

APRIL 2023 | VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1

NARCOTIC OFFICERS

MAGAZINE



PROMOTING THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION AMONG
LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND SUPPORT GROUPS

Personal Statement from the Editor...

Welcome to our spring issue of 2023, Narcotic Officers Magazine, Volume 12 Issue 1. As always, I would like to thank each of you for advertising, your support, hard work and dedication. None of this is possible without you. I am here to educate the public and law enforcement community in the awareness of narcotics, drugs, and other addictive substances. I also make every effort to support programs that teach kids, parents, and the law enforcement community about drug use.

We continue focusing our supported programs towards drug education, equipment donations, and k9 programs. We continue to produce a high-quality magazine to help promote the exchange of ideas and information among law enforcement agencies and support groups. We have found that our publication, Narcotic Officers Magazine, continues to be both educational and helpful to both public safety officials, and the public with an interest in drug safety and education.

Moving forward, I'd like to share my knowledge and wisdom in hopes I can make someone or someplace better. This year it seems our nation is facing a lot of uncertainty. People's lives, businesses, employers, and employees can all reflect this feeling. It's how we approach it and handle it that can make all the difference in order to maintain sanity and a healthy environment. A article I read by Shonna Waters, PhD taught me a lot. I want to touch on why building great work relationships is more than just getting along. Building good work relationships can have a huge impact on how much you enjoy your job. This is the power of strong professional relationships. Your coworkers might not be your best friends, and they don't have to be. What they are is a talented group of individuals that can help you thrive at work.

Why is building good work relationships important? Workplace relationships are the interactions you have with your coworkers. You can evaluate how "good" the relationship is by your amicability, respect for each other, and ability to complete tasks together. Anyone who's worked in a toxic workplace knows why good work relationships are important. Team members who don't build trust will struggle to be productive. If no one gets along, it creates a poor team culture and negative work experience for you and others. It can even spread to the company culture, affecting the viability of your employer. Plus, if you don't feel like you belong, it can harm your mental health and contribute to burnout. The same thing happens if you have a boss you don't get along with. If you don't have a good relationship with your boss, they might micromanage or prioritize other team members when opportunities arise. This can harm your job satisfaction and motivation to engage at work. Ultimately, it can hold you back from succeeding in your career. *(Continued on the next page.)*

Our publication has always received outstanding support from the public and business community leaders across the nation. Our sponsors show their appreciation by taking out an advertisement in the Narcotic Officers Magazine, displaying their decals on their vehicles or place of business. Please support the advertisers whenever possible. The advertisers offer several goods and services that stretch across the nation. If possible, please try to support the businesses that advertise in the Narcotic Officers Magazine. You can follow us on our Facebook to stay up to date with the latest in equipment donations and news. Together, we can make a difference!

"Attitude is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Optimism is a choice. Kindness is a choice. Giving is a choice. Respect is a choice. Whatever choice you make makes you. Choose wisely." Roy T. Bennett, The Light in the Heart

Matt Neelley
Editor



The benefits of building good working relationships

Increased job satisfaction. People often quit jobs or entire industries due to bad colleagues or managers. But when you build strong relationships, you can find purpose in your work all over again. Less discomfort during meetings. In a toxic workplace, people are afraid to speak up. But, with the help of good work relationships, you'll feel empowered to share your ideas. More support from your colleagues. Work can be stressful. You'll need moral and practical support when times get tough. Good work colleagues will step up for you when you ask, and you'll do the same for them. A positive workplace starts with good leadership. You should feel supported and empowered to cultivate healthy relationships. In most cases, though, it's up to you to integrate yourself into the team. Otherwise, you may want to quit your job to protect your well-being.

What types of relationships are important in the workplace?

Many types of work relationships contribute to a successful and productive workplace. And you might have a preference regarding the sorts of relationships you're comfortable developing. Some people keep to themselves, while others are social butterflies. No matter your comfort level, here are the most important workplace relationships worth cultivating:

Manager: The most important relationship you'll likely have at work is with your manager. This is where you build trust and gain support. If the process isn't already implemented, suggest weekly one-on-one meetings to develop a better relationship and create consistent communication. Feel free to do the same with coworkers you work closely with. This sets a good foundation for cultivating strong relationships all around.

Teammates: Your relationship with your teammates affects how much you enjoy your job. You'll feel happier about going to work if you look forward to joking around with a goofy coworker or discussing exciting vacation plans with a worldly supervisor.

Clients and vendors: Your relationships with vendors and customers are crucial — without their support, the business wouldn't exist. Even if you find a particular client challenging, remain professional and friendly to avoid negative vibes and cut ties. Speak with your manager if you're worried an external relationship is at risk to see if it can be salvaged.

Yourself: You can only develop positive relationships with others if you have one with yourself. But self-criticism and imposter syndrome makes this difficult. To combat challenges to your confidence, reflect on professional accomplishments and ask managers for positive feedback. Set boundaries and prioritize self-care, so you have the energy necessary to foster good work relationships.

Building good work relationships can take hard work. It requires time, patience, and self-awareness. But putting in emotional labor and producing good work relationships will help you feel more connected to colleagues and increase overall job satisfaction. Often, learning how to build rapport is the first step to building solid relationships. This provides the foundation needed to connect and empathize with others — and they'll do the same for you.

Table of Contents

- 2 Message from the Editor
- 5 DEA Reports Widespread Threat of Fentanyl Mixed with Xylazine
- 6 DEA's Community Outreach Section
- 7 DEA Press Releases January-March
- 16 Thin White Lines by John P Sutton
- 25 How to Evaluate Your Drug Misuse Prevention Program
- 37 Memorial Section - Officer Deaths
- 38 Memorial Section - K9 Deaths
- 39 A Policeman's Prayer
- 40 Most Wanted Fugitives



NARCOTIC OFFICERS MAGAZINE

PUBLISHER
Fund Phase LLC
(877) 232-0745
fundphasellc@gmail.com
www.FundPhaseLLC.com

OFFICE ADDRESS:
Narcotic Officers Magazine
1660 S. Alma School Rd., Ste. 212
Mesa, AZ 85210
www.NarcoticOfficersMagazine.com

MESSAGE TO OUR ADVERTISERS

This publication is financed solely by the monies received from advertisements. We would like to express our appreciation to those businesses that purchase advertisements in the Narcotic Officers Magazine. We strive to make this a high quality publication that will provide the best possible advertising exposure for our advertisers. We encourage our readers to patronize the businesses that make this publication possible.

The publisher does not assume responsibility for the contents of this magazine or for the statements of fact or opinion made by any advertiser.

NOTICE COPYRIGHT OWNERSHIP: © 2018 Fund Phase LLC. U.S.A. All rights reserved. All content is subject to intellectual property rights, contractual or other protection. The intellectual property rights are owned by us or our licensors. No content may be copied, distributed, republished, uploaded, posted or transmitted in any way except as provided expressly in the Terms or with our prior express written content. Modification or use of the materials for any other purpose may violate intellectual property rights.

DEA Reports Widespread Threat of Fentanyl Mixed with Xylazine

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration is warning the American public of a sharp increase in the trafficking of fentanyl mixed with xylazine. Xylazine, also known as “Tranq,” is a powerful sedative that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved for veterinary use.

“Xylazine is making the deadliest drug threat our country has ever faced, fentanyl, even deadlier,” said Administrator Milgram. “DEA has seized xylazine and fentanyl mixtures in 48 of 50 States. The DEA Laboratory System is reporting that in 2022 approximately 23% of fentanyl powder and 7% of fentanyl pills seized by the DEA contained xylazine.”

Xylazine and fentanyl drug mixtures place users at a higher risk of suffering a fatal drug poisoning. Because xylazine is not an opioid, naloxone (Narcan) does not reverse its effects. Still, experts al-

ways recommend administering naloxone if someone might be suffering a drug poisoning. People who inject drug mixtures containing xylazine also can develop severe wounds, including necrosis—the rotting of human tissue—that may lead to amputation.

According to the CDC, 107,735 Americans died between August 2021 and August 2022 from drug poisonings, with 66 percent of those deaths involving synthetic opioids like fentanyl. The Sinaloa Cartel and Jalisco Cartel in Mexico, using chemicals largely sourced from China, are primarily responsible for the vast majority of the fentanyl that is being trafficked in communities across the United States.

FDA recently communicated to health care providers about the risks to patients exposed to xylazine in illicit drugs. A copy of that communication can be found

here: FDA alerts healthcare professionals of risks to patients exposed to xylazine in illicit drugs.

The DEA issues Public Safety Alerts to warn the public of new, emerging threats to the safety and health of the American people. The DEA last issued a Public Safety Alert in September 2021 warning the public about increases in the lethality and availability of fentanyl-laced fake prescription pills. The DEA updated that alert in November 2022 warning that six out of ten fentanyl-laced fake prescription pills contain a potentially lethal dose of fentanyl.

United States Drug Enforcement Administration. DEA Reports Widespread Threat of Fentanyl Mixed with Xylazine | DEA.gov. (n.d.). Retrieved April 7, 2023, from <https://www.dea.gov/alert/dea-reports-widespread-threat-fentanyl-mixed-xylazine>

DEA's Community Outreach Section

DEA's primary mission and responsibility as a law enforcement agency is to enforce the Nation's federal drug laws.

DEA recognizes that not only reducing the quantity (supply) of drugs is essential to a safe and drug free country, but also reducing the desire (demand) for illicit drugs is a vital component to effectively reduce drug use in our Nation. For that reason, DEA created the Community Outreach Section as a critical complement to our primary law enforcement mission and included drug use prevention as one of the seven priorities in DEA's vision:

"Support initiatives to reduce the demand for drugs and give assistance to community coalitions and drug prevention initiatives."

DEA's Community Outreach Section provides the public with current and relevant drug information about illicit drug use, the misuse of prescription drugs, drug use trends, and the health consequences of drug use.

The Community Outreach Section also develops drug information brochures, drug fact sheets, pamphlets, and parent/teacher drug education guides to assist the community in identifying drug use and finding help.

Another major component of the Community Outreach Section is collaboration with various drug use prevention partners. These partners include other federal agencies, national and regional prevention organizations, law enforcement organizations, community coalitions, fraternal and civic organizations, youth-serving organizations, state and local governments, and school districts. DEA supports our partners, who present significant opportunities for involvement in prevention efforts by providing drug trend information at local community events as well as at national conferences and professional educational forums.

DEA's Community Outreach Strategy

DEA's Community Outreach strategy is to develop and disseminate effective drug information for youth, parents, caregiv-

ers, and educators, and to increase the public's awareness about the dangers associated with using drugs. There are three major concepts of drug use prevention research at the core of this strategy:

- Parents and teens alike need to know that the brain continues to develop to age 25. In particular, the frontal cortex, which carries out mental processes such as thinking, decision making, and judgment, is not fully developed until that age; therefore, it's vitally important that youth and young adults refrain from drug use as this use will affect brain development.
- When youth and young adults perceive that drug use is harmful and risky, drug use dramatically declines.
- The longer youth and young adults delay drug use, addiction and/or substance use disorders are significantly reduced.

Websites

DEA provides essential information about the harmful effects of illicit drug use through our educational materials and three websites.

Just Think Twice

DEA's website for teens, www.justthinktwice.gov, provides credible information about the harmful effects of drug use. The site includes information about various drugs, including facts and fiction about drugs, the consequences of drug use, as well as topics about addiction, impaired driving, and true stories about teens that have had drug problems.

The site provides descriptions of specific drugs, such as marijuana, Spice/K2, bath salts, and heroin, as well as the drugs' street names, effect on the mind and body, overdose effects, legal status, and origin.

Get Smart About Drugs

DEA's website for parents, www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.gov, provides valuable drug education information for parents, educators, and caregivers

to further help identify drug use, drug paraphernalia, warning signs of drug use, and the harmful side effects of the most commonly abused drugs.

The site features several downloadable publications including "Growing Up Drug-Free: A Parent's Guide to Prevention," "Prescription for Disaster: How Teens Abuse Medicine," and "The Dangers and Consequences of Marijuana Abuse."

Campus Drug Prevention

www.campusdrugprevention.gov is DEA's latest effort to support drug abuse prevention programs on college campuses and in surrounding communities. The website was created for professionals working to prevent drug abuse among college students, including educators, student health centers, and student affairs personnel. In addition, it serves as a useful tool for college students, parents, and others involved in campus communities.

The website offers valuable information, including data, news updates, drug scheduling and penalties, publications, research, national and statewide conferences and events, state and local prevention contacts, and resources available from DEA's federal partners. The website also includes a "Help a Friend" resource to educate and prepare those who plan to talk to their friends or loved ones about drug use concerns.

Publications

For a list of all of DEA's publications that can be downloaded, go to www.getsmartaboutdrugs.gov and click on Publications.

For more information about DEA's Community Outreach Section, or for more drug prevention resources, contact the Community Outreach Section at 202-307-7936 or by e-mail at Community.Outreach@usdoj.gov.

Community outreach. DEA. (n.d.). Retrieved April 7, 2023, from <https://www.dea.gov/education-prevention/community-outreach>

DEA Press Releases January-March

St. Louis Man Sentenced to 10+ Years in Prison for Fentanyl, Guns

March 30, 2023

ST. LOUIS – A man caught twice in St. Louis, Missouri with guns and fentanyl after police chases that ended in crashes was sentenced Thursday to 10 years and 10 months in prison. Geno Armstrong, 28, pleaded guilty Nov. 30, 2022, to two counts of possession with intent to distribute...

Nine Charged Following Investigation into Manufacturing and Interstate Trafficking of Counterfeit Oxycodone Pills Containing Fentanyl

March 29, 2023

Following a long-term wiretap investigation into the manufacturing and interstate trafficking of counterfeit oxycodone pills containing fentanyl, nine individuals were indicted on charges filed by the Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor (SNP) in Manhattan Supreme Court. The charges stem from narcotics-related activity that allegedly occurred in Manhattan, the Bronx...

Drug Ring Tied to Aryan Prison Gang Indicted With 24 Federal Arrests

March 27, 2023

TACOMA, Wash. – Twenty-seven people were indicted by a grand jury for drug trafficking, and many of those in the indictment are tied to the “Aryan Family,” a white supremacist prison gang, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. Twenty-four of the defendants have been arrested over the last five days in...

Corpus Christi Man Arrested for Selling Fentanyl-Laced Pills Causing Death

March 24, 2023

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – A 21-year-old Corpus Christi man has been charged with delivery of fentanyl resulting in death and possession of fentanyl with the intent to distribute, announced Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Special Agent in Charge Daniel C. Comeaux,

Houston Division and U.S. Attorney Alamdar S. Hamdani. Authorities arrested...

Former Rochester, New Hampshire Man Sentenced To 68 Months For Conspiracy To Distribute Fentanyl

March 24, 2023

CONCORD, N.H. – Craig Wiggin, 44, formerly of Rochester, New Hampshire was sentenced to 68 months in federal prison for conspiracy to distribute controlled substances, United States Attorney Jane E. Young has announced. According to court documents and statements made in court, in July 2021, Wiggin conspired with other individuals...

Two Waterbury Residents Involved In Fentanyl And Heroin Trafficking Ring Sentenced To Prison

March 24, 2023

WATERBURY, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that two Waterbury residents were sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Vanessa L. Bryant in Hartford for their participation in a fentanyl and heroin trafficking organization. ELIAS SANCHEZ-MARTINEZ, 31, was sentenced to 135 months of...

