. USC 5940), known as the Farm Bill, has been liberally interpreted by a number of artisanal CBD product manufacturers. The Farm Bill allows institutions of higher education or State Departments of Agriculture to grow “industrial hemp” for “research conducted under an agricultural pilot program or other agricultural or academic research,” so long as state

law permits the growth and cultivation of the plant. For purposes of the Farm Bill, industrial hemp is defined as cannabis having a THC concentration of  $\leq 0.3\%$  THC.

The USDA, DHHS and DEA recently issued a statement clarifying the scope of the Farm Bill.

- It does not remove industrial hemp from Schedule I.
- If private persons are to conduct the research under a pilot program, they must be 1) licensed, registered or otherwise authorized by the State department of agriculture **to conduct the research** or 2) employed by or under a production contract or lease **to conduct research** from an institution of higher education.
- Industrial hemp must be cultivated exclusively for industrial purposes, which involve the **fiber and seed** (hence, by implication, **not** the flowering tops).
- Industrial hemp products may be sold in a state that has a pilot program for purposes of marketing research, but **not for the purpose of general commercial activity**.
- The Farm Bill does not change the requirements of the FD&C Act, including its provisions governing marketing and advertising and the requirement for an IND for human therapeutic research.

Therefore, the scope of the law is quite limited.

### **Will CBD be Rescheduled?**

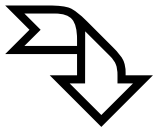
DEA recently denied two petitions seeking the rescheduling of cannabis, so it remains in Schedule I. Since CBD is a component of the plant, it would have to be rescheduled in order to be prescribed by physicians. This is likely to happen when the FDA approves a CBD product (FDA approval constitutes “accepted medical use,” a requirement for placement in Schedules II-V), but it could happen through an Act of Congress or due to an independent CBD rescheduling petition (one was filed in 2015 by Insys Therapeutics). If CBD is rescheduled, it is likely that cannabis will remain in Schedule I, which is called “differential scheduling.” This departs from the general rule that a substance and all products containing it are in the same schedule (e.g., opium and morphine), but there is precedent, i.e., Marinol (Schedule III) and THC (Schedule I).

## Conclusion

The Schedule I status of cannabis clearly does not prevent legitimate research like GW's from taking place. Schedule I requirements at the state and federal level are strict, but are not insurmountable. Furthermore, GW's meetings with FDA have demonstrated that, if a cannabinoid medication has been properly-manufactured and studied, FDA will assess it on the basis of scientific criteria that apply to other investigational products, and will not be affected by political considerations. GW looks forward to continuing its research and development in the U.S. for many years to come.○



## QUESTIONS CONTACT:



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415-388-9057



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**40%** of fatally-injured drivers with a known test result tested positive for drugs, almost the same level as alcohol at any positive BAC.



Source: 2013 Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)



## Federal Government Faciliates Legitimate Research on Marijuana, Keeps Drug in Schedule I

Categories: [Uncategorized](#)

For Immediate Release  
August 11, 2016

Contact: Jeffrey Zinsmeister  
[jeff@learnaboutsam.org](mailto:jeff@learnaboutsam.org)  
(703) 665-1410



### Federal Government Faciliates Legitimate Research on Marijuana, Keeps the Drug in Schedule I

(Alexandria, VA) – In a widely anticipated move, today the Obama Administration, using a lengthy “eight-factor analysis” and a deep evaluation of the latest science, decided to keep marijuana classified as a Schedule I substance while expanding research grow sites for the drug. This decision is consistent with a 2015 [judicial opinion](#) of a federal judge from the Eastern District of California, and various recently-introduced pieces federal legislation introduced to expand research and uphold the FDA approval process for medicines.

“We’re pleased to see that the Obama Administration — using the exhaustive “eight factor” scientific analysis required by law — understands the science the way we and almost every single major medical association in the country understand it,” said Kevin Sabet, President of SAM. “Big Marijuana was counting on President Obama to reschedule or even deschedule marijuana, in order to circumvent the FDA process to turn a quick profit on unregulated products. But this decision means that medications based on marijuana will have to go through the same rigorous testing process as all of our other medications.”

Moreover, the new rules expand legitimate research opportunities, by expanding the number of legal grow sites for research-grade marijuana beyond the current facility in Mississippi. This will likely help in researching CBD and other components of marijuana, and should streamline the process for data collection.

In 2015, SAM [recommended several steps](#) for bolstering marijuana research without legalization, including an expansion of research sites. So far, three of SAM’s six recommendations have been adopted.

“The pot lobby has successfully fought off federal attempts to regulate advertising targeting children, rules restricting the use of pesticides, and rules to limit marijuana potency. This same lobby was ready to pounce on a rescheduling or descheduling determination to fill their pockets,” said Jeffrey Zinsmeister, Executive Vice President of SAM. “This assault on health and safety regulations is no less than a repeat of Big Tobacco’s tactics from last century — which if people recall once touted the health benefits of tobacco use. That is what makes today’s news so important.”

