

March 4 2019

Joe Lopez

Tru BLOC, LLC

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Mr. Lopez,

I have been involved in the Fire service for Forty-Four years, the last 42 of that with the City of Beachwood Department of Fire and Rescue. I worked as a front-line Firefighter, a front line Paramedic, a HazMat technician, a Lieutenant, a Captain and for the last fifteen years as the Chief Executive Officer of our department. Shortly after I first hired in, the City of Beachwood, Ohio was one of the first communities in the area to offer Paramedic services. No one at that time could imagine the future health risks that safety forces, in general, would eventually be exposed to. Over the years Firefighters, Police Officers, civilian volunteers, and Emergency room staffs all have been exposed to illegal and dangerous substances without even knowing it.

There is a saying in the Fire service, it goes like this, "Failure to prepare, IS preparing to fail". In this case Safety forces as a whole, MUST prepare for unwanted exposures to our own personnel and to the public. Everyday Firefighters, Paramedics, Police Officers Swat team members and many others, enter homes, respond to vehicle accidents, civil disturbances, arrests and a whole host of other dangerous situations. The cost of human life, the cost of worker's compensation claims, the cost of the ramifications of long term exposure to these substances is simply not tolerable. With the opioid epidemic and the fentanyl crisis something must be done to protect the lives of our first responders, emergency room workers and the general public. In our case (City of Beachwood employees only) we could have anywhere between 3 and 15 first responders exposed on just one incident!

It is a Fire Chief's duty to protect anyone who works for him, Joe, I am proud to say I feel Our men are among the best equipped to deal with unwanted exposures thanks to your product, BLOC! Your product is an innovative, readily available, convenient, cost efficient, easy to use, disposable protective device, that gives our first responders the tool they need to avoid unwanted exposures to themselves and others. Bloc has been deployed to all of our responding vehicles. We have also equipped all SWAT medics AND Police Officers on the EDGE SWAT team with BLOC!

THANK YOU, and YOUR TEAM for helping to protect OUR TEAM of First Responders!



Patrick J Kearns, Chief.