Brittany Busby Sentenced to 28 Months in Prison for Distributing Fentanyl at Northern Lights Transitional House

March 24, 2023

BURLINGTON, Vt. - The United States Attorney's Office stated that Brittany Busby, 31, formerly of Washington, Vermont, was sentenced on March 15, 2023 in United States District Court in Rutland to 28 months of imprisonment following her guilty plea to distributing fentanyl. U.S. Chief District Judge Geoffrey Crawford also ordered...

New Haven Man Guilty Of Narcotics And Firearms Offenses

March 24, 2023

NEW HAVEN, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts

Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, has announced that a federal jury in New Haven has found DONELL ALLICK, JR., also known as “D-Nice,” 24, guilty of narcotics offenses. Following the trial and before the jury returned its verdict, Allick also...

Mexican Man Pleads Guilty To Illegally Re-Entering The United States And Trafficking Fentanyl

March 24, 2023

BOSTON – A Mexican man residing in Lawrence pleaded guilty to possessing fentanyl intended for distribution and to illegally re-entering the United States after deportation. Jesus Graciela Garcia-Vega a/k/a Jonathan Ivan Badillo-Hernandez, 35, pleaded guilty to one count of possession with intent to distribute fentanyl, and one count of unlawful...

Massachusetts Man Sentenced To Over 12 Years Imprisonment For Fentanyl Distribution Conspiracy

March 24, 2023

CONCORD, N.H. – Mikael Canario-Batista, 47, of Lawrence, Massachusetts, was sentenced to 151 months in federal prison for conspiring to distribute fentanyl, United States Attorney Jane E. Young has announced. According to court documents and statements made in court, Canario-Batista was part of a drug-distribution conspiracy operating in Lawrence, Massachusetts...

Spouse and Cousin of Drug Trafficking Ringleader Sentenced to Significant Prison Terms for Their Roles in Drug Distribution Conspiracy

March 23, 2023

SEATTLE – Two members of a drug trafficking ring that buried drugs and cash on a rural property near Arlington, Washington, were sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Seattle, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. Jose Arrondondo-Valdez, 27, was sentenced to nine years in prison and Yvette Olguin, 40, was...

Man Sentenced to 10 Years After Being Caught with Fentanyl, Methamphetamine

March 23, 2023

ST. LOUIS – U.S. District Judge Rodney W. Sippel on Thursday sentenced a man caught with methamphetamine and fentanyl to 10 years in prison. Antoine Demetrius Meeks, 31, was caught by the O'Fallon Police Department with 208 grams of methamphetamine and 26 grams of fentanyl during an August 19, 2022...

Man Charged Following Seizure of Over One Million Suspected Fentanyl Pills

March 22, 2023

PHOENIX, Ariz. – Juan Alfonso Torres-Rodriguez, 27, of Mexico, was charged by criminal complaint on March 9, 2023, with one count of Possessing Suspected Fentanyl Pills for Distribution. The complaint alleges that, on the evening of March 8, 2023, law enforcement officers observed Torres-Rodriguez participating in a suspected drug transaction...

Eight Men Charged with Fentanyl Trafficking

March 21, 2023

NEWARK, N.J. – Acting Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration's New Jersey Division Daniel J. Kafafian and U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey Philip R. Sellinger announced eight men were charged today for their roles in a drug trafficking organization operating in and around Union...

Armed Leader of Fentanyl and Cocaine Distribution Conspiracy Sentenced to 40 Years in Federal Prison

March 21, 2023

ORLANDO, Fla. – U.S. District Judge Roy B. Dalton Jr. sentenced Carlos Roman (57, Orlando) to 40 years in federal prison for possession of cocaine and possession of a firearm equipped with a silencer in furtherance of drug trafficking. Judge Dalton also sentenced three individuals who conspired with Roman to...

Tampa Man Arrested for Possessing Fentanyl with the Intent to Distribute

March 21, 2023

TAMPA, Fla. – United States Attorney Roger B. Handberg announced the arrest of Perry Ivory Wims (37, Tampa) on a criminal complaint charging possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance. Wims was arrested on March 9, 2023 and ordered detained pending the outcome of his case. According to the complaint...

Jamestown Man Pleads Guilty to Drug Conspiracy Which Resulted in Fatal Oversedose

March 16, 2023

BUFFALO, N.Y.-U.S. Attorney Trini E. Ross announced today that Ryan A. Bloom, 37, of Jamestown, NY, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge John L. Sinatra, Jr. to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute, and to distribute, heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamine, which carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in...

Bryan County Man Convicted on Federal Drug Charges for Trafficking Fentanyl

March 14, 2023

SAVANNAH, GA: A Bryan County man could face decades in federal prison for trafficking fentanyl. Javarus McKinney, a/k/a "Jody," 34, of Richmond Hill, Ga., was convicted after a four-day trial on charges of Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute, Fentanyl; Possession with Intent to Distribute and...

Man Indicted for Meth, Fentanyl, Illegal Firearm

March 14, 2023

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – A Columbia, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today after he was arrested in St. Joseph, Mo., with methamphetamine and a firearm, then again in Kansas City, Mo., with approximately 2,300 fentanyl pills. Walter Antwine Moore, 42, was charged in a four-count indictment...

Leader of Waycross-Area Drug Trafficking Conspiracy Sentenced to Decades in Federal Prison

March 13, 2023

WAYCROSS, GA: The leader of a south Georgia fentanyl- and heroin-trafficking operation linked to drug overdose deaths has been sentenced to more than 20 years in federal prison. Eric Lashawn Hayes, a/k/a "Pee Wee," 39, of Blackshear, Ga., was sentenced to 262 months in prison after previously pleading guilty to...

California Men Admit Conspiring to Distribute Fentanyl and Meth

March 13, 2023

NEWARK, N.J. – Acting Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration's New Jersey Division Daniel J. Kafafian and U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey Philip R. Sellinger announced two California men admitted conspiring to distribute and possess with intent to distribute fentanyl and methamphetamine in New...

Two North Shore Men Indicted for Drug Conspiracy Involving Tens of Thousands of Counterfeit Pills

March 13, 2023

BOSTON – Two men from the North Shore have been indicted by a federal grand jury in Boston in connection with a drug conspiracy involving tens of thousands of counterfeit pills containing methamphetamine and fentanyl. Charles Bates, 31, of Reading, and Aaron Lenardis, 36, of Saugus, were indicted on one...

Jury Finds Waterbury Man Guilty of Narcotics Distribution and Firearm Possession Offenses

March 13, 2023

WATERBURY, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, today announced that a federal jury in New Haven has found RAMON OQUENDO, also known as "Mimo," 46, of Waterbury, guilty of narcotics trafficking and firearm possession offenses. The trial before U.S. District Judge Janet C...

Dover Man Pleads Guilty to Distribution of Fentanyl and Possession with Intent to Distribute Fentanyl

March 13, 2023

CONCORD, N.H. – Tyler Ward, 36, of Dover, has plead guilty in federal court to two counts of distributing fentanyl and one count of possessing fentanyl with intent to distribute it, United States Attorney Jane E. Young announced. According to court documents and statements made in court, Mr. Ward distributed...

Massachusetts Man Sentenced to 45 Months Imprisonment for Fentanyl Distribution Conspiracy

March 13, 2023

CONCORD, N.H. – Carlos Ozuna, 51, of Lawrence, Massachusetts, was sentenced to 45 months in federal prison for a drug-distribution conspiracy, United States Attorney Jane E. Young announced today. According to court documents and statements made in court, Ozuna was part of a drug-distribution conspiracy operating in Lawrence, Massachusetts that...

New Britain Fentanyl Dealer Sentenced to More than 6 Years in Federal Prison

March 13, 2023

NEW BRITAIN, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, today announced that ROBERTO MERCEDES-RODRIGUEZ, 43, of New Britain, was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge Robert N. Chatigny in Hartford to 78 months of imprisonment, followed by four years of supervised release, for fentanyl...

Lawrence Man Sentenced for Fentanyl Distribution

March 13, 2023

BOSTON – A Lawrence man has been sentenced for his role in distributing fentanyl. Albert Ventura, 23, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Denise J. Casper to 32 months in prison and three years of supervised release. In November 2022, Ventura pleaded guilty to two counts of distribution and...

Kent, Washington, Resident Indicted for Dealing Fentanyl While Illegally Possessing a Firearm

March 10, 2023

SEATTLE – A 36-year-old Kent, Washington, resident was indicted by a grand jury for trafficking narcotics while illegally possessing a firearm, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. Mohamed Aweys Muse is charged with possession of fentanyl with intent to distribute, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime...

Source of Supply for Carrollton Fentanyl Trafficker Charged

March 10, 2023

DALLAS, TX - A Flower Mound man who supplied fentanyl to a trafficker linked to at least one juvenile overdose has been federally charged, announce Eduardo A. Chávez. Stephen Paul Brinson, 18, was arrested in Flower Mound on Wednesday, charged via criminal complaint with conspiracy to distribute a schedule II-controlled...

Armed Fentanyl Trafficker Sentenced to Life in Prison for Causing Fatal Overdose

March 10, 2023

TAMPA, Fla. – U.S. District Judge Charlene Edwards Honeywell has sentenced Justin Kelly (36, New Port Richey) to concurrent terms of life in prison for conspiracy to distribute 40 grams of fentanyl resulting in death and distribution of fentanyl resulting in death, and 15 years' imprisonment for three counts of...

Washington Man Sentenced to 12 Years in Prison for Shooting in Tri-Cities and Conspiring to Distribute Fentanyl-Laced Pills

March 09, 2023

RICHLAND, Wash.– On March 8, 2023, Senior United States District Judge Edward F. Shea sentenced Jonathan Scott Ard, 30, of Richland, Washington, to 12 years in in federal prison after his guilty plea to federal fentanyl and gun charges. Ard will also serve 5 years of federal supervision after he...

Indiana Man Sentenced to 10 Years for Drug Trafficking, Gun Crimes

March 09, 2023

FORT WAYNE, Ind. – Alfred A. Cooke, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of Drug Enforcement Administration-Merrillville, Indiana, and U.S. Attorney Clifford D. Johnson for the Northern District of Indiana announced that Calvin Brantley, age 25, of Fort Wayne, was sentenced before U.S. District Court Judge Holly A. Brady after pleading...

Indianapolis Man Sentenced to 16 Years for Fentanyl, Meth Trafficking

March 06, 2023

INDIANAPOLIS - Michael Gannon, Assistant Special Agent in Charge for Drug Enforcement Administration-Indianapolis, and U.S. Attorney Zachary A. Myers for the Southern District of Indiana announced that Dreshaun Carter, 26, of Indianapolis, was sentenced to 16 years in federal prison after pleading guilty to distributing fentanyl and methamphetamine. According to...

Seven Indicted in Seattle in Connection with Coast-to-Coast Drug Trafficking Conspiracy

March 03, 2023

SEATTLE – Seven people have been indicted in the Western District of Washington in an investigation that began with a drug trafficking ring in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. Over the past 36 hours, law enforcement has taken all of the defendants into custody, with three arrested in...

Idaho Woman Sentenced to 12 Years in Federal Prison for Possession with Intent to Distribute 15 Pounds of Fentanyl

March 02, 2023

BOISE, Id. – Wathana Insixiengmay, 34, of Nampa, was sentenced to 144 months in federal prison for possessing, with the intent to distribute, 15 pounds of fentanyl, U.S. Attorney Josh Hurwit announced today. According to court records, Insixiengmay was a main fentanyl distributor for a large drug trafficking organization with...

Joplin, Webb City Man Indicted for Drug Trafficking, Illegal Firearms

February 28, 2023

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – A Joplin and Webb City, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for drug trafficking and illegally possessing firearms. Milan Alexander, 42, who maintains residences in both Joplin and Webb City, was charged in a four-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in...

McMinnville, Oregon Man Faces Federal Charges for Selling Fentanyl That Caused Seven to Overdose, One Fatally

February 28, 2023

PORTLAND, Ore.—A McMinnville, Oregon man is facing federal charges after selling fentanyl he claimed was cocaine that caused seven people to overdose, one fatally. John Kyle Donnahoo, 28, has been charged by criminal complaint with distribution of fentanyl resulting in serious bodily injury and death. According to court documents, on...

Local Leader of Violent Drug Trafficking Ring Sentenced to 12+ Years in Prison

February 28, 2023

SEATTLE – One of the leaders of a violent international drug trafficking organization that distributed heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamine in the Puget Sound region was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Seattle to more than 12 years in prison, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. Jose Elias Barbosa, 37, of...

Bulk Fentanyl Trafficker is Convicted of Drug and Gun Charges

February 27, 2023

STATESVILLE, N.C. – A federal jury in Statesville returned a guilty verdict today against Jermaine Douglas Grandy for trafficking fentanyl and illegal possession of firearms, announced Dena J. King, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina. Grandy, 41, of Lenoir, N.C., was convicted of conspiracy to distribute and...

Former Wethersfield Resident Pleads Guilty to Meth, Fentanyl and Cocaine Distribution Charge

February 27, 2023

WETHERSFIELD, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, Brian D. Boyle, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration for New England, Ketty Larco-Ward, Inspector in Charge of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Boston Division, and Wethersfield Police Chief Rafael Medina, announced that...

Haverhill Fentanyl Pill Distributor Arrested for Trafficking Tens of Thousands of Counterfeit Pills

February 27, 2023

BOSTON – A Haverhill man has been arrested and charged for allegedly manufacturing and distributing tens of thousands of counterfeit prescription pills containing fentanyl in the Lawrence and Boston areas. Angel Joel Diaz, a/k/a “Guero,” 34, was charged by criminal complaint with distribution of and possession with intent to distribute...

Former Methuen Man Sentenced for Fentanyl and Cocaine Trafficking Conspiracy

February 27, 2023

BOSTON – A former Methuen man was sentenced today in federal court in Boston for his role in a Lawrence-based drug trafficking conspiracy involving fentanyl and cocaine. Pablo Rosario Pablo a/k/a “Angel Ayala Roque” a/k/a “Cuco,” 57, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Angel Kelley to 41 months in...

Cumberland Man Sentenced to Ten Years in Federal Prison in Largest Counterfeit Pill Seizure

February 27, 2023

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – A Cumberland man who admitted to possessing approximately 665,728 methamphetamine-laced counterfeit Adderall® pills, the largest known seizure of its kind in the country, has been sentenced to ten years in federal prison, announced United States Attorney Zachary A. Cunha. Dylan Rodas, 27, has been detained since his...

Tyler Orvis Indicted for Federal Drug Crimes

February 27, 2023

BURLINGTON, Vt. - The Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Vermont stated that on February 21, 2023, Tyler Orvis, 40, of Milton, Vermont, was arrested in connection with an indictment charging violations of the federal Controlled Substances Act for drug trafficking and related activity. According to...

Armed Drug Dealer at Seattle’s Third and Pike Sentenced to Five Years in Prison

February 24, 2023

SEATTLE – A 31-year-old Seattle man was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Seattle to five years in prison for federal crimes related to his distribution of fentanyl pills in downtown Seattle and his armed shoplifting in Bellevue, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. Kendall Alston was arrested on March...