For more information about marijuana policy, please visit <http://www.learnaboutsam.org>.

###

#### About SAM

Smart Approaches to Marijuana (SAM) is a nonpartisan, non-profit alliance of physicians, policy makers, prevention workers, treatment and recovery professionals, scientists, and other concerned citizens who oppose marijuana legalization and want health and scientific evidence to guide marijuana policies. Learn more at <http://www.learnaboutsam.org>.

# TO PROTECT & SERVE

By *Tanya Randall*

*Highly trained K9s help keep our communities and police officers safer, and K9s4COPs is working to help put more paws on patrol.*

Davis very easily could have been the one who took three shots—one each to the face, neck and shoulder—while searching a grocery store for a robbery suspect in the early morning hours of January 6, but he wasn't. It could have been one of his fellow officers reporting to the crime, but it wasn't. K9 Jethro was.

As one of Davis' fellow officers stated, "Needless to say, Jethro's presence saved one of our lives. Had he and Ryan not responded with us, it would have been one of us getting shot. It's a sobering reminder to be diligent and observant.

*"Most cops will attest to the fact that K9 units are on the best tools we have at our disposal."*

K9 Jethro was conducting a search of the large store, when the suspect opened fire and shot him multiple times. The 22-year-old has since been charged with aggravated burglary, assaulting or harassing a police dog, felonious assault on a peace officer, and having weapons under disability and shooting on or near a prohibited area. His bond was set at \$5 million.

Although none of the wounds required surgery, the force of the shot across Jethro's face caused swelling on his brain. The K9 fought his injuries with the same ferocity as the performed his job, so much so that veterinarians had to sedate him so he would rest enough to give himself a chance to heal. Sadly, K9 Jethro succumbed to his injuries on the morning of January 10, just a few days shy of his third birthday.

K9 Jethro's sacrifice didn't go unnoticed, as his story gained national media attention. His funeral service was attended by more than 100 K9s officers and their handlers from across the country. Ohio Governor John Kasich even ordered flags to fly at half-staff in K9 Jethro's honor.

K9 Jethro was a highly trained officer of the law, but he was also a family member. The German Shepard joined the Davis household when he was just eight weeks old.

"These brave dogs are not only partners, they are truly family members," said Kristi Schiller, founder of Houston, Texas, based K9s4COPs, a charitable organization that raises funds to procure K9s for departments in need. "An officer and their K9 partner spend more time together than any other typical relationship in law enforcement. K9 Jethro gave his life for his handler without hesitation. There are no words that can truly describe the depths of loyalty in which these dogs will go to protect the ones they love."

## *Down the Leash*

"Down the Leash" refers to the energy a handler transmits when to a K9 when training on a lead. The handler is the "Alpha Dog" the leader of the pack and director of all the energy focused. Officer Davis and K9 Jethro's story resonated all too well to Schiller. A similar story featured on her local news prompted her to create K9s4COPs.

In December of 2009, Kristi Schiller, a life long philanthropist, described by K9s4COPs Board member and wife of NYPD Police Commissioner Bill Bratton, Rikki Klieman as "a confident leader with a headful of business sense and extreme marketing savvy, with a heart ruled by compassion with the ability to make things happen" learned of Harris County Sheriff Deputy Ted Dahlin losing his K9 partner "Blek" in the line of duty. Like Ohio Officer Ryan Davis, Dahlin felt he owed his K9 his life. When budget constraints meant the K9 was likely not to be replaced, Schiller immediately started working to find answers"

"I was so moved after watching Deputy Dahlin's loss on the evening news, I realized I wanted to give to this officer that worked that tirelessly to keep our community safe. I immediately started researching K9 partnerships in law enforcement agencies and found that there were a number of trained K9 officers without K9s. In addition, K9's were the number one thing cut from department budgets" Schiller explained. "Law Enforcement Officers put their lives on the line for us every day, and those with K9s help protect us and make sure our police officers go home to



their families. Financial restraints meant skilled K9 handlers were out there with empty leashed. There was an apparent problem and I knew I wanted to be part of the solution.”

K9s4COPs was founded and received its 501 (c) (3) non-profit status in March 2011. A month later, K9s4COPs donated the first four of 26 K9s to the Harris County Sheriff’s Department in Houston, Texas. Schiller says “K9s4COPs just celebrated our five-year anniversary as the only non-profit of our kind in the world. K9s4COPs not only provides the canine for the department, but the ongoing training for the handler and their canine partner for the remainder of their duty”

In late January, Officer Davis flew to Houston, Texas, to find a new partner, courtesy of K9s4COPs.

He put three dogs through their paces before settling on K9 “Tuko” another German Shepherd. “The bond was there,” he said simply.

K9 Tuko is just one of more than 130 K9s placed on patrol in more than 32 states by K9s4COPs since its inception. Through its K9s4KIDs initiative, launched in 2013 following the tragic shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary, K9s4COPs has placed an additional 12 K9s within schools.