Man Indicted on Drug and Gun Charges

February 23, 2023

ST. LOUIS – A man from St. Louis, Missouri accused of involvement in a convenience store shootout was indicted Wednesday on drug and gun charges. Kennis Body, 25, was indicted on a drug conspiracy count, one count of possession with the intent to distribute controlled substances and one count of...

DEA, Arizona Attorney General & Tempe Police Announce 150+ Subjects Charged & Massive Quantities of Narcotics Seized

February 23, 2023

PHOENIX– Today, DEA in partnership with the Arizona Attorney General’s Office and the Tempe Police Department announced the culmination of a three-year long investigation targeting the Sinaloa Drug Cartel. To date, over 150 individuals have been charged and investigators have seized over 4.5 million fentanyl laced fake prescription pills, 66...

Two Indicted After Drug Shipment Intercepted on Interstate 44 in St. Louis County

February 17, 2023

ST. LOUIS – A man from Texas and a woman from St. Louis were indicted Wednesday on drug conspiracy charges after multiple kilograms of suspected fentanyl and methamphetamine were found during a traffic stop on Interstate 44 in St. Louis County. Francisco Manuel Mata-Martinez, 41, of El Paso, was indicted...

Lawrence Man Sentenced to 8 Years in Prison for Distributing Fentanyl Pills Produced Using Multiple Pill Press Machines

February 16, 2023

BOSTON – A Lawrence man was sentenced today in federal court in Boston for distributing counterfeit prescription pills containing fentanyl, made using multiple pill press machines. Miguel Angel Fajardo, 32, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Nathaniel M. Gorton to eight years in prison and two years of supervised...

Indictment Charges 3 Men with Fentanyl Trafficking Offenses

February 16, 2023

HARTFORD, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, and Brian D. Boyle, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration for New England, today announced that a federal grand jury has returned an indictment charging ISSACHAMIL TORRES, also known as "Chamil," 35, of...

Providence Man Admits to Possessing More than Forty Grams of Fentanyl Six Days After Pleading Guilty to Trafficking Anabolic Steroids

February 16, 2023

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – A 30-year-old Providence man today admitted to a federal judge that he possessed more than 250 grams of fentanyl and a firearm, and did so less than a week after pleading guilty, in February 2021, to conspiracy to distribute anabolic steroids, announced United States Attorney Zachary A...

Man Sentenced to 18 Years in Prison for Drug-Linked St. Louis Murder

February 15, 2023

ST. LOUIS – U.S. District Judge Ronnie L. White on Wednesday sentenced a man from St. Louis, Missouri who participated in a 2017 murder on behalf of a drug gang to 18 years in prison. Tremayne Silas, 30, was one of four men who fired more than 100 rounds at...

Berkeley Resident Sentenced to Four Years in Prison in Tenderloin Fentanyl Distribution Scheme

February 13, 2023

SAN FRANCISCO – David Ordonez was sentenced to 48 months in prison for his role in a scheme to distribute fentanyl and methamphetamine in the Tenderloin District of San Francisco, announced United States Attorney Stephanie M. Hinds and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Acting Special Agent in Charge Bob P. Beris...

Fentanyl Pill Press Operator Sentenced to 30 Years in Federal Prison

February 10, 2023

DALLAS, TX - Saginaw man running a fentanyl pill-pressing operation was sentenced Friday to 30 years in federal prison, announced Special Agent in Charge of DEA Dallas Eduardo A. Chávez. Adrian Warren, 33, aka "Peanut," pleaded guilty in October 2022 to possession with intent to distribute controlled substances. He was...

Sixteen Individuals Plead Guilty in Drug Trafficking Conspiracy "Operation Titan Fall"

February 10, 2023

ORLANDO, Fla. – United States Attorney Roger B. Handberg announces that 16 individuals, charged in three (3) indictments, have all pleaded guilty to their respective roles in conspiring to distribute controlled substances, including fentanyl and cocaine, in the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) "Operation Titan Fall" investigation. This investigation yielded evidence...

Deadly Fentanyl Trafficked in Protein Powder Containers

February 08, 2023

NEW YORK CITY - Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, Frank A. Tarentino III, the Special Agent in Charge of the New York Field Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA"), Keechant L. Sewell, the Commissioner of the New York City Police Department...

Final Defendants Convicted in Complex, 20-Person Federal Fentanyl and Meth Trafficking Conspiracy

February 08, 2023

INDIANAPOLIS – Michael Gannon, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of Drug Enforcement Administration-Indianapolis, and U.S. Attorney Zachary A. Myers for the Southern District of Indiana announced that a federal jury has found Rick Coley, 36, of Indianapolis, and David Duggar, 40, of Greenwood, Indiana, guilty on all counts following an...

Three More Defendants Indicted in Northwest MO Fentanyl Conspiracy

February 06, 2023

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Three more defendants have been indicted in a 10-person conspiracy to distribute fentanyl in northwest Missouri. Kaden Bernard, 22, of St. Joseph, Mo., Raymundo Felix-Perez, 31, a citizen of Mexico who resided in Bethany, Mo., and Joshua Stramel, 26, of Kansas City, Kan., were charged in...

Hartford Woman Sentenced to Prison for Distributing Fentanyl

February 03, 2023

HARTFORD, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that MARIA MALDONADO, 50, of Hartford, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Janet C. Hall in New Haven to 24 months of imprisonment, followed by three years of supervised release, for distributing fentanyl. According...

Armed Drug Trafficker with Multiple Criminal Convictions is Sentenced to 26 Years in Prison

February 02, 2023

ASHEVILLE, NC – U.S. Attorney Dena J. King announced today that Benjamin Dann Owens, 36, of Hayesville, N.C., was sentenced to 312 months in prison followed by five years of supervised release for conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute fentanyl, methamphetamine, Oxycodone, and other narcotics as...

Woman Who Dealt Drugs From Her Lake Stevens Restaurant Sentenced to 10 Years in Prison

February 02, 2023

SEATTLE – A 46-year-old Marysville, Washington woman, who co-owned a Lake Stevens, Washington restaurant used for drug trafficking, was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Seattle to ten years in prison for distributing methamphetamine, heroin, and fentanyl, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. Laura Rodriguez-Moreno has been in custody since...

Rock Hill Woman Sentenced to Federal Prison for Involvement in Fentanyl Distribution Ring

February 02, 2023

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA — Patricia Ann Hemphill, 51, of Rock Hill, was sentenced to 3 years in federal prison after pleading guilty relating to a multi-state drug operation out of the Rock Hill and Charlotte, North Carolina area. Evidence presented to the Court showed that the Federal Bureau of Investigation...

Drug Trafficking Ringleader, Who Hid Huge Amounts of Drugs and Cash in Arlington, Sentenced to 15 Years

January 31, 2023

Seattle – The leader of a violent, prolific drug trafficking ring was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Seattle to 15 years in prison, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. Cesar Valdez-Sanudo, 36, pleaded guilty in June 2022 to conspiracy to distribute controlled substances, conspiracy to commit money laundering and...

Renton, Washington, Mid-Level Leader of Local Drug Trafficking Group Connected to CJNG Cartel, Sentenced to Prison

January 31, 2023

Seattle – The mid-level leader of a drug distribution cell that was one of the most violent seen in the Western District of Washington was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Seattle to ten years in prison, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. Jose Daniel Espinoza, 35, was indicted and...

Prince William Drug Dealer Sentenced for Causing Multiple Overdoses

January 30, 2023

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – A Dumfries man was sentenced today to 30 years in prison for distribution of fentanyl resulting in death and serious bodily injury, and possession with the intent to distribute fentanyl. According to court documents, on September 21, 2021, Michael Vaughn, 28, distributed cocaine laced with fentanyl at...

Leader of Drug Delivery Service Responsible for Three Fentanyl Poisoning Deaths Convicted

January 30, 2023

NY., - Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced the conviction in Manhattan federal court of Billy Ortega, a/k/a "Jason," for distributing the fentanyl that killed three young New York City professionals: Julia Ghahramani, Amanda Scher, and Ross Mtangi. The jury convicted Ortega...

Man Pleads Guilty to Distributing Fentanyl That Caused Fatal Overdose

January 30, 2023

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – A Rock Port, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to selling fentanyl to another Atchison County, Mo., man that resulted in his fatal overdose. Quentin W. Carder, 23, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs to one count of conspiracy to distribute...

Bremerton Couple Sentenced to Prison for Distributing Significant Amounts of Fentanyl and Meth

January 30, 2023

Tacoma – A Bremerton, Washington couple was sentenced in U.S. District Court in Tacoma to lengthy prison terms for possession of narcotics with intent to distribute, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. David Berryhill, 46, was sentenced to 90 months in prison and his fiancé Jamie Kelly, 50, was sentenced to...

Jamestown Woman Pleads Guilty for Her Role in Narcotics Conspiracy

January 27, 2023

BUFFALO, N.Y.-U.S. Attorney Trini E. Ross announced today that Katie Calimeri, 30, of Jamestown, NY, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge John L. Sinatra, Jr. to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute, and to distribute, heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamine. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in...

Leader of Lawrence Drug Trafficking Organization Sentenced to Over 15 Years in Prison

January 27, 2023

BOSTON – The leader of a local drug trafficking organization (DTO) was sentenced yesterday in federal court in Boston for trafficking fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, carfentanil (a fentanyl analogue) in and around the Lawrence area and for possessing a loaded firearm in furtherance of his DTO's operations. Luis Manuel Rodriguez Then...

Brooklyn Man Indicted for Distributing Fentanyl and Cocaine Base

January 27, 2023

BURLINGTON, Vt. - The Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Vermont announced that Demetrius Thompson, aka "Tone," 44, of Brooklyn, New York was arrested yesterday in Rutland, Vermont. On December 14, 2022, Thompson had been indicted by the federal grand jury for distributions of fentanyl and...

Convicted Felon Indicted for Drug and Firearm Offenses

January 27, 2023

BOSTON – A repeat convicted felon has been charged by a federal grand jury in a superseding indictment on firearm and drug offenses. Christian Soares, a/k/a “Eazy,” 29, of Brockton, was indicted on two counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition; one count of possessing...

Two Sentenced in Heroin and Fentanyl Trafficking Conspiracy

January 27, 2023

BOSTON – Two Worcester residents have been sentenced for their roles in a drug trafficking conspiracy involving fentanyl and heroin. Antonio Rosario Garcia, a/k/a “Animal,” 40, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Timothy S. Hillman to 80 months in prison and four years of supervised release. Cintia Franco, 32...

Nashua Man Sentenced to 72 Months for Possession of Meth and Fentanyl with Intent to Distribute and Carrying a Firearm While Dealing Drugs

January 27, 2023

CONCORD, N.H. – David Lamoureux, 34, of Nashua has been sentenced to 72 months in federal prison for two counts of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and fentanyl, and for possessing a firearm in furtherance of drug trafficking, United States Attorney Jane E. Young announced. According to court documents...

Rochester Woman Pleads Guilty to Conspiracy to Distribute Fentanyl and Methamphetamine

January 27, 2023

CONCORD, N.H. – Jennelle Brown, 38, of Rochester, pleaded guilty in federal court today to conspiracy to distribute controlled substances, United States Attorney Jane E. Young announced today. According to court documents and statements made in court, Brown and her co-defendant sold drugs multiple times from their hotel room in...

Three Fugitives Arrested on Federal Drug Charges in Westmore, Vermont

January 27, 2023

BURLINGTON, Vt. - The Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Vermont stated that Vermont resident Michelle Provencher (also known as Michelle Hall)—24, originally of Irasburg, Vermont—was arrested and held in federal custody on Friday, January 13, 2023, following the search of a rented Airbnb residence in...

Three New Yorkers Sentenced on Drug Trafficking Charges

January 27, 2023

BURLINGTON, Vt. - The United States Attorney’s Office announced that Oscar Maldonado, 41, Jamal Jones, 34, and Curtis Christian, 31, all of New York City, were recently sentenced in United States District Court in Rutland following their guilty pleas to charges that they conspired to distribute heroin, fentanyl, cocaine and...

Five Arrested for Drug Trafficking in Chittenden County

January 27, 2023

BURLINGTON, Vt. – The U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Vermont announced the recent arrests of five men with ties to Philadelphia on drug related charges. Ronald Harris, aka Rizz, was arrested January 17 following his indictment for a drug conspiracy spanning nearly two years. Rasheed Stokes-Johnson, aka Slay...

New Haven Man who Crashed Minivan into DEA Special Agents Charged with Narcotics Distribution Offense

January 27, 2023

NEW HAVEN, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, Brian D. Boyle, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration for New England, and New Haven Police Chief Karl Jacobson announced that a federal grand jury in Hartford returned an indictment charging DERRICK...

Lowell Man Sentenced for Fentanyl Distribution Conspiracy

January 27, 2023

BOSTON – A Lowell man was sentenced on Jan. 20, 2023 in federal court in Boston for his role in a conspiracy to distribute fentanyl. Jonathan Bermudez, 25, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Leo T. Sorokin to time served (approximately 22 months in prison) and eight years of...

New Britain Man Pleads Guilty To Fentanyl Distribution And Firearm Possession Charges

January 27, 2023

NEW BRITAIN, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, and Brian D. Boyle, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration for New England, today announced that RAFAEL MARTINEZ, 31, of New Britain, waived his right to be indicted and pleaded guilty in...

Rochester Man Sentenced to 70 Months For Distributing Fentanyl

January 27, 2023

CONCORD, N.H. – Justin Smith, 34, of Rochester was sentenced today to 70 months in federal prison for one count of distributing 40 grams and more of fentanyl, United States Attorney Jane E. Young announced. According to court documents and statements made in court, on August 27, 2019, at the...

Three More Indicted in Drug-trafficking Conspiracy

January 26, 2023

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Three more defendants have been indicted as part of an investigation into an armed and violent drug-trafficking organization operating in the Kansas City, Mo., metropolitan area. Anthony D. Harris, 40, and Latrell O. Dean, 19, both of Grandview, Mo., and Seville S. Gardner, 37, address unknown...

DEA Washington Division Announces the Seizure of Over 8 Million of Deadly Doses of Fentanyl in 2022

January 26, 2023

Washington DC – The Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) Washington Division seized over 8.3 million potentially deadly doses of fentanyl in 2022. The division, which covers the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia confiscated nearly 160,000 fake pills containing fentanyl, and more than 250 pounds of fentanyl powder throughout the year...

Culpeper Couple Sentenced to 9 Years for Fentanyl and Methamphetamine Conspiracy

January 25, 2023

Charlottesville, Va.,—A Culpeper, Virginia man, who conspired with others, including his wife, to sell multiple kilograms of methamphetamine as well as thousands of counterfeit pills containing fentanyl, was sentenced this week to 9 years in federal prison. Fahid Rashid, 32, pled guilty in November 2022 to one count of...

Madera Fentanyl Trafficker Sentenced to 7 Years in Prison

January 25, 2023

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Alfredo Sanchez, 43, of Madera, was sentenced yesterday to seven years in prison for possession with intent to distribute fentanyl, U.S. Attorney Phillip A. Talbert and Drug Enforcement Administration Acting Special Agent in Charge Bob P. Beris announced. According to court documents, Sanchez provided his co-defendant, Saybyn...

Honduran Man Arrested in Portland Trafficking Rainbow Fentanyl and Firearms Is Charged in Federal Court

January 25, 2023

PORTLAND, Ore.—A Honduran man residing in Portland is facing federal charges after he was arrested moving two kilograms of rainbow-colored fentanyl and several firearms between two Portland-area motels. Jose Isidro Zuniga Torres, 47, has been charged by criminal complaint with conspiracy to possess and possess with intent to distribute fentanyl...

Head of Fort Worth Drug Trafficking Organization Charged

January 23, 2023

DALLAS, TX - The head of a Fort Worth drug trafficking operation and his associate have been federal charged, announced Special Agent in Charge Eduardo A. Chávez Leeroy Marquee Jones, aka Aladdin, 32, and Christopher Antwuan George, 21, were charged via criminal complaint with conspiracy to possess with intent to...

Mexican National Pleads Guilty to Distributing Fentanyl and Fentanyl-Related Substance

January 23, 2023

FRESNO, Calif. — Oscar Arturo Salomon Perez, aka Jesus Ramos, aka Jesus Rodriguez-Ramos, 48, a native and citizen of Mexican, pleaded guilty today to distributing fentanyl and p-fluorofentanyl, an analogue of fentanyl, U.S. Attorney Phillip A. Talbert and Drug Enforcement Administration Acting Special Agent in Charge Bob P. Beris announced...

Oakland Resident Sentenced to Three Years for Selling Fentanyl and Methamphetamine in San Francisco's Tenderloin

January 23, 2023

SAN FRANCISCO – Alex Murillo was sentenced today to 36 months in federal prison for selling fentanyl and methamphetamine in San Francisco's Tenderloin District, announced United States Attorney Stephanie M. Hinds and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Acting Special Agent in Charge Bob P. Beris. The sentence was handed down by...

Man Convicted of All Charges Related to One Fatal, Two Nonfatal Fentanyl Overdoses

January 20, 2023

ST. LOUIS – A jury in U.S. District Court in St. Louis on Friday found a man who provided the fentanyl that caused one fatal and two nonfatal overdoses in St. Charles, Missouri, in 2020 guilty of all charges. Ledra A. Craig, 46, of Wright City, was found guilty of...

Tucson Man Sentenced to Nine Years for Conspiracy to Distribute Fentanyl

January 20, 2023

TUCSON, Ariz. – Last week, Francisco Pantoja, 25, of Tucson, Arizona, was sentenced by United States District Judge John C. Hinderaker to nine years in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. Pantoja pleaded guilty to Conspiracy to Distribute Fentanyl in connection with the overdose death of a young...

Undocumented Man Gets 46 Months in Prison for Trafficking Fentanyl

January 19, 2023

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill. – A man originally from Mexico was sentenced to 46 months in federal prison in a U.S. District Court on Wednesday after admitting to possessing hundreds of grams of a controlled substance containing fentanyl with intent to distribute. Luciano Gomez-zllanos-Martinez, also known as Joaquin Navarez-Urena, pled...

Arizona Woman Charged for Trafficking Fentanyl and Heroin on I-5 in Oregon

January 19, 2023

PORTLAND, Ore.—An Arizona woman is facing federal charges after she was caught trafficking approximately 45,000 counterfeit oxycodone pills containing fentanyl and several additional pounds of bulk heroin on Interstate 5 near Salem, Oregon. Nancy Garcia, 47, of Yuma County, Arizona, has been charged by criminal complaint with possessing with intent...

Two Oakland Residents Indicted Following Seizures of Fentanyl, Heroin and Cocaine

January 13, 2023

SAN FRANCISCO – Melvin Alexis Diaz Arteaga appeared in federal court to face an indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute fentanyl and possessing fentanyl, heroin, and cocaine with the intent to distribute it, and Luis Almicar Erazo-Centeno also appeared to face the indictment's charges against him of possession of...

Oakland Resident Who Sold Fentanyl in San Francisco's Tenderloin Sentenced to Four Years

January 13, 2023

SAN FRANCISCO – Jose Alvarado, a/k/a Chepe, was sentenced today to 48 months in federal prison for distribution of fentanyl in San Francisco's Tenderloin District and for possession with the intent to distribute fentanyl, announced United States Attorney Stephanie M. Hinds and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Acting Special Agent in...

Greene County Man Indicted for Possessing Over 10,000 Fentanyl Pills and a Kilogram of Fentanyl Powder

January 12, 2023

Charlottesville, Va.- A federal grand jury in Charlottesville, Virginia returned an indictment yesterday charging a Greene County man with conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute fentanyl, methamphetamine, heroin, and cocaine - among other charges - after officers found more than 10,000 fentanyl pills in his possession, as well...

Indiana Man Sentenced to 15 Years for Meth Trafficking

January 12, 2023

SOUTH BEND, Ind. – Alfred A. Cooke, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of Drug Enforcement Administration-Merrillville, Indiana, and U.S. Attorney Clifford D. Johnson for the Northern District of Indiana announced that Shaquille Delaney, 32, of South Bend, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Damon R. Leichty after pleading guilty...

Armed Indianapolis Drug Dealer Sentenced to Over 15 Years in Federal Prison for Trafficking Fentanyl, Heroin and Cocaine

January 11, 2023

INDIANAPOLIS - Michael Gannon, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of Drug Enforcement Administration-Indianapolis, and U.S. Attorney Zachary A. Myers for the Southern District of Indiana announced that Frank Nelson, 45, of Indianapolis, was sentenced to 188 months in federal prison for possession with intent to distribute fentanyl. According to court...

Jamestown Woman Pleads Guilty for Her Role in Selling Fentanyl that Led to a Death

January 10, 2023

BUFFALO, N.Y. - U.S. Attorney Trini E. Ross announced today that Alisha Centi, 28, of Jamestown, NY, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge John L. Sinatra, Jr. to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute, and to distribute, heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamine, which carries a maximum penalty of 20 years...

Renton, Washington Resident Sentenced to 10 Years in Prison for Drug Trafficking

January 10, 2023

SEATTLE – A Renton, Washington resident who continued to deal drugs and possess firearms after many of his coconspirators were arrested and charged federally, was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Seattle to ten years in prison. Gerson Alberto Flores-Rivera, 28, pleaded guilty in May 2022 to distribution of...

Three Fentanyl Traffickers Sentenced to Federal Prison

January 09, 2023

ORLANDO, Fla. – U.S. District Judge Carlos E. Mendoza has sentenced Luis Omar Rosa Cotto (32, Orlando), Alejandro Acevedo Luna (34, Apopka), and Juan Carlos Garcia (38, Apopka) to federal prison for their roles in a conspiracy to distribute fentanyl. Luis Omar Rosa Cotto Pleaded guilty on July 12, 2022...

DEA Rocky Mountain Division Announces Record Fentanyl Seizures in 2022

January 09, 2023

DENVER –The Drug Enforcement Administration's Rocky Mountain Division seized over 5.8 million potentially deadly doses of fentanyl in 2022. The division, which covers the states of Colorado, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming, seized nearly two million fentanyl pills and more than 150 pounds of fentanyl powder in 2022. Last month, DEA...

Woodbridge Man Pleads Guilty to Distributing Narcotics to 14-Year-Old

January 06, 2023

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – A Woodbridge man pleaded guilty yesterday to distributing a Schedule II controlled substance to a person under age twenty-one. According to court documents, in April of 2022, Latae'veion Woods, 21, sold pills purporting to be Percocet to a 14-year-old, who died of a fentanyl overdose approximately five...

Fentanyl Distribution Nets West Texas Man 12 Years in Federal Prison

January 06, 2023

MIDLAND, Texas – An Odessa man was sentenced yesterday to 151 months in prison for distributing fentanyl. In late 2021, agents with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) received information that Jesus Arevalo, 44, received and distributed kilograms of cocaine and fentanyl in the Midland – Odessa region. The DEA and...

Springfield Man Sentenced to Nearly Seven Years in Prison for Distributing Fentanyl

January 05, 2023

BOSTON – A Springfield man was sentenced yesterday in federal court in Worcester for drug trafficking charges involving fentanyl. Juan Jimenez, 48, was sentenced by U.S. Senior District Court Judge Timothy S. Hillman to 83 months in prison and four years of supervised release. In April 2022, Jimenez pleaded guilty...

Meriden Man Pleads Guilty to Fentanyl Distribution Charge

January 05, 2023

MERIDEN, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that GERARDO NUNEZ-IRIZARRY, also known as "Indio," 44, of Meriden, pleaded guilty today before U.S. District Judge Jeffrey A. Meyer in New Haven to possession with intent to distribute 40 grams or more of fentanyl...

DEA New York and NYC's Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor Seize Record Amounts of Fentanyl-Laced, Fake Prescription Pills and Fentanyl Powder During 2022

January 05, 2023

NEW YORK CITY – The Drug Enforcement Administration, New York Division and the New York City's Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor announce record amounts of fentanyl-laced, fake prescription pills and fentanyl powder seized in New York during 2022. "Thousands of New Yorkers are mourning precious lives claimed by deadly..."

Former Portsmouth, New Hampshire Man Sentenced to 84 Months for Drug Trafficking

January 05, 2023

CONCORD, N.H. - Robert Corson, 34, formerly of Portsmouth, New Hampshire was sentenced to 84 months in federal prison for drug trafficking, United States Attorney Jane E. Young announced today.

According to court documents and statements made in court, in April and May 2021, Corson sold quantities of methamphetamine and...

DEA El Paso Division Announces the Seizure of Over 9 Million Deadly Doses of Fentanyl in 2022

January 04, 2023

El Paso – A few weeks ago, the Drug Enforcement Administration announced the seizure of over 50.6 million fentanyl-laced, fake prescription pills and more than 10,000 pounds of fentanyl powder this calendar year. The El Paso Division, which covers West Texas and the whole state of New Mexico, seized 2,886,783...

Norwalk Man Sentenced to 12 Years in Federal Prison for Drug Offenses

January 04, 2023

NORWALK, Conn. - Vanessa Roberts Avery, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that TAJH WILEY, also known as "Yung,"

27, of Norwalk, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Janet Bond Arterton in New Haven to 144 months of imprisonment, followed by four years of supervised release, for...

Dominican Man Indicted for Illegally Reentering United States and Distributing Fentanyl

January 03, 2023

BOSTON – A Dominican man has been indicted by a federal grand jury for allegedly reentering the United States and distributing fentanyl after previously being deported. Juan Carlos Santos-Ocasio, a/k/a "Cristhian Aybar-Done," 40, was indicted on one count of distribution and possession with intent to distribute 40 grams or more...

United States Drug Enforcement Administration. Press Releases | DEA.gov. (n.d.). Retrieved April 7, 2023, from <https://www.dea.gov/what-we-do/news/press-releases>

THIN WHITE LINES



John P. Sutton

DEDICATION

To my mother Arbunyan who is in heaven;
my daughters Ila, Tinessa and Heather;
my grandchildren Tre, Caila and Caleb;
and Cheryl Newton.

FORWARD

The events in this book occurred as depicted based on my review of notes, daily reports, weekly reports, investigative reports and recollection. Most of the names have been changed to ensure the privacy of those involved, especially those criminals who have been rehabilitated and have established a new life. There is no intent to defame, slander, smear or embarrass any person living or dead.

Many drug investigations involve an undercover agent interacting with drug traffickers and purchasing drugs from them for subsequent prosecution. In this subculture, there is a communication vernacular that is widely utilized in drug trafficking deals. In order to work safely and proficiently in drug investigations, an undercover agent must be articulate in this vernacular and develop a persona that depicts a drug trafficker that is adaptable to different drug trafficking communities; must talk the talk and walk the walk. Drug undercover investigation is analogous to an aerialist performing without a safety net where a slip often results in injury or death.

The Detroit airport parking lot incident in chapter 8 is as surreal today as then. The stench often surfaces and lingers for long periods. Sharing them offers some relief.

Profanity, drug vernacular and idiomatic expressions are utilized to provide a vivid description of the events and the characters involved.

A special tribute is given to the following agents mentioned in this book who have fallen asleep in the arms of Jesus: Special

agents George L. Heard, Enrique "Kiki" Camarena (killed by drug traffickers in Mexico), Sim Willis, Jack Enoch, Sam Ozmert, Harry Sumega, Robert Moffett. A Special tribute is further given to Special Agent Kenneth Adams (from our days in Detroit—was killed by drug traffickers while working undercover).

A special tribute is also given to those agents, officers and cooperating individuals not mentioned who gave the maximum they could in the fight against drug trafficking.

CHAPTER 3

A FEW WEEKS later, I went back to Tijuana, accompanied by other Federal Bureau of Narcotic agents (BNDD agents), U.S. Customs (USC) agents and the MFJP. We met with Ramon at the Mexican Army Base south of Tijuana and formulated plans to immobilize major marijuana trafficker Pablo Uvalles. While discussing preliminary plans, I started a conversation with Ramon. I asked if Papagayos was still closed. Ramon looked at me as though I had insulted him and stated, "Come take a ride with me Beenum. We'll see if it's still closed."

"I didn't mean to doubt you, El Jefe. I was just making conversation," I tried to assure him.

We entered a chauffeur driven car with three bodyguards. One was the driver; one occupied the front seat. Ramon and I sat in the rear. Ramon spoke in Spanish and we proceeded north toward downtown Tijuana. Ramon advised, "Beenum, we're going to take a little trip to Boys town. Thereafter we will go out to see

Thin White Lines

if Papagayos is still closed, okay?"

"Sure, El Jefe. I am with you. You are in charge." I responded.

Ramon spoke in Spanish and the bodyguards laughed. Two turned around and smiled at me.

Ramon advised that he had related that he told the bodyguards I had said that I was going along with him for he was in charge. He added that as we would say in the states "You are fucking a right."

I chuckled.

En route, Ramon told a broad history of Mexico from his view, explaining that there were approximately 60,000,000 people in Mexico, approximately ninety-nine percent Roman Catholic, one-third of the population is available for work. Approximately 36,000,000 are a mixture of Mestizo Indians and Spanish. The Mestizos occupied Mexico up until the Spaniards came. According to Ramon, like most civilizations, the Mestizos and other Indians of Central and South America believed in the second coming of a supreme being.

Cortez sailed from Spain to the New World and landed in South America. When he disembarked wearing armor breastplate, and was surrounded by other Spaniards, the Indians thought he was the Second Coming and they bowed and started praying. Cortez and his men placed all the Indians in captivity, colonizing almost all of South and Central America.

Ramon was a student of history, and apparently a well-learned man. He related that Mexico was rich in natural resources; oil, timber, silver, gold, copper, zinc, natural gas, lead and a few highly secret metals that are precursors for nuclear weapons.

Ramon further related that the geographical location of Mexico provided a Mediterranean climate of long hot summers, mild wet short winters with many valleys and plains with extremely rich soil that produces corn, cotton, wheat, coffee, sugarcane, various fruits and vegetables and spices. Additionally, Mexico

John P. Sutton

produced the best marijuana and opium poppy. Ramon did all of the talking. He was a very proud man—a man who enjoyed his work, the power and authority he wielded in his position.

In other prior conversations, I got the impression that Ramon enjoyed closing businesses or stopping certain activity or actions. He seemed to marvel at having bodyguards, drivers, commensurate with the authority to go anywhere in Mexico he desired. Perhaps most thrilling to him was the authority to take a human life with little to no justification; that his verbal authority overruled any Grand Jury or coroner's inquiry; that he even had the authority to verbally authorize a non-Mexican citizen to take the life of a Mexican citizen while engaged in an enforcement activity.