### More Paws On Patrol

While our streets are getting tougher—incoming cartels and drugs from south of the border and

domestic terrorism on the rise—most law enforcement agencies are facing increasingly tighter budgets. Often the first to go is the K9 Unit.

The daily upkeep of the dogs – veterinary care and food – are often manageable, but sadly the initial purchase price is what makes K9s cost prohibitive for most departments. Each K9 costs on average between \$10,000 and \$20,000 due to their intensive training.

While K9s are bred to have a natural inclination for their job, they go through highly specialized training from the basics of obedience and agility to searching for suspects and evidence. They’re also trained in tracking and scouting, bite work and criminal apprehension. Some K9s are single purpose, highly specialized in one task, such as narcotics detection, while others are dual purpose with training in detection as well as patrol work.

“Police K9s are very efficient and can accomplish a task that could take several officers much longer to do,” said Schiller. “Any accomplished law enforcement agency comprehends how vital a well-trained K9 team can be to their department in keeping the community safe and the benefit of revenue from seized funds as well”

### TO SUPPORT:

visit the website

[www.K9s4COPs.org](http://www.K9s4COPs.org)

or call 713-523-COPS



WHY WE EXIST

THE K9S

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WATCH OUR VIDEO



K9s4COPs is also helping keep the international community safe with the recent donation of “K9 Liberte” to the French National Police after their loss of K9 Diesel in November 2015 from a suicide bomber.

The limelight surrounding these two recent high-profile donations has helped increase awareness for K9 Units and their roles in the United State and aboard and K9s4COPs supporting roll. Yet, the work to make sure that no K9 handler goes without a four-legged partner and helping new K9 departments get on patrol is unending.

K9s4COPs and Schiller were recently honored by the FBI Director James Comey with the FBI’s highest honor of the “Community Leader Award” in Washington, DC. Schiller

was recognized on behalf of K9s4COPs for their fight against the war on drugs. K9s4COPs gifted canines have been directly involved in removing more than \$125,000,000 in cash and contraband off the streets have been responsible for more than 1,500 arrests nationwide in less than five years.

“I could never have imagined something this great coming from the darkest tragedy imaginable” says Deputy Dahlin. “This has become a “life mission” for everyone involved in our charity. Whether its myself or our Executive Director, Roseann Rogers giving a speech and K9 demonstration at a school or at the Capitol, we are constant advocates for keeping people informed and educated on the capabilities of what K9s can do. We spend our days raising funds and awareness for law enforcement.”

Says Schiller “People has embraced K9s4COPs as an avenue to show their unbridled support for police officers, by providing a secure avenue for individuals, corporations, schools, family foundations and professional athletes to foster a personal relationship with those wearing a badge...two and four legged.”

*The exact number of K9s on patrol in the United States is unknown. In 2010, Jim Watson, the director of the North American Police Work Dog Association, “guesstimated” the number was around 50,000. With approximately 900,000 to 1.1 million fulltime and part-time police officers, the percentage of K9s to their human counterparts in staggeringly low, when given how affective they are in search, patrol and protection.*



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**As of March 2016, eight K9s lost their lives in the line of duty.**

○ ○ ○

**In more than half the cases, their human partners credited the K9 with saving their life and the lives of their fellow officers.**

**K9 Prayer**  
*I will lay down my life for you and expect nothing but love in return. I protect all officers with my life, and would gladly take a bullet in their place. I am sent in to find lost children and fugitives on the run. I find drugs and weapons and even bombs. I am the first sent in and often the last to leave. I am the nose and ears of the officers. I protect and serve them. I would die for any and all officers. I only ask for your love and care. ~*  
*Author Unknown*

# The Fentanyl Crisis in the U.S.

By Rich Strasser

El Dorado (CA) County Sheriff's Office (Ret.)

**D**uring the first quarter of 2016, Sacramento, California, experienced 48 overdoses due to fentanyl use (Buck 2016). In all of the cases, the fentanyl was disguised as hydrocodone pills, most often known by the names Vicodin, Norco, and others. There is a big difference between the potency of fentanyl and other common drugs. For example, hydrocodone is six times more potent than the same dosage of codeine, while the same dosage of fentanyl would be the equivalent of taking 500-1000 codeine pills.

Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opiate analgesic similar to, but 100 times more potent than, morphine. It is typically used to treat patients with severe pain, or to manage pain after surgery. It is also sometimes used to treat people with chronic pain who are physically tolerant to opiates. It is a Schedule II prescription drug (NIDA 2016). It has been found as a cutting agent in heroin for years, but most recently, cocaine has been seized that also has been cut with fentanyl (Graves).

How is fentanyl getting into the hands of our addicts? There are three main ways: by diversion, where fentanyl is taken from a legitimate source and distributed on the street; from clandestine laboratories; or by ordering it from China.

A simple web search demonstrates the availability of the “China Connection”, where dealers can use the internet to order fentanyl, pill presses, and pill dyes that allow the fentanyl to be pressed into variously shaped and marked pills. As an example, the fentanyl overdoses in Sacramento were associated with pills that resembled, and were marked as, hydrocodone pills, when in fact they were counterfeit pills containing fentanyl.