After a long diatribe, we arrived in Boys town. My initial naiveté led me to believe that Boys town was an orphanage. I quickly learned it was a long street filled with small one-room frame houses, small "shotgun houses." Houses you could look in the front door and out the back; Houses that were less than 20 feet long and less than 12 feet wide, warehouses that lined the streets like soldiers in gray, white, beige, blue, pink, green, brown in color, all trimmed in white. The street was a brown dirt unpaved narrow road with wooden boardwalks on each side. Thick clouds of dust rose and fell behind each passing car.

"Here we are," Ramon related. I began to wonder what was our purpose there. My initial thought was that I was not about to consort with any female there, not even if I was utilizing someone else's penis.

We got out of the car. I followed Ramon to a small pink and white whorehouse. Ramon spoke Spanish to the whore inside. She, a pleasing plump, young, over made up whore, seemed to instantly recognize Ramon's authority. The room had a twin bed, no nightstand, a make shift closet on the left, a large mirror on the west wall and a large mirror above the bed. Left of the headboard area was a washbasin. A toilet and small shower were

recessed behind the washbasin. In front of the makeshift closet, candles were burning around a statue of the Madonna and Christ child. After speaking Spanish to the whore for a few minutes we left. We entered six whorehouses on the north side of the street and four on the south side. Each whorehouse had a statue of the Madonna and Christ child surrounded by burning candles.

We got back into the car and drove toward Papagayos. Ramon related that all of the whorehouses he had ever entered had a statue of the "Madonna and Christ child" surrounded by burning candles. He added that it was puzzling to him how a prostitute could have such an item in a whorehouse. According to Ramon, despite their plight in life, they were all bound for hell.

Ramon related that the 16-year-old daughter of an influential friend of his in Mexico City had runaway with a "Gringo" her dad would not allow her to date. The father, for some unknown reason, suspected that his daughter had been turned into a prostitute and was working the Boys town section of Tijuana. Ramon promised his friend that he would personally check for his daughter. He could now advise that he had checked.

We arrived at Papagayos and found the once beautiful building was boarded up. Some of the windows on the second and third floors that were not boarded were broken. Most of the beautiful flowers, except the rugged bougainvillea, had died. Ramon remarked, "You see Beenum, I don't want you to have any doubts about this business being closed, closed forever. I won't even allow it to even be sold—it is closed," he further remarked and inhaled deeply pulling air through his partially opened mouth and teeth.

We proceeded back to the Army base and continued plans to immobilize Pablo Uvalles. I placed a taped telephone call to Pablo. A female answered, "Hello."

"Hello, may I speak to El Senor Pablo please?"

"Uno memento por favor", she shouted.

"Hello, Quien Es", Pablo asked.

"This is Beenum Pablo, Raul's friend from Los Angeles."

"Oh yes, how are you doing Beenum?"

"I am fine. I tried to call you four times yesterday, two times the day before to let you know I was coming down. Did Raul call you about me?"

"Yeah, Beenum, he did. Are you in town now?"

"Yeah; I am holed up at one of Raul's houses. I don't know the telephone number here and Raul stepped out for a few minutes."

"Well, are you in to do the business now? Raul told me about you. We can do business today or tomorrow. It depends on how much you want."

"My partner and I are discussing two or three tons, depending on the price and whether we will have it put on the other side or take delivery here, it depends."

"It does not matter. I got 20 tons standing by for sale and another 20 tons coming up in a few days. I can put as much as five tons across in one shipment," Pablo assured.

I terminated the conversation with the understanding that my partner Cesar and I would meet with Pablo in two hours at his residence. Pablo gave detailed directions to his house.

After terminating the conversation, Ramon became excited relating that Mexico City would never believe that a Tijuana drug trafficker was capable of a 20-ton marijuana cache. Ramon contemplated setting up surveillance, delaying the deal until Pablo got his other shipment in. He could see a 40-ton marijuana arrest/seizure as being the biggest in Mexico. After an hour of discussion, he relented to completing the "Little Quinn-Martin Production" as soon as possible.

After putting on a Kel transmitter, Cesar (a U.S. Customs agent) and I entered an undercover vehicle and drove over to Pablo's house.

Pablo's house from the outside resembled an ordinary Southern California Stucco home but it was unpainted and surrounded

by a cheap partially damaged chain-link fence. It appeared extremely large for the neighborhood and the rear extended all the way back to the next street. When approaching from the front, the rear appeared surrounded by an approximate 6-foot stucco wall and half of the rear appeared to be three giant steps rising to the third floor. Facing the house across the street made the rear look like a three-story building on the back street. The lower level windows and front door were covered with rejas a kind of security gate that made this firetrap resemble a Tijuana jail. The lawn was neatly manicured, with flowers bordering the entire yard. Two weeping mulberry trees flanked the walk mid-distance between the sidewalk and entrance door.

A Mexican male who identified himself as "Hector," admitted Cesar and me into the residence. We were taken into the back of the first floor to a huge family room where Pablo was sitting at a large bar. The ceiling of the room was covered with smoke stained mirrors; the center of the room was tiled in shiny wooden parquet, bordered on each side by a six foot steps of thick burgundy shag carpet that also covered the wall about 18 inches from the floor all around the room. A huge black refrigerator was on the east wall beyond Pablo. A bartender paced up and down the long bar cleaning. Two beautiful, scantily clad women walked about cleaning tables as Pablo sat at the right corner drinking black coffee and Irish cream on the side. Hector spoke Spanish and left the room.

"Come on in Amigos and join me", he stated. He looked at me and remarked, "You must be Beenum."

Yes, I am Beenum." I shook his hand and related, "This is my partner Cesar."

After exchanging pleasantries and flattering Pablo about his beautiful home, Pablo wanted to take us on a tour, but we declined. Pablo walked over to the large black refrigerator, placed a glass in the receptacle and ice fell into the glass. He then placed it in the next receptacle and water filled the glass. Pablo related

that the refrigerator was now going on the market. He related that there were no other ones like it in Mexico or the United States. Pablo snapped his fingers and two beautiful young waitresses appeared. They left and returned in a short while with trays of food, diced lobster tail with tooth picks, large shrimp, dips, chips and crystal glasses, tea, coffee, grenadine in small shot glasses, sesame seed cookies, smoked salmon and a dish of rubbery tasty meat, Pablo referred to as "tripas."

Pablo bragged about his riches, how much money he had made, how much dope he had sold, how much bribery he pays, how frequently he traveled, how bad his henchmen were, how many children he had with his wife, how many children he had outside of his house and how much pussy he gets. He ranted on and on and Cesar and I listened. Pablo related how influential he was, how many people he had killed in Mexico and in California and Texas. At one point, I thought we had lost focus, that we were having a social meeting with Pablo, that all of his boasting was merely "the false bravado of a contrabultrist" as we had discussed many years prior in college. I immediately discharged that notion for Pablo, as he was describing, was good for all of the things he was mentioning. Prior intelligence linked him to Victor Bono and Florencio Mationg, two defendants convicted for the brutal murder of two U.S. Border Patrolmen in California. Bono and Mationg reportedly were long time customers of Pablo.

Pablo was a talker. He ranted on, and on about his exploits and gradually came back to how much pussy he was getting. He made our undercover role easy. That is, we did not have to ask questions, or use veiled hints to elicit intelligence. We let Pablo talk. I was praying that my Kel was working properly for it was going to be very difficult if I had to write this report accurately.

Hector came back into the room and related, "Pablo there are two suspicious cars parked outside, one up the street about four houses and one down the street. There are two Gringos in the car

up the street. When I walked by the car down the street, I could not tell if it was a Gringo or not, he ducked like he was trying to conceal himself when I walked past him. When I sneaked back past him, he ducked again. I saw a little red light under the dash like he might have a police radio," Hector reported.

Hector left the room momentarily, returned with a .45 automatic pistol and a long barrel revolver. He related that he was going out and would make the suspicious persons identify themselves, placed the pistol in his waist and left the residence. I immediately asked Pablo if I could use his bathroom. I went into the bathroom, pulled the Kel mike close to my mouth and spoke into it facing four directions advising that a man was coming out of the house with two guns to I.D. the occupants on the far north and south points. I flushed the toilet and rejoined Pablo and Cesar at the bar. I waited to hear possible gunshots, but they never came. It was too late for the north surveillant unit to move or for the south unit to pull off. I felt relaxed for I was confident that the MFJP would deal with Hector appropriately.

A short time later, Hector came back into the residence advising that the suspicious persons were Gringos and suggested that Pablo telephone his police contacts. Hector looked at Cesar and winked. He then looked at me and winked. "Are those guys with you guys," Pablo asked in a calm voice.

"No I don't know what you are talking about. We came alone. We came in the blue Caddie out front," I assured.

"Well, that's no problem, this is my town, I own this motherf_____r. I'll have the police tow them away," Pablo advised. Pablo made a telephone call; spoke in Spanish and English advising to tow them away. After hanging up, Pablo took us up to the balcony of the second floor and remarked, "Let's watch this show."

A few minutes later two trucks, each followed by a police car arrived. One went north immediately hooked up the two USC surveillant agents vehicle and pulled away with them shouting

inside. The other tow truck towed the other surveillant unit away. The two police units then drove up to Pablo's house. Pablo went down and met with them for a few minutes. After returning Pablo related that he had expected only two policemen; that it had cost him more for each officer had brought along a partner.

At no time did Pablo indicate any suspicion of us. At one point I had to restrain myself from laughing for I knew that the policemen and Pablo were in store for a rude awakening unlike any thing they had experienced before.

I told Pablo that we wanted to buy three tons of prime marijuana to be delivered to us in San Ysidro, National City or San Diego. Pablo quoted a total price of \$75,000 and indicated that he had the best marijuana in all Mexico and had the best prices.

"Pablo we would like to see the marijuana before we actually pay for it. We would like to pay for it upon delivery on the other side," I advised.

"No problemo, you can see it today or tomorrow morning, it does not matter with me. I usually want to be paid before I put it on the other side. Since you and Raul have done a lot of business and he has vouched for you, I'll ship it to you on the other side, when you inspect it, then you can pay me how's that?" he asked.

"That's fine Pablo," Cesar advised.

"We have been burned before so we like to do business on a cash and carry basis, you know just like when you go into a store, you pick up the item you want, then you pay for it." Cesar added.

Pablo asked, "What do you mean you been burned before?"

"Well it was like this Pablo. On many trips we saw good grade marijuana, paid for it and when it was delivered we had a bunch of marijuana with a lot of stems and big pieces of wood in it. Our customers complained a lot and we had to drop the prices in order to move it," I related.

Pablo got indignant stood up and paced around in front of us,

slammed his fist down in the counter several times and stated, "You guys don't understand what I said, I said I have the best marijuana in all Mexico. If you don't want to do business with me go somewhere else. There are signs all over Tijuana offering marijuana for sale..."

"No Pablo, we did not mean that you would do us like that. We were just making conversation," I tried to assure him.

Pablo then advised that we could see the marijuana now, then asked loudly, "Do you guys have the money to do the deal now or do you have to come back. You look like you are bare ass to me. Do you have the money?"

"Yeah, we have the money. Cesar get the money and bring it back," I asked. Hector, who had remained docile in the background, advised he would go with Cesar to get the money. When they left the residence, I asked Pablo why he did not have henchmen like Raul at his house. I was alarmed at his response. "You know Beenum," he stated, paused, and shook his head from side to side then continued, "That's a good question. I never thought about it. Maybe it is because I am the baddest motherf_____r in all Mexico. Nobody fucks with me, not even the cops, not even that bad ass MFJP called Ramon from Mexico City. Even he knows not to fuck with me. I understand he was up here a few weeks ago kicking asses and taking names. I heard he busted one of the policemen that did some work for me, but that motherf_____r never came my way. I didn't leave town like a lot of the other narcotraffickers, I stayed right here and dared that motherf_____r to come my way. I had a posse bigger than his and they were better armed." Pablo remarked. His face seemed to swell; his speech became slurred and he started breathing rapidly and mixing Spanish and English trying to accentuate a point.

Pablo asked, "Excuse, Pardoname uno momento por favor, one minute" and ran up the stairs. Shortly Cesar and Hector came back into the residence. Pablo came struggling down the stairs with a wooden crate. The bartender ran up to assist. Pablo

refused, warbled up to the bar and set the box down in front of me, reached inside, removed four fragment grenades, handed two to me and asked, "Do you know what these are?"

"Yeah, they look like grenades," I responded.

Cesar's eyes went wide and his mouth flew open.

Pablo shouted, "Grenades, Grenades! Man these are frag grenades; these pinos will cut you four to five new assholes. These are bad hombres."

Pablo, apparently believing that he was not convincing enough ran back upstairs, returned in a short while with what I initially believed to be some sort of musical instrument in a white/green leather carrying case. He unzipped the case and handed me a light antitank weapon (LAW) and the rocket and asked, "Do you know what this is?" I played dumb and replied, "Yes, it looks like some kind of sky rocket. It is real?"

"Real. Let's go outside and let me shoot it at you. If it doesn't work then I will give you five tons of marijuana, come on, come on let's go outside," he pleaded.

I begged out of it relating that it was probably real. Not satisfied, Pablo went back upstairs and struggled back down and handed me two canisters that he stated were something like Lucite that burned underwater at 3,000 degrees and 5,000 degrees above water. According to Pablo, "This shit burns ten times hotter than the fires of hell."

I examined the canister and handed them back to Pablo. He then handed me a heavy, olive colored ammo can. I opened the can and noted a brown canvass cover with markings "C-4 plastic." I told Pablo that I knew what the C-4 plastic was.

Pablo apparently not convinced that I believed he was a very bad person, a person to be feared, asked us to come upstairs. Cesar, Hector and I followed him upstairs to the second level to a huge room. On the south wall of the room, he opened a thick metal door displaying a huge vault and told us to step in. I waited until Pablo entered the vault and followed. There were large

crates of ammo on the floor, a u-shaped gun rack that almost covered the vault, canisters, boxes, all kinds of rifles, AK-47s, Infield 303s, M-14's, M-1's, Winchesters, Shotguns, LAWS grenades in crates, and two mortar launchers, boxes/crates marked mortars. Pablo seethed, sucked air through his teeth, ranted and raved about how bad he was; that he is not afraid of the little MFJP "Pinche cabrone Ramon." I was praying that the Kel set was working properly, further praying that Pablo's outburst did not anger Ramon to the point of affecting his arrest while Cesar and I were undercover.

I began to think of how crazy Pablo was for he had digressed from reviewing \$75,000 and finalizing the sale to how treacherous he is. I told Pablo that they had more arms and ammo than the U.S. or Mexico army and went downstairs. Pablo was still angry and wanted us to take a trip with him to one of his ranches. Pablo assured that we could inspect the marijuana at that time. Cesar and I disagreed with the trip. Pablo would not relent.

"Pablo why don't we just show you the money and come back and do the deal tomorrow," I suggested. I then got the black attaché case from Cesar, opened it, and handed the attaché case to Pablo to inspect, telling him there was \$120,000 in the attaché case. Pablo thumbed through the eight rolls, counted one, closed it up and attempted to walk upstairs. I grabbed Pablo by the right arm and removed the attaché case, stating, "Not so fast Pablo, let us see the marijuana first."

Much to our dismay, Pablo wanted to show us the marijuana that night, relating that it was at a ranch about an hour or so away. I knew it would be very difficult for surveillance to follow us in the rural area, especially since we did not have an airplane or helicopter—they would not be available until the following day. Pablo insisted that he show us the marijuana that night and remarked, "What kind of dope dealers are you guys? You don't want to do the deal. You guys are like some of those gringo cunts in California, they tease you until you are ready to make love,

and then they walk away. It is either now or never."

During the preplanning phase, Cesar and I had agreed not to travel that night, not to do the deal during the night and not to let the bad guy(s) separate us and for both of us to be with the flash roll (\$80,000 intended only to be shown not expended). I decided to break a cardinal undercover rule and agreed to travel with Pablo to the stash and leave my partner (Cesar) at Pablo's house. Over Cesar's objection, I decided to travel with Pablo. I joined Pablo and a tall muscular, young Mexican male that seemed to appear from nowhere. He got in the rear. The bulges around his waist were .45 automatics, not love handles. I joined Pablo, the driver in the front seat, in a blue four-door Ford LTD and we drove away. I asked Pablo where we were going, thinking that he would tell me knowing that I would not really know. All Pablo would say was "to one of my ranches just a few miles out of town." Pablo circled the block of his residence, twice then pulled upon a main street headed south, drove for a block and a half and stopped. After watching a few minutes he headed south for about a mile, pulled over to the side of the road, parked and turned the lights off. A few minutes later we drove away. Pablo then turned on the radio and increased the volume so high that I had to repeat myself and asked him to repeat himself. Despite telling, Pablo the loud music gave me a headache, he would not turn it down. I engaged him in general conversation and asked him about things I thought he would not understand to distract him so I could turn down the volume.

I stated, "Pablo I heard it is snowing Palisades stones in Mexico City."

"Yeah, that's true," he responded.

I turned the volume down. A minute later Pablo turned the volume back up. We drove on. As we passed certain lighted buildings, I asked Pablo about them, secretly giving my direction to surveillant units. We drove for twenty minutes. No cars passed. No headlights appeared in the rear. Pablo bragged that he had 20

henchmen at one ranch and 15 at the other and did not hesitate to state that they were heavily armed and would not hesitate to shoot. Pablo related that he had been stopped, detained and beaten once by the MFJP from Mexico City. While driving, he raised the right part of his sweater displaying a .45 pistol and Keloids from the beating. Pablo sucked wind between his teeth, shook his head from side to side stating, "I will never be beaten again. I will kill or be killed before I take another beating again."

There was no doubt in my mind about his statements. I was hoping that the Kel set was working properly and was advising Ramon of Pablo's conversation.

We drove on to a remote area and turned left down a dirt road. We continued on past trees, a broken down building, and a small lake on the right, a mile later a park on the left, around curves, and over numerous holes in the dirt road. Dust rose and drifted down slowly as we passed.

About 30 minutes later we came upon a beautiful valley. The outline in the distance appeared to be lush green foliage. We drove on for a few minutes and came upon an opening on the right. Pablo turned right onto a gravel/grass road, stopped and flashed his lights off and on three times. In the distance to our right about 1500 yards headlights came on flashed high beam/low beam three times and went dark. A few seconds later headlights came on about 1500 yards to our left, flashed high beam/low beam three times and went dark.

We drove down the road underneath a gate, past trees in spots, over a wooden bridge, turned right and proceeded up a meandering road, then down into another valley. We pulled up to a large white barn-like building with a huge paved parking lot. As we pulled up six well-armed men approached and exchanged greetings with Pablo. Pablo spoke loudly in Spanish and about eight other men appeared quickly, all armed with M-14s, AK-47s and two or three with Uzi's assault weapons. Several also wore side-holstered revolvers. The one that appeared to be in charge

wore two long pistols like Roy Rogers and carried a shouldered Uzi that flopped about when he walked.

Pablo talked to the headman for a few minutes. Then they all left the immediate area. We went into the barn like building where I saw more 20-pound bales of marijuana than I could count.

"Pablo, you must have 100,000 pounds of marijuana in here..." I remarked.

"No, I only have 20 tons. I'll have close to that amount when my next shipment comes in," Pablo said. I inspected numerous bales, noting that they were neatly, tightly wrapped in burlap and further wrapped in thick plastic. Pablo stated that they wrapped it in plastic to control the field rats from eating it.

After a short while, Pablo took me outside to the rear of the building where five semi-tractors and five tanker trailers were parked. They were not new, but well maintained with chrome rims. I joined Pablo on top of one tanker where we inspected the inside false bottom. Pablo stuck a stick down to the bottom and diagonally inside of the tank, removed it displaying a tarry substance. According to Pablo, the front and rear sections were hollow, each capable of carrying 2 1/2 tons of marijuana. This is how Pablo smuggled marijuana into the United States. His drivers also unloaded it upon delivery.

When we went back into the building, I noticed that the north upstairs area had sleeping quarters and there was an upstairs locked room facing outside in four different directions. Pablo took me in the rear of the office where he had a cache of weapons, grenades, AK-47 assault rifles, British Infield 303 rifles with scopes, and 50 caliber tripod machine guns, 6-LAWS. Pablo picked up one of the LAWS, pointed it outside and simulated firing it. He put it back in a crate and related that the rocket had a speed of 4000 feet per second, heat seeking or laser target finding capability, a range of 1500 yards and would penetrate 12" of case harden steel. Pablo again sucked air rapidly through his teeth, shook his head from side to side and stated, "This is

one bad motherfucker, a most bad motherfucker." Pablo related that he had just as many weapons at his other ranch. I tried to convince Pablo to take me to his other ranch but he refused. I was thoroughly convinced that Pablo was as bad and demented as he purported to be, that he would kill at the drop of a hat, had killed people before, had people killed and that he would not hesitate to do it again. The keloid type welts on his back were more convincing that he did not want to ever again be arrested, that he would fight to the bitter end.

Although he was only about 5'6" tall, 170 pounds, Pablo had a complex that made him appear 9' tall. He gave me a 20-pound bale of marijuana as a sample to show my partner Cesar and we left. While driving back to Tijuana, he repeatedly nudged me, sucked air through his mouth, shook his head from side to side and repeatedly asked, "Am I a most bad motherf_____r Beenum, Am I a most bad mother_____?" I assured him on each occasion that he was and further attempted to get him to take me to his other ranch to no avail.

When we got back to Pablo's house, I was glad to see Cesar and to know that he was okay. Cesar seemed relieved that I was okay, but disappointed that I had tripped with Pablo, splitting up the surveillant units. We made arrangements to complete the deal with Pablo the next day between noon and 1:00 p.m. Cesar and I exchanged handshakes on the deal and left the residence. Hector walked us out to the undercover car and reminded Cesar to tell me that he was on our side and wanted to leave with us. We declined his offer.

Cesar and I secured the 20 pounds of marijuana in the trunk of the undercover car and drove from the area.

"What's with Hector, Cesar? He seemed to be so friendly," I asked. "He was Ramonized. When he went outside to make the guys in the cars identify themselves, it seems as though Ramon grabbed him and Ramonized him," Cesar related.

"What do you mean by that?"

num tene cajones mas grande que un toro." They all chuckled.

After Ramon finally relaxed it became evident that he wanted to arrest Pablo as soon as possible. In listening to the Kel transmission it appeared as though Pablo had referred to Ramon as a Maricon. According to Ramon nobody had ever called him a Maricon and walked away without a "good ass whipping."

We drove back to the military base and formulated plans for the "take down" the next day. Cesar and I emphatically stressed the potential danger at Pablo's house, one ranch and related that we did not know the location of the second ranch.

Ramon became indignant and indicated that we were down playing the strength and power of his organization. He indicated that he could mobilize the whole army base if deemed necessary, additionally military troops and MFJP could be flown in as soon as possible. Ramon rekindled his anger and insisted on taking Pablo then. It took a half-hour calming him down to agreeing to make the "take down" the next day. I was very glad he relented for I was tired. It was midnight. Prior to leaving the base, we had to again convince Ramon not to do a pre-dawn raid. He relented, relating that he wanted all Tijuana to see him in operation, to let the people know that all policemen are not corrupt, that Pablo had lost his license to deal dope. That Pablo would, despite relating that he would not go back to jail, in fact would be jailed the following day. Ramon bragged that he would go back to his hotel room devise a plan to arrest Pablo and seize his heavily armed and fortified ranch and residence without firing a single shot.

I went back to my hotel room wondering how Ramon could execute such a "take down" without firing a single gunshot. Unlike in the United States, Ramon and his subservient MFJP agents were walking, search warrants. There was no need to prepare a lengthy detailed affidavit, have it perused and edited and amended by a prosecutor, then delivered far away to the residence of a judge for his signature. Ramon was the shortcut. He could also give us commensurate authority to search a residence in Mexico,

"Ramon gabbed him, spanked, threatened and intimidated him, threatened to arrest his wife, little wife, and children; then threatened to kill Hector and burn his house down if he did not fully cooperate. Naturally Hector agreed. According to Hector when he found out the main MFJP was Ramon; he had no other thoughts other than to fully cooperate. While you guys were gone, Hector took me outside and pleaded with me to really explain the extent of his cooperation to Ramon. He is petrified of Ramon. Hector cooked me a lobster and a steak and tried to serve me all kinds of drinks trying to be cooperative," Cesar related.

We drove over to a prearranged location and joined Ramon, other MFJPs and U.S. Drug Agents inside a Winnebago motor home. Ramon was screaming, hollering and apparently using profanity in Spanish. The part of Ramon's conversation that I could discern, he was very angry that "Pablo was riding high" as he explained and had state and local policemen on his payroll. The two U.S. Customs surveillant agents had actually been arrested when towed from the area of Pablo's house. Despite role playing and disavowing being involved with any law enforcement agency, it cost \$1,000 bail per agent to get them released from custody unharmed. I became concerned that he was angry because I had digressed from the original plan. MFJP and agents begged and pleaded with him in English and Spanish, but he did not relent his anger. I thought it was best that I offered an apology for digressing from the plan and spoke, "Licenciado Ramon, I am sorry for not sticking to the plan. I know I must have confused surveillance when I tripped," I pleaded.

Ramon seemed more irate, "Sorry. Why in the hell are you sorry Beenum? You guys did a good piece of work. We had the eyeball all the time. We had a bird in the air and we have had a bird dog on Pablo's LTD and Chevy truck for two weeks. We are glad you tripped," Ramon assured. He then walked over put his arm around me and reiterated, "Good job, Beenum. Good job." Ramon then turned to several MFJP agents and stated, "El Bee-

authority to shoot and kill if necessary. Thereafter Ramon would be the Coroner's Inquest and would rule the shooting "Justifiable Homicide." Ramon could delegate authority to foreign agents that could and would not be reciprocated in the United States. I was a bit perplexed with Ramon's power and authority, seeing him extremely incensed about Pablo and indicating that we would take Pablo down the next day without firing a single shot.

Yes today was Pablo's day—a day I somewhat hated to see arrive, for I had for some unforeseen reason gotten to like Pablo, admire how he strutted, personified his Napoleonic complex with the false bravado of how bad he was; how he strutted around like an American entrepreneur giving orders and jubilating inside when seeing his orders carried out. There was something strange about fellowshipping, even in an undercover capacity, drinking the best of liquor, eating the best of food and riding around in nice cars all at the expense of the to-be-arrested defendant and the United States Government. It was also thrilling walking the tight rope of death in an undercover capacity with contrabultrals that engaged in murder and mayhem as part of an everyday business enterprise. It is terrifying realizing while walking the tight rope; one can make the slightest mistake that could cause your instant demise in a violent way. It seemed as though every narcotrafficante had a point to prove, that violent death, assaults, kidnapping, drive by shootings and human torture were expected of the trade and the .45 automatic pistols with grips emblazoned with three different colored gold and precious stones were a status symbol of how treacherous the carrier was or wanted to be.

Perhaps what I regretted mostly about Pablo's day was the beating I knew he would be subjected to, a post arrest beating that would change his baritone voice to that of a soprano and thereafter during the interrogation most of his responses would be "Si Senor, Si Senor, Por favor no mas, no mas, no mas."

Yeah Pablo deserved all that he had coming. He would once again be Ramonized causing the word "Maricon" to flee from

his vocabulary forever.

We met at the military base at 9:30 a.m. and were briefed. Ramon indicated that he would give the bust signal. I joined one MFJP and a U.S. Customs pilot in a "sky master" aircraft, Flint 954. It was a weird plane with two propellers, one in the front and one in the rear of the fuselage. We went airborne at 10:15 a.m. over Pablo's house and circled. There were other small aircraft in the proximate area. The Tijuana airport was east of our location. Commercial airplanes took off every ten minutes, came west in our direction, banked left or right and flew north or southbound out of sight.

As we hovered over Pablo's house, I noticed a military helicopter hovering off the coast west of our location and a small helicopter flew south. A short distance east of the smaller helicopter a group of Mexican soldiers in tracks and jeeps had massed up in a makeshift parking lot.

Ramon came on the air in Spanish, thereafter 25-30 units responded. The MFJP related we were set to go. A few minutes later a large black smokestack bellowed upward on Pablo's street a block and a half south. A few minutes later two fire engines, with emergency lights, siren and horns in operation sped down the street past Pablo's house. The military helicopter moved closer to our location. The sirens sounded louder, horns blew and people rushed out of houses and adjacent buildings and rushed toward the fire. Two people came out of Pablo's house. A few minutes later all ten people from Pablo's house were in the prone position. A voice came over the radio in Spanish, then related in English "Bad guy 1 in custody," "Bad guy 2 in custody," "Bad guy 3 in custody," "Bad guy 4 in custody," "Bad guy 5 in custody," "Bad guy 6 in custody," "Bad guy 7 in custody," "Bad guy 8 in custody," "Bad guy 9 in custody," "Bad guy 9 in custody."

Ramon's voice came over "Diez-Cuatro." Ramon instructed the MFJP to bring Pablo to his location. A few minutes later, ten MFJP walked up to the side of Pablo's house. A short time

later five additional male Mexicans exited Pablo's house and were immediately taken into custody. Ramon had seized Pablo's residence, arrested Pablo and fourteen henchmen without firing a single shot. Pablo was driven over to Ramon.

A short time later, we landed and I joined Ramon with Pablo at a prearranged location and stayed in the background. I could see Ramon handcuffed to the rear and shackled at the ankles. He stood semi-erect on his knees facing Ramon where he was seated in a metal folding chair in front of him. Ramon had a bottle of club soda in his left hand and a sweiger stick in his right hand. He shook the bottle of club soda until it foamed. Ramon then squirted a portion of the club soda down Pablo's left nostril and shouted, "Quien es el hombre mál que todos los hombres de la mundo?"

Pablo jerked his head back into the hands of an MFJP standing to the rear, struggled and laboriously uttered, "Usted Senor, usted senor, usted." This went on for ten minutes with Pablo struggling and screaming, "Usted senor, por favor senor, usted senor, por favor senor no mas, no mas."

Ramon punished Pablo almost to the point of death with the club soda, cattle prod, his fist and swinger stick. His face was black and blue, darker under the eyes and heavily swollen. Pablo had been Ramonized and was now coughing up every bit of valuable enforcement information he could recount. Ramon was convinced that he had (twisted Pablo) converted Pablo, that Pablo would be his cooperating individual (CI), that he would never again traffic in drugs, that Pablo would never again be the bad ass "narcotraficante" that he had touted himself to be.