Pills meant to resemble prescription hydrocodone but instead containing fentanyl led to a rash of deaths in Northern California earlier this year. PHOTO: DEA

A recent Wall Street Journal investigative report examined the Chinese-driven fentanyl crisis in the United States. The following illustration depicts how clandestine laboratories can convert \$810 of unregulated Chinese chemicals and additional precursors into 25 grams of fentanyl. This would result in approximately \$800,000 of fentanyl pills on the black market.



California had  
**48**  
**OVERDOSES**  
  
due to  
  
disguised  
  
Fentanyl  
  
in **3 MONTHS**

## Diversion of Fentanyl

There are several ways to divert fentanyl. According to the DEA, there were 6.64 million prescriptions for fentanyl in the United States in 2014. Fentanyl pharmaceutical products are currently available in oral transmucosal lozenges, commonly referred to as the fentanyl “lollipops” (Actiq®); effervescent buccal tablets (Fentora™); transdermal patches (Duragesic®); and injectable formulations (DEA 2016).

Fentanyl ‘lollipops’ are prescribed to patients for long-term pain relief. The patient will suck on the fentanyl to administer the medicine. Usually, you will see less-scrupulous people attain jobs with convalescent hospitals or other places where there will be high numbers of patients with access to fentanyl lollipops. They will then steal the lollipops and divert them to the street.

Fentanyl patches are used for the same purpose, long-term pain relief, and are diverted in the same manner as above. But there have been several reports of people overdosing on fentanyl patches because they administered multiple patches on their bodies. In one case, an OD victim’s entire body was covered – head to toe – by fentanyl patches when



the victim was discovered deceased at home.

Lastly, some fentanyl products are used for anesthesia in the operating room. Some medical professionals have been known to divert them from patient use to the street.

When people are under the influence of fentanyl, they will have the same signs and symptoms as any other person under the influence of an opiate. They will have constricted pupils, they may be on the nod, they might have a raspy voice, they will be slow and lethargic, and their pulse and respiration will be slow.

This is yet another example of the importance of having officers trained to identify drug influence and impairment. If an officer with drug abuse recognition training comes into contact with a person exhibiting signs of impairment, a field sobriety test evaluation may help the officer determine if this person is under the influence of a depressant; however, it is unlikely that the officer could identify an opiate of fentanyl. However, having a point-of-care – on-site rapid drug screen – could help the officer identify which drug(s) are causing the impairment. The DrugCheck® instant saliva or urine tests are examples of low-cost tests that can help the officers in the field build a criminal case and/or be used for a medical assessment.

You can find more information about the DrugCheck® tests at [www.drugcheck.com/nnoac](http://www.drugcheck.com/nnoac).

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## The Author



Rich Strasser is retired from the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office (Calif.). He began his career in the drug-testing industry in 1999, when he co-founded a drug-testing TPA in California, where he was also working as a sheriff's detective investigating narcotics-related crimes. In 2004, Strasser co-founded Express Diagnostics Int'l (EDI), in Blue Earth, Minn., where they manufacture and distribute DrugCheck® point-of-care testing products. In 2012, after a 20-year career, he retired from the sheriff's office as a cold case homicide detective and assumed the role of chief operating officer at EDI.

### Criminal Chemistry

Traffickers manufacturing fentanyl often purchase the key ingredient from China, which doesn't regulate its sale. Here's how the chemical building blocks become a highly profitable street drug.

The key ingredient is NPP, 25 grams of which can be bought from China for about \$87\*



NPP can be combined with about \$720 of other chemicals<sup>†</sup> to produce fentanyl.

The resulting 25 grams of fentanyl cost about \$810 to produce...

...and are equivalent to up to \$800,000 of pills on the black market.

\*Average current price from Chinese suppliers †Prices from U.S. suppliers

Sources: NES Inc.; Drug Enforcement Administration; Calgary Police

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Westport is fueling the shift from where big pharma is today. In the past, drug companies produced medicine but left it up to government & society to deal with illicit off-label use. Westport believes they're not only responsible for how the medicines they produce are used, but are also accountable so that they can't be misused. We like to think it as pioneering the era of "good pharma." Our focus is on developing the next generation of consumer drugs, making them just as effective as leading products but highly resistant to illegal tampering and abuse.

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# California Narcotic Officers' Association

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**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

*Join President Mark Ritchie  
at the 2016 CNOA Annual Training Institute*

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Date & Time		Event	Location
<b>FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2016</b>			
0730	Check-In	"Bob Hussey" Memorial Golf Tournament	Riverwalk Golf Club San Diego
0800	Shotgun Start		
0800 - 1700		Pre Institute Certification Training	Manchester Grand Hyatt
0800	Check-In	CNOA Fitness "Throw Down"	Manchester Grand Hyatt
1000	Start		
1700 - 2000		Trade Show	Manchester Grand Hyatt
1700 - 2000		Pre-Registration Badge Distribution/ Door Registration	Manchester Grand Hyatt
<b>SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2016</b>			
0800 -1600		Trade Show	Manchester Grand Hyatt
0800 -1600		Registration	Manchester Grand Hyatt
1300 -1430		-Opening Session -Memorial Service -Annual Business Meeting -Major Prize Drawing	Manchester Grand Hyatt
1430 -1830		"Overcoming Adversity" DEA Special Agent Joseph L. Piersante	Manchester Grand Hyatt
1900 - 2200		Welcoming Reception (Hosted) Trade Show / Major Prize Drawings	Manchester Grand Hyatt
<b>SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2016</b>			
0800 - 1200		Late Registration	Manchester Grand Hyatt
0800 - 1200		Workshops	See Class Schedule*
1200 - 1330		Lunch (On Own)	
1330 - 1730		Workshops	See Class Schedule*
1830 - 1930		No Host Reception	Manchester Grand Hyatt
1930 - 2130		Installation Banquet (Hosted)	Manchester Grand Hyatt
<b>MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016</b>			
0800 - 1200		Workshops	See Class Schedule*
1200 - 1330		Lunch (On Own)	Manchester Grand Hyatt
1330 - 1730		Workshops	See Class Schedule*
<b>TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2016</b>			
0800 - 1200		Workshops	See Class Schedule*
1200		Institute Conclusion	Manchester Grand Hyatt

\*Class Schedules will be presented at the Training Institute

PLEASE CHECK [WWW.CNOA.ORG](http://WWW.CNOA.ORG) for CURRENT INSTITUTE INFORMATION and UPDATES.



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## 2016 MID-YEAR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FATALITIES REPORT

www.LawMemorial.org/FatalitiesReport

info@nleomf.org

### Law Enforcement Firearms Fatalities Spike 78 Percent in First Half of 2016

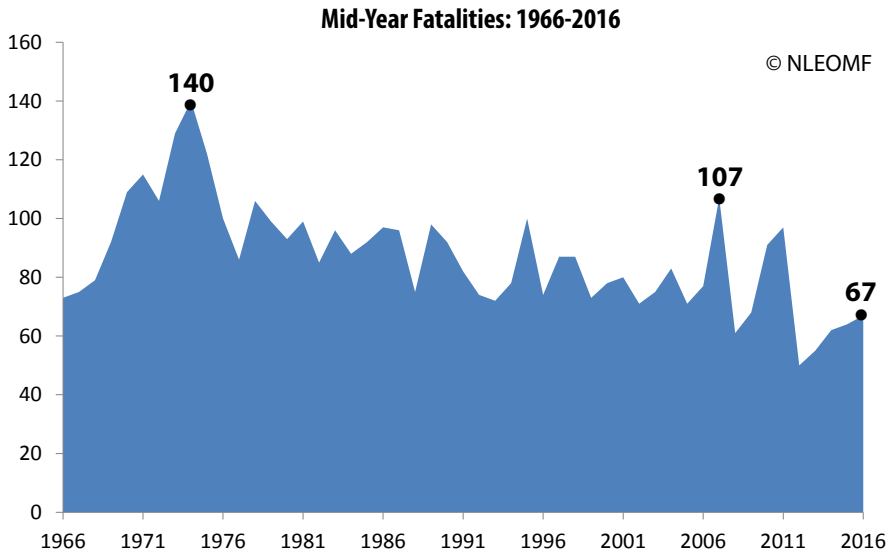
*Ambush killings of officers increased more than 300 percent this year*

According to preliminary data compiled by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, as of July 20, 2016, sixty-seven federal, state and local law enforcement officers have died in the line of duty this year, increasing eight percent over the 62 officers killed in the same period last year.

Thirty-two officers have been killed in firearms-related fatalities this year, a dramatic increase of 78 percent, compared to 18 deaths during the same period last year. Traffic-related fatalities were the second leading cause of officer deaths, with 24 officers killed thus far in 2016. This represents a 17 percent decrease over the 29 officers killed in traffic-related incidents during the same period last year.

Eleven officers died as a result of other causes during the reporting period in 2016, six of which were job-related ailments. Two officers fell to their death, one officer died

**Ambush killings are the deadliest circumstance so far in 2016**



in an aircraft crash, one officer drowned and one officer was beaten to death.

Ambush killings of unsuspecting law enforcement officers is the leading circumstance of the firearms-related fatalities with 14 thus far in 2016—spiking more than 300 percent over the three ambush killings in the same

period last year. The leading circumstance of traffic-related fatalities was automobile collisions with another vehicle.

Sixty-three fallen officers were male and four were female. Their average age was 39 years, with 12 years of service. On average, each officer left behind two children.

#### RECENTLY FALLEN



**Captain Robert David Melton**  
Kansas City (KS) Police Department  
EOW: 7/19/2016

Captain Robert David Melton was shot and killed while searching for a suspect involved in a drive by shooting.