While standing in the distant background seeing Pablo being physically punished, I wondered why the Mexican utilized such an archaic technique, according to American standards. Whether they ever thought that physical punishment could make even the most innocent confess to a crime to alleviate being further punished.

I remembered a mistake another agent once made regarding physical punishment. I remember an incident a little while ago where Ramon and his crew had arrested a very handsome white couple for possession of three kilograms of brown Mexican heroin. Ramon interviewed them inside of their hotel room. Seeing Americans with Ramon, the couple became feisty and spouted profanity at Ramon, calling him a short sleazy Mexican motherf_____ and shouted something about having rights. Ramon remained calm for several minutes trying to elicit information regarding how and from whom the couple had obtained the heroin. They were very uncooperative and continued to call Ramon abusive names. Ramon summoned the cattle prod and placed the male in the bathtub and prodded him about the groin until he fell weak. He slapped the female very hard on the same cheek. A young U.S. agent gabbed Ramon and yelled, "That's a fucking enough. Ramon that's enough." Immediately Ramon's bodyguards grabbed the agent and restrained him.

Ramon gave all of us the admonition that he was in charge in Mexico; that nobody, especially no American, could or should ever tell him how to enforce laws in Mexico. Ramon became angrier than I ever thought he could be and related that we as American agents should be most pleased with his cooperation, especially being allowed to carry guns in Mexico, being allowed to shoot to kill if necessary without any subsequent problem; for even being allowed to physically arrest a Mexican citizen in Mexico. Ramon let us know that he and his government, in the spirit of cooperating, were providing cooperation that could never and would never be extended to him in the U.S. I remember how Ramon had ranted on about Americans traveling like "Marco Polo" but wanting to change everything everywhere they (Americans) went. According to Ramon, America was the greatest country in the world, greater than his own country. He went on and related that not like the Mexican peso, the U.S. dollar is spendable all over the world. Ramon had the funny idea that

eventually there would be one world currency, the U.S. dollar.

After fully interrogating Pablo, Ramon decided to raid his ranches. I felt sorry for Pablo for he looked like he was near death and was so naive to the point that he sounded like a stuck or broken record; the only words he uttered were "Si senor." He uttered "Si senor?" to everything and provided directions to his second ranch. Before he was beaten into submission Ramon stuck his .45 in Pablo's ear and made him telephone both ranches for safe passage. We then proceeded in Pablo's truck and MFJP truck and a Winnebago motor home in tandem to the first ranch. I stayed in the motor home and had a long discourse with Ramon en route. Despite his propensity for beating arrestees, I found him to be a very duty oriented man devoid of the corruption that often plagues many in his organization. Ramon related that the most frequent type of corruption involved an official being paid not to perform a function or not to see a particular activity and that sometimes the pay off was the unexplained deposits of money in one's account followed by a subsequent request. According to Ramon, his only corruption involved free sex every now and then. Money was of little or no consequence for he seemed to have more than his share.

We arrived at the first ranch at about 5:00 p.m. The sun was low in the sky and it had cooled down. We expected a smooth arrest. As we entered the gateway 100 yards from the main building, gunshots rang out, automatic weapons, shotguns and repeater rifles. The awful stench of gunfire filled the air, a cloud of bluish gray smoke filled the air. The projectiles sounded like Howitzer rounds passing. Approximately 300 rounds had been fired before we could gain our composure and respond to being caught in an ambush. Rapid fire of a 50-caliber tripod machine gun filled the air spraying the MFJP truck like target practice. Pablo's truck in front had been allowed to pass through the entrance way about 50 yards before the shooting started. I peeked out the upper front window and saw two MFJPs fall to the ground from both front

sides. Neither raised his gun, but moved slowly groaning and moaning in pain, agony and fear. Twelve MFJPs in the rear of the truck jumped out and immediately obtained prone positions in a fan like semicircle around the truck. Gunshots plowed the ground in front and around them. A large MFJP stood up momentarily in an attempt to enter the cab of the truck and I saw a bullet exit his back with viscera and clothing about the size of an orange. He fell to the ground immediately with no rise or fall in his chest.

I became frightened as bullets ripped the front and parts of the motor home. Ramon, six MFJPs and I fell to the floor. All I could hear was the continuous sound of gunshots commensurate with Ramon's cursing and yelling. Gunshots ripped across the windshield and doors of the motor home. I peaked through the window and saw the MFJP driver had been shot several times in the chest area. He moved and wheezed in deep pain coupled with a few words of profanity. His body then went rigid. His shotgun rider on the right front crouched his big body in the little space between the seats and firewall with an Uzi held tight with both arms. The shooting continued for what seemed like hours. We hugged the floor of the motor home and prayed for dear life.

All of a sudden the shooting stopped and voices in Spanish could be heard yelling in the distance. Ramon and the MFJP immediately jumped up. The passenger in front pushed the dead driver out on the ground, started the motor home and drove it slowly up toward the main house and stopped. Ramon loaded an M-16 with scope and handed it to me relating the shooters had run out of ammo and were sending runners to the house. The 50-caliber machine gun had jammed.

Ramon removed the LAW confiscated from Pablo's house, from under the left seat, jumped out the rear of the mobile home and quickly fired it into the second floor of the main building. The center of the second floor lit up instantaneously like a fireball and immediately the fire went out and black smoke bellowed into

the air. He told me to shoot the suspects on the hill on the right. I pointed the M-16 toward the hill on the right, but could see no irregularity of outline. I scanned the hill and again could not see the shooters. I brought the scope back to the crest of the hill and noted a shiny object reflecting from the sun, Ramon, screamed, "Shoot, shoot, shoot those cocks____rs Beenum, shoot." I laid a base of fire in the area of the shining object. Almost instantly three men fell to the ground tearing down a camouflage blind, revealing two other shooters with their rifles pointed directly toward our position. I placed the cross hairs of the scope of my rifle on the shooter on the left, steadied it on the bridge of his nose, stopped breathing momentarily and squeezed the trigger gently with a burst of 3-4 rounds. I saw his head jerk back quickly and violently. I then focused on the other shooter, placed the cross hairs of the scope on his left shoulder pectoral area and squeezed a short burst and watched his body jerk back violently, indicating that there were no live shooters on the north front hill. Contemporaneously the other MFJPs obtained positions under the left side of the mobile home and laid a continuous base of fire in the direction of the shooters on the left bank. Ramon loaded the LAW three times and fired three antitank weapons into the main building. A few minutes later three runners came out of the building. Two ran toward the right hill carrying ammo. The other ran to my left. I placed the cross hairs of the scope 6" in front of the first runner and fired a quick burst at his chest and watched him fall quickly to the ground. I repeated the same on the second runner and watched his body jerk violently backwardly and collapse. We fired on the small shacks on the right and left of the main building until nearly exhausting our ammo. The whole valley was filled with smoke from burning buildings and gunshots.

When it was all over, three MFJPs were dead, 17 bad guys were dead, and 40,000 pounds of marijuana, a huge cache of arms were seized. Only two people knew who had killed seven

of the bad guys. According to Ramon, he killed all of them. I thought Pablo would again be physically punished by Ramon and had begun to feel somewhat sorry for him.

Ramon asked if he could see one of my guns. I reached into my crouch area removed my 5-shot aluminum weight .38 caliber "Colt Cobra" loaded with 150 grain soft lead jacketed rounds. Ramon cursed and spoke angrily and violently to Pablo and occasionally struck him about the head and chest with my weapon. Pablo did not plea nor did he answer the questions posed to him. Ramon took Pablo to the back of the building between two tanker trucks, made him take off his pants, underwear and placed him in a bending position. He then called me over to ensure that Pablo's chest was almost parallel to the ground. He then came around to the front and ordered Pablo to lower his head. Ramon told me to stay up front and keep my eyes on Pablo's forehead. He then took my service revolver, placed in the area of Pablo's rectum and fired two rounds. Both bullets exited Pablo's head. He fell to the ground dead.

Pablo had committed the "death wish" according to Ramon. He had given the impression that he was cooperating but ultimately gave the order for the ambush. He had deceived the law, especially after being arrested. According to Ramon, Pablo had killed before and killing him was more than justified. Justified for we are now certain that Pablo would never kill again. Ramon advised that he had sentenced Pablo to death for leading us into an ambush.

En route back to the base, I fell somewhere between deep sleep and a blue funk. I could vaguely hear Ramon talking to Cesar in the cab of the motor home. I then started recalling that I had just killed seven bad guys and then had a daytime nightmare. To make matters even worse, the spook I had seen on the first bust was waiting for us at the Army base. He merely spoke briefly to me and moved amongst the MFJP and soldiers as though he was one of them.

There is eeriness from killing a man that is almost indescribable. There is always the thought that you have taken a human life, irregardless of the circumstances, coupled with a strong feeling of guilt, a feeling, rather a sense that despite how treacherous, how dangerous, how killing that person alleviated you and other law enforcement officers from being killed, that your taking of a human life, irregardless how legally justified, that doing so is wrong. There are always subsequent nightmares of the deceased having some good about him and being loved by his family and others. Those dreams came to me twice en route with the killing bullet always leaving the barrel of the gun in slow motion, taking forever to reach the target. The dying stared at me innocently in the eyes begging me not to kill them that they did not deserve to die. The dying always atoned for all wrong doings and even asked God for forgiveness. They told me that I did not have to kill them, that I could have shot the gun out of their hands or shot them in the arm or leg. Whether shot in the head, heart or leg, all the dying always had a sucking chest wounds with part of their abdominal visceral exposed to me. It seemed as though they lived forever breathing laboriously, with painful rales and ronchi. Even you begin to forget the terrifying sounds of their bullets passing Close to your body at 4500 feet per second. You, before the kill, start pondering alternative actions you could have taken. Maybe you could call the bullet back, pull it back abort it from reaching its target.

On this day, en route back to the army base, is when I had this daytime nightmare twice. I had killed seven men in one day. Perhaps it would not have been so sad had others fired at the group. I was the only shooter. Almost immediately after my first shots three men had fallen from behind the blind and at a distance of about 100 yards I could hear their death rattle. The sounds echoed in my ear.

Upon arrival at the army base, plans were formulated to utilize the military in taking down the second ranch. Ramon asked,

Thin White Lines

"Beenum are you going to saddle up and ride with the posse or have you had enough for the day?"

"I think I will sit this one out Ramon, you know the kind of paperwork we have to complete in these cases", I replied.

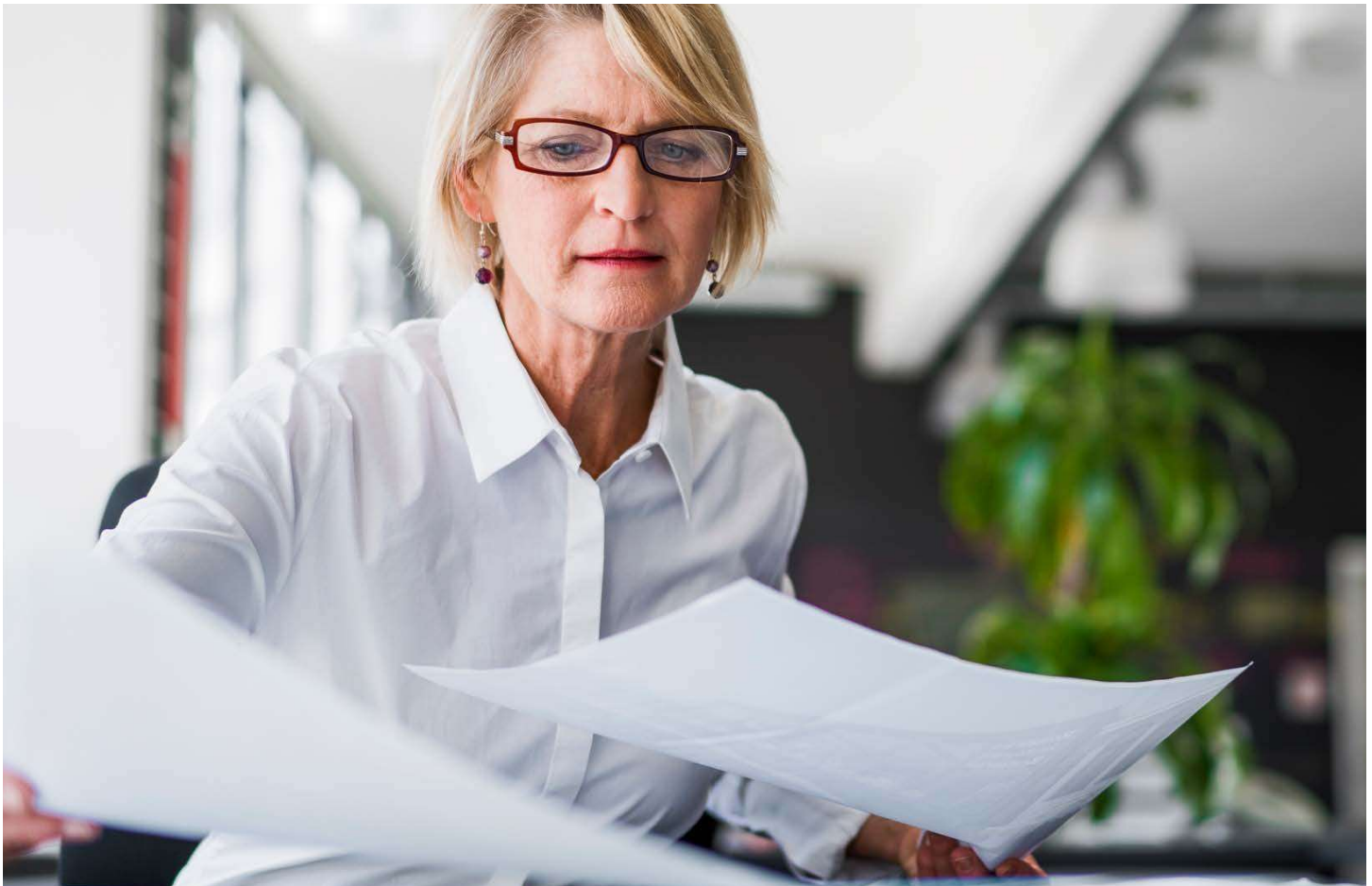
"Yeah, you guys have to write a what do you call it, a Sears catalogue in all of your cases. Our reports will be completed today. You will have all the information you need." Ramon assured. I watched Ramon and his men depart the base in a cloud of dust followed by two trucks of Mexican soldiers.



John is a retired U. S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agent (DEA). He worked 25 years in many DEA locations and had many dangerous assignments, with Detroit providing the most dangerous.

TRAFFORD
PUBLISHING





CHAPTER 7

How to Evaluate Your Drug Misuse Prevention Program

“

We must remember that prevention is really a long-term process. It will take ultimately sometimes eight to ten years to really see meaningful change in policy and commitment and behavior in our communities. Breaking things down into manageable steps, looking at data and assessing your outcomes along the way, can help you monitor your progress, so that you can actually keep track of it in real time.