**Correctional Officer Kristopher Moules**  
Luzerne County (PA) Correctional Facility  
EOW: 7/18/2016

Correctional Officer Kristopher Moules was killed when he and an inmate fell down an elevator shaft.



**Corporal Montrell Jackson**  
Baton Rouge (LA) Police Department  
EOW: 7/17/2016

Corporal Montrell Jackson was shot and killed while responding to reports of a man with a gun.

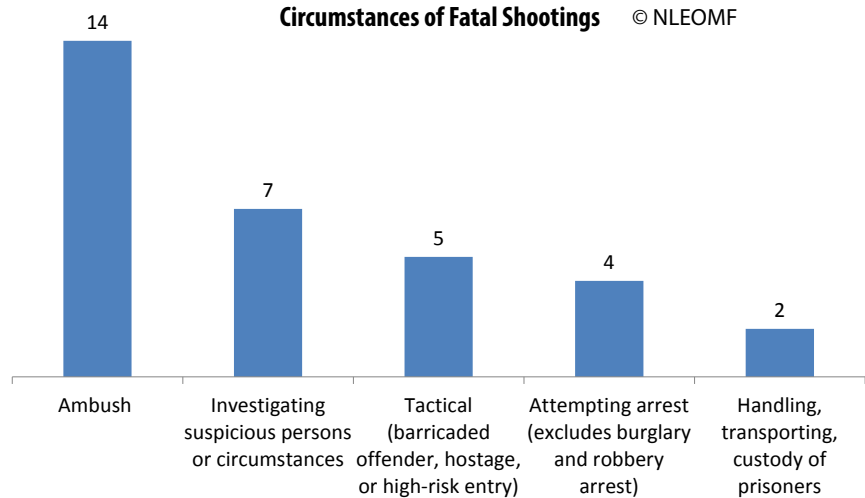
Register to receive Recently Fallen alerts at [www.RecentlyFallen.org](http://www.RecentlyFallen.org)

The data and statistics contained in this report are preliminary and do not represent a final or complete list of individual officers who will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in 2017. This report was produced by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

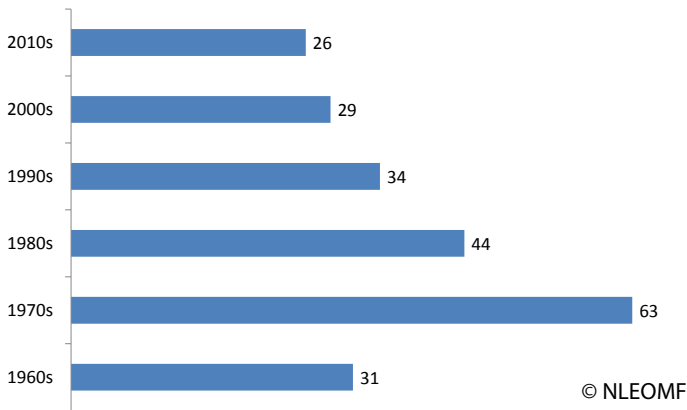
## Firearms-related Fatalities

Firearms-related fatalities rose 78 percent thus far in 2016. Thirty-two officers were shot and killed this year compared to 18 during the same period in 2015. All of the 32 firearms-related cases involved fatal assaults on officers, driving up the percentage of officers feloniously shot and killed.

Of the 32 firearms-related cases, 14 were the result of an ambush-style attack carried out upon unsuspecting officers, compared to three in the same period in 2015. Seven of the cases involved officers stopping a suspicious person. Five officers were killed while executing tactical arrests or high-risk warrants. Four officers were killed while attempting to arrest suspects and two officers were killed while handling or transporting prisoners.



### Average Mid-Year Firearms-related Fatalities by Decade



Handguns were the leading type of firearm used in fatal shootings of law enforcement officers in the first half 2016. Of the 32 officer fatalities, 19 officers were shot and killed with a handgun. Twelve officers were shot and killed with rifles and one officer was shot and killed with an unidentified firearm in the first half of 2016.

Of the 32 gunfire fatalities in the first half of 2016, 11 officers were shot and killed in July, the most of any other month. Nine officers were shot and killed in the month of February.

Firearms-related fatalities peaked in 1973, with 84 officers shot and killed in the first half of the year. Since then, the annual average has decreased from 63 in the 1970s, to 29 in the 2000s.