—Dr. Sally Linowski, Associate Dean of Students, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Benefits of Evaluation

Evaluation can help prevention professionals and communities accomplish the following:

- » Systematically document and describe prevention activities
- » Meet the diverse information needs of prevention stakeholders, including funders
- » Continuously improve prevention interventions
- » Demonstrate the impact of prevention interventions on substance misuse and related behavioral health problems
- » Identify which elements of a comprehensive prevention plan are working well
- » Build credibility and support for effective interventions in the community
- » Advance the field of prevention by increasing the knowledge base about what does—and does not—work

How many of us enjoy prevention program evaluation? Working on a college campus where the focus is on furthering knowledge using fact-based evidence can make your work to change behaviors feel futile. How do you measure real behavior change? How do you account for shifts in AOD knowledge that don't lead to behavior change? Why, despite all you are doing, do your students' alcohol and drug use rates remain steady?

When faced with such daunting questions, you might instead focus on measures of engagement: How many students attended your workshop, or how many students went through your screening and brief intervention program.

However, a singular focus on engagement misses the real value of evaluation—rather than seeking to **prove** something, as many of the researchers on your campuses are working to do, evaluation seeks to **improve** processes. Understood in this way, evaluation is an exciting part of your prevention work as it can help you to enhance and tailor your programming to better fit your student populations.

Evaluation is the fifth SPF step, and it involves examining both the process and outcomes of prevention interventions. When conducting an evaluation, you want to systematically collect and analyze information about prevention activities to reduce uncertainty, improve effectiveness, and make decisions.

To better appreciate evaluation, let's demystify some of its key components. In this section, we will highlight:

- » **Different types of evaluation**
- » **Four basic evaluation principles**
- » **Evaluation tasks**

Different Types of Evaluation

There are two main types of evaluation: process and outcome. **Process evaluation** documents the implementation of a program or intervention. It can be used to improve an intervention's delivery and enhance understanding of prevention outcomes. The following are examples of process evaluation questions:

- » To what extent were intervention sessions delivered as originally designed?
- » How many people participated in the intervention?
- » How many participants did not complete the intervention?
- » What, if any, adaptations were made to the intervention?

This type of evaluation comes naturally to most of us who work with students. After all, measures of student engagement and interest are used on our campuses for everything from professor evaluations to justify funding for student programs or campus-wide initiatives.

Focusing solely on process evaluation, however, limits our understanding of a program's or intervention's impact. **Outcome evaluation**, which measures the effects of a program or intervention following its implementation, can reveal whether the intervention produced the anticipated short- and long-term prevention outcomes and helped build support for those interventions that worked. The following are examples of outcome evaluation questions:

- » To what extent did students' attitudes toward the priority problem(s) change?
- » To what extent did student rates of substance use behavior specific to the priority problem(s) change?

Because behavior change is a slow and often nonlinear process for most people, this type of evaluation can feel daunting. We fear delayed results will confirm any negative perceptions about the substance misuse prevention work we are engaged in. Though it may feel easier to report on process measures, both types of evaluation are needed to produce interventions and programs that will have lasting impact on student behaviors.

There are also two different ways for prevention staff and evaluators to work together: **traditional** and **participatory**.

In a **traditional** approach to evaluation, an evaluator is hired to conduct an evaluation and works independently—interacting with your intervention and staff as needed to retrieve information. For a substance misuse prevention program, for example, you would provide the evaluator with your program's materials, and the evaluator would define both the process measures and outcome measures and collect data to complete the evaluation.

By contrast, in a **participatory** approach to evaluation, an evaluator is invited to take part in an evaluation as more of an advisor and a partner—interacting regularly with all involved as part of the group, rather than outside of it. The team, of which the evaluator is a member, works together to plan and carry out the evaluation.

A participatory method may feel more natural to those of you on campus as it draws on learning methods that your students already engage in. Participatory evaluation values the contributions of all who are involved with a program, from students to staff to campus leaders. In addition, a participatory approach can do the following:

- » Increase evaluation buy-in and evaluation capacity among participants
- » Increase the likelihood that the evaluation results will be valued and used
- » Increase the likelihood that the evaluation will be culturally appropriate and relevant



Check In: What If My Outcome Evaluation Shows Our Intervention Doesn't Change Student Rates of Substance Misuse?

Outcome evaluation can feel like a day of reckoning. All of your work assessing data, building capacity, planning, and implementing leads to this: Does your program work as you intended? Does it affect student attitudes or beliefs or actual use of alcohol and drugs?

It's no surprise that process evaluation—measures of engagement, such as how many students showed up to a program or what they thought about the food—can feel easier to collect and report.

Unlike process evaluation, outcome evaluation can't be done well without bringing in an outside pair of eyes. And ironically, great outcome evaluation depends on great process evaluation. You can't figure out why you didn't achieve an outcome if you can't evaluate every step in the process to determine where your intervention broke down.

Here are some common reasons that your intervention may not have achieved its intended outcome:

- » Intervention needs to be done more frequently.
- » Intervention needs to be in a different format (e.g., online versus in person).
- » Intervention length is too long or too short.
- » Intervention components take longer to internalize than what the evaluation measured.
- » Intervention is not reaching the target audience.
- » Intervention isn't culturally relevant for the target audience.
- » Intervention isn't a good fit for the target audience.

You'll note that none of these have anything to do with your effectiveness as a prevention professional. Look at outcome evaluation as an opportunity to make your program stronger and more successful. Enlist an evaluation professional as part of your team, and evaluate with confidence!

Four Basic Evaluation Principles

All evaluations—whether process or outcome, traditional or participatory—should adhere to the following four principles: **utility**, **feasibility**, **propriety**, and **accuracy**.⁸⁵

To understand these principles in action, imagine that you are evaluating an intervention aimed at student athletes to address high-risk alcohol use during sports season. How would you make sure your evaluation is in line with the four principles?

UTILITY is about making sure the evaluation meets the needs of prevention stakeholders, including funders. To increase the utility of the evaluation, you should:

- » **Identify the evaluation needs of all key stakeholders**
(e.g., student athletes, coaches, alumni donors, campus leadership)
- » **Make sure evaluators are trustworthy and competent**
(e.g., consider hiring evaluators who have experience in the world of college athletics)
- » **Document findings so they are easily understood**
(e.g., keep technical jargon to a minimum and consider using the language and terms athletics and coaches use in your reports)
- » **Share findings with stakeholders in a timely manner**
(e.g., create a plan to get evaluation results to all stakeholders before you begin)

FEASIBILITY is about making sure the evaluation is realistic and doable. To ensure the feasibility of the evaluation, you should:

- » **Establish data collection procedures that are practical and minimize disruption**
(e.g., consider the athletes' schedule and time constraints when designing data collection)
- » **Anticipate and address potential obstacles**
(e.g., opposition from campus leadership, alumni, or other interest groups)
- » **Consider efficiency and cost-effectiveness**
(e.g., stay within your evaluation budget by using existing data)

PROPRIETY is about making sure the evaluation is conducted in accordance with legal and ethical guidelines and is consistent with each community's cultural context. To support the propriety of the evaluation, you should:

- » **Respect the rights and protect the well-being of all involved**
(e.g., *how will you ensure student athletes' privacy is maintained?*)
- » **Examine the intervention in a thorough and impartial manner**
(e.g., *what are your biases or misperceptions about this program or these students, and how will you address them?*)
- » **Define how findings will be disclosed and who can access them**
(e.g., *what types of reporting will you provide to your stakeholders? How will you allow access to data to ensure transparency and maintain privacy?*)

ACCURACY is about making sure the evaluation is conducted in a precise and dependable manner. To increase the accuracy of evaluation findings, you should do the following:

- » **Clearly describe the intervention and evaluation procedures**
(e.g., *use a logic model to depict different intervention components and who delivers each*)
- » **Gather and use information that is both valid and reliable**
(e.g., *use standard measures or data collection tools that others have tested*)
- » **Systematically and appropriately analyze all information**
(e.g., *start by looking at the quality of your data, including missing information and relationships between variables*)
- » **Justify and fairly report all conclusions**
(e.g., *describe the limitations of your methods as well as the strengths*)

Evaluation Tasks

Given all of the different methods of evaluation and principles to follow, the question of how exactly to begin an evaluation may feel increasingly opaque. However, for the past 20 years, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's *Framework for Program Evaluation* has guided evaluators with a rigorous and clearly defined method to undertake public health evaluation.⁸⁶

We have provided this framework in a checklist format. Remember that the best evaluations are collaborative processes that involve your stakeholders but also, crucially, engage the expertise of a professional evaluator. While there are some tasks that you will be able to complete on your own, don't hesitate to reach out for guidance on the more technical aspects of evaluation design and methodology.

TASK 1. Engage Stakeholders



An evaluation stakeholder is anyone who cares about, or has something to gain or lose from, an intervention and its evaluation findings.

Stakeholders include everyone who is:

- ☐ Involved in **delivering** the prevention interventions (e.g., *intervention staff, student leaders, funders, community prevention partners, campus task force members*)
- ☐ **Served** or **affected** by the prevention interventions (e.g., *students, community advocacy and interest groups affected by the issue, campus leaders, public officials*)
- ☐ In a position to **do something** with the evaluation findings (e.g., *campus leaders, student leaders, prevention partners, campus task force members, funders, public officials, community members*)

➔ Why Engage Diverse Stakeholders?

- » Demonstrate respect for the many individuals and groups connected to prevention efforts
- » Obtain the help and support needed to conduct a thorough evaluation
- » Enhance understanding of evaluation among those involved in data collection and analysis
- » Ensure the cultural relevance and appropriateness of the evaluation design, tools, and findings
- » Increase the credibility of prevention interventions as well as the evaluation process and findings
- » Increase the likelihood that evaluation findings will be disseminated and used
- » Garner support for any efforts to expand and/or sustain prevention interventions

TASK 2. Describe the Initiative



Remember the logic model we created in Chapter 5: Planning that lays out exactly what your prevention initiative intends to do and achieve? This tool can help your prevention team communicate its plans to stakeholders and serve as a framework for evaluating the initiative.


Specifically, your logic model has already identified the following:

- ☐ Priority substance use problem to be address by the prevention initiative
- ☐ Risk and protective factors, prioritized based on the degree to which they influence the problem at the local level and existing capacity to change them
- ☐ Evidence-based programs and strategies selected to address each priority factor
- ☐ Anticipated short- and long-term outcomes




Recall that a process evaluation can be used to monitor and improve the implementation of your program or intervention, while an outcome evaluation can measure if and how your intervention is producing anticipated behavior outcomes. When a prevention initiative is laid out fully and clearly in a logic model form, it is much easier to identify appropriate evaluation questions and gather the data needed to answer them. [Tip Sheet: [Using Process Evaluation to Monitor Program Implementation](#)]

TASK 3. Focus the Evaluation Design



Often, at the beginning of an evaluation, people jump right to thinking about *how* to collect data (e.g., “Let’s do a survey!”) before thinking through *what* data they’ll need. [Tool: [Providing Evaluation Technical Assistance: Questions to Guide Evaluation Planning](#)] 

This task is a great place to involve an evaluation professional who can help you think through the following steps:

- ☐ **Clarify your purpose:** For example, do you want to find out if your interventions reached your focus population, or how well they worked to bring about change? Your purpose should be dictated by your stakeholders’ needs, including funding requirements, and guide all decisions that follow.
- ☐ **Develop your questions:** Once you’re clear on your purpose, you’ll need to develop evaluation questions that are specific to what you want to learn. Some questions can help you learn about the implementation of an intervention while others can help you learn about its outcomes.
- ☐ **Select the right design:** There are different ways to design, or structure, an evaluation. Some questions are best answered by gathering data from intervention participants and practitioners throughout implementation. Other questions are best answered by gathering data before and after an intervention, and/or from nonparticipants as well as participants. This latter approach allows for helpful comparisons and a better understanding of an intervention’s effects. [Tip Sheet: [Selecting an Appropriate Evaluation Design](#)] 
- ☐ **Choose appropriate methods:** There are many different ways to gather the data you need. Which methods you select will depend on what you want to learn, your budget and timeline, and what’s most appropriate for your focus population.
 - **Qualitative methods** (e.g., interviews, focus groups) produce data that are usually expressed in words. They let you explore an issue or population in depth by answering questions such as *Why or why not?* and *What does that mean?* [Tip Sheet: [Strategies for Conducting Effective Focus Groups](#)] 
Tip Sheet: [Tips for Conducting Key Informant Interviews](#) 
 - **Quantitative methods** (e.g., surveys, checklists) produce data that are usually expressed in numbers. They allow you to draw general conclusions about an issue or population by answering questions such as *How much?* *How many?* and *How often?*

TASK 4. Gather Credible Evidence



How you gather data will determine how well you can answer your evaluation questions—and whether your findings will be taken seriously by others.

This is another task where you may want to engage an evaluation professional to help you think through ways to increase the credibility of your evaluation by:

- ☐ **Using quality tools and procedures:** This means using data collection tools and procedures that are both valid and reliable. A valid tool measures what it's supposed to measure. A reliable tool produces consistent results each time you use it. Selected tools and procedures should also be culturally appropriate.
- ☐ **Taking a mixed-methods approach** (i.e., a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods). This approach will allow you to examine your initiative from diverse perspectives, answer your evaluation questions more fully, and feel more confident in your findings.
- ☐ **Providing training and support:** Make sure that everyone involved in collecting and analyzing data gets the training and support they need to do it well.
- ☐ **Gathering enough data:** Gather enough data from different sources to be able to draw conclusions with confidence—without going beyond your budget or missing important deadlines. Look back at the data you may have collected from your institutional assessment to determine capacity or from your needs assessment. How much of that data can you use now in your own evaluation?
- ☐ **Managing the process:** It's important to take a systematic approach to storing and analyzing these data, as well as to developing and acting on your findings.

TASK 5. Justify Conclusions




Before you can justify your conclusions, you will need to analyze, synthesize, and interpret your evaluation data.

- ☐ **Analyze:** Analysis involves systematically examining each data source to determine key findings. Whenever possible, engage multiple reviewers in the data analysis process and make sure that everyone follows the same protocol.
- ☐ **Synthesize:** The next step is to compare and connect your results across data sources. By combining information from different data sources, you can detect areas of overlap and consistency—and identify new questions to explore when findings are inconsistent.
- ☐ **Interpret:** Finally, draw conclusions based on a careful examination of all your data. What positive or negative outcomes do your data reveal? Can you attribute these outcomes to the intervention or are other explanations possible? What decisions or actions do you recommend based on your conclusions?

When analyzing, synthesizing, and interpreting evaluation data, it is important to involve the right people. These include individuals with research expertise, intervention staff, students, and other prevention stakeholders who can help increase the accuracy and cultural relevance of evaluation findings.

TASK 6. Ensure Use and Share Lessons Learned



The best way to make sure that your evaluation findings will be used is to communicate them in ways that meet the needs of your diverse stakeholders. [Tip Sheet: [Reporting Your Evaluation Results](#)] 

For each audience, ask yourself the following questions:

- ☐ **What do they want to learn from the evaluation?** Different audiences care about different things. For example, campus leaders will want to hear about the big picture. Are your interventions changing student behavior? Are you putting campus resources to good use? Because colleges and universities are invested in evidence and fact-based learning, you should also be prepared to engage in a discussion about your methodology by providing details of your evaluation procedures, methods, and findings.
- ☐ **Which communication methods and channels are most appropriate?** Consider *how* your different audiences get their information. You may be able to share information with some groups (e.g., campus departments, student groups) through meetings, campus newspapers, or by email. However, you may reach a wider group of students using student-driven posts on whatever social media is currently popular among your students.



Ideas for