## Felonious Fatalities

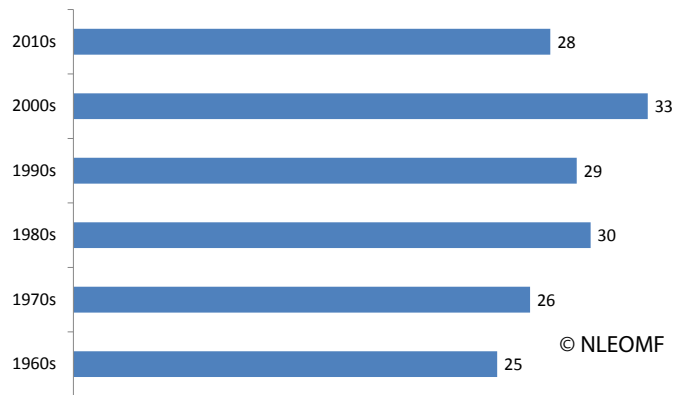
Forty-six officers were killed feloniously thus far in 2016, a 100 percent increase from 2015 when 23 officers died as a result of a criminal act. Of the 46 officers feloniously killed this year, 32 were shot and killed; 12 officers were killed in traffic-related incidents, an officer was beaten to death and an officer died of an illness contracted as a result of rescue and recovery work following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Of the 12 officers feloniously killed in traffic-related incidents, seven were killed in automobile crashes, three were struck, and two officers were killed in motorcycle crashes.

Twenty-one officers died in non-felonious incidents in 2016, a 46 percent decrease from 39 in 2015. Automobile crashes were the leading cause of non-felonious deaths in 2016 with eight fatalities, followed by job-related illnesses, which accounted for five officer deaths. Two officers died in motorcycle crashes, two officers were struck and killed by a vehicle and two officers fell to their death. One officer was killed in an aircraft crash and one officer drowned.

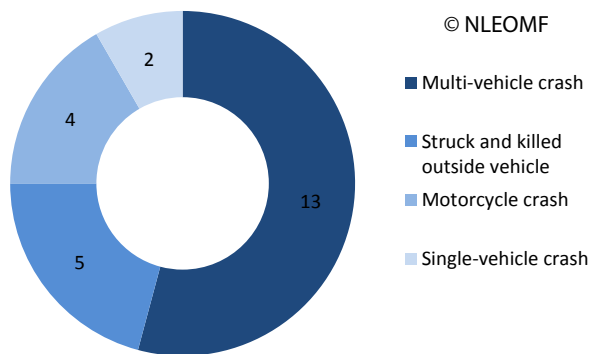
## Traffic-related Fatalities

For the first time in three years, traffic-related fatalities were not the leading cause of law enforcement deaths during the first half of the year. There have been 24 traffic-related incidents in 2016, compared to 29 over the same period last year, a 17 percent decrease. Of the 24 traffic-related incidents, 13 were automobile crashes involving a collision with another vehicle, five officers were struck while on the side of the road, four were motorcycle crashes and two were single-vehicle crashes.

Average Mid-Year Traffic-related Fatalities by Decade



Circumstances of Traffic-related Fatalities



Of the 15 automobile crashes in the first half of this year, only two were single-vehicle crashes compared to nine at the same time in 2015, representing a 78 percent decrease. This result could be an early indication that progress is being made in reducing many of these preventable deaths.

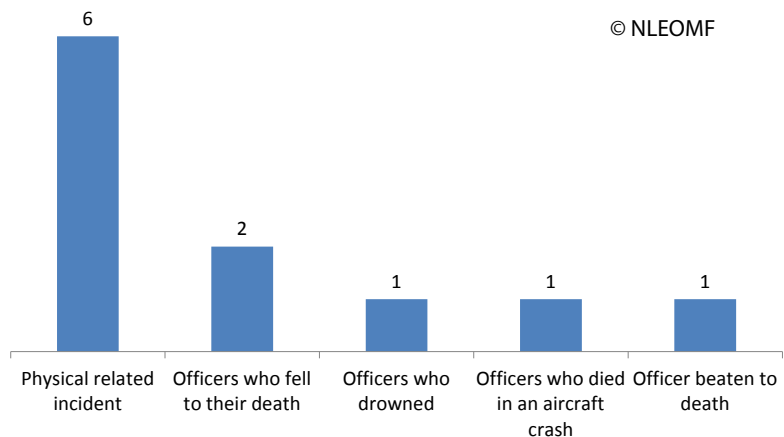
Compared to the average number of fatalities per decade, 2016 ranks below the past 10-year average (2000-2009). In the prior decade, nearly 33 officers were killed on average in the first half of a given year. Since the 1960s, traffic-related fatalities have increased, even as overall law enforcement fatalities have been decreasing.

## Other Causes of Officer Deaths

During the first half of 2016, 11 officers died of causes other than firearms or traffic-related incidents. Six officers died from job-related illnesses compared to twelve officers who died as a result of job-related illnesses during the first half of 2015.

In the first half of this year, four of the six job-related illnesses were heart attacks. In addition, two officers fell to their death, one officer died in an aircraft crash, one officer was beaten to death and one officer drowned.

Other Causes of Officer Death at Mid-Year 2016



## Officer Fatality Data

In the first half of 2016, the average age of a fallen officer was 39 years old, the average length of service was 12 years and the average officer had two children. The eldest fallen officer was 63 years old and the youngest was 22 years old.

This year, 63 male officers and four female officers have been killed.

More officers were killed in Texas (13) than any other state. Louisiana lost seven officers during the period. California, Colorado, Florida, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio and Virginia all lost three officers thus far in 2016.

Three federal officers were also killed in the line of duty in 2016. Six states lost two officers and eleven states lost one officer.

Twenty-four states and the District of Columbia did not lose an officer in the first half of this year.

## The Deadliest States



**Texas**  
**13** Officers Killed



**Louisiana**  
**7** Officers Killed

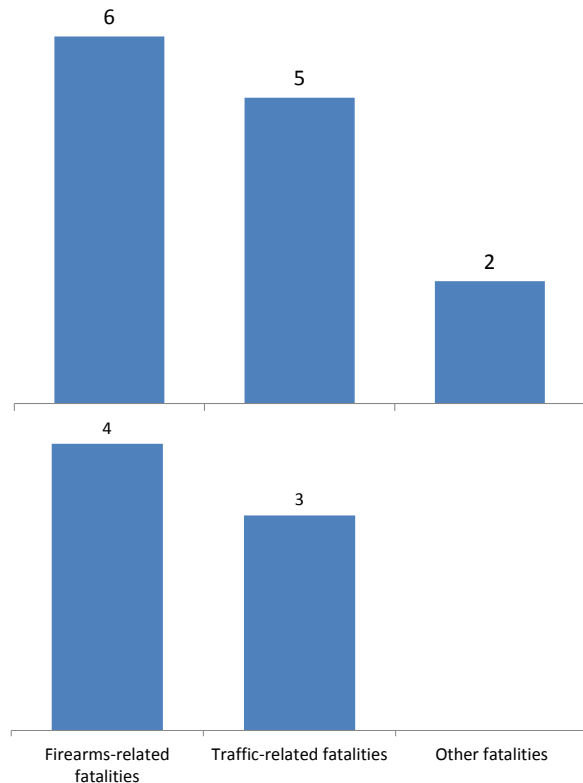
### Gender

**63** **4**

	Low	Average	High
Age of Officer	22	39	63
Length of Service	0 years	12 years	39 years
Number of Children	0	2	6

### Jurisdiction

Municipal	34	Federal	3
County	20	University	1
State	9		



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# BACK THE BLUE

By James Morgan Sales Manager, Rivers Radio Group, Valdosta, GA

**M**y name is Jim Morgan. I am the local sales manager for Rivers Radio Group in Valdosta, GA. I had been looking for a cause for our stations to become involved in when I was approached this past May about helping to promote a golf tournament for the Georgia Narcotics Officers Association. When I took the meeting, I had no idea how this effort would change my life!

Rhonda Barnes – who has so many titles I don’t know where to begin – approached us and asked how we could help. Rhonda is, among other things, a fundraiser and economic developer. She recommended a call to Thomas Charles Gieryc, who founded the Southwest Georgia Chapter of Back The Blue (BTB) in Albany, GA. Tom shared why he began Back The Blue. I was motivated; here was a guy who thought cops were getting a raw deal in the media and everywhere else, and he stood up and took a stand to prove the critics wrong! “We need to show these men and women in law enforcement that we care about them and about what happens to them,” he said.

My owner/operator, Kells Faulkner, just threw all three stations at this effort – and then some. We would promote on all of the stations. Then, after a quick conversation, we decided to do a cookout for local LEO’s. Our Pepsi distributor jumped in, as did Sunset Farms with sausage dogs. We wound up feeding lunch to about 120 cops, and about 150 total meals were served. That was in May; since the golf tourney was scheduled for June 3rd, we thought it a good way to kick off the promotion.

In the meantime, I approached our local Fairway Outdoor Advertising manager, Mike Coleman, who quickly agreed to provide billboards to help with promotion, as long as I’d be a part of his membership team for a Chamber of Commerce membership drive. Small price to pay! At this point, we were on our way. In that first week, we had some T-shirts designed, and Sherriff Gene Scarbrough of Tift County began providing yard signs, bracelets, and stickers he had already been printing.

In that first week, I created a

Facebook page to help with the promotion, and it went to 1600 “Likes” within the first 48 hours. Yup, we knew we had something real then! The growth was absolutely amazing. Right message, right time, and right reason.

With everyone’s commitment and hard work, including that of Scott James with Small Town Broadcasting, and Renee Dorminey, our four-month effort netted \$15,000 for GNOA, far exceeding even our ambitious goal of \$10K.

I am not a writer, as you can see, and the timeline might be a bit off. I think, though, the overall point is this: your communities really do love you and appreciate not just the work you do, but the level of professionalism you bring to the job. Everyone – and I mean everyone – I approached for help just dove right in. I don’t think I heard a single “no thanks” through the whole process. Sales of everything are still going strong, and we put 100% of everything over the cost of production into the bank to be donated. All of our efforts are donated. And this is sustainable. Easy to replicate. I would be happy to speak to anyone about what we’ve done (contact me at [jmorgan@riversradio.com](mailto:jmorgan@riversradio.com) ). We are hopeful this will become a statewide effort. We would love it to become a national movement, with local communities taking ownership. ○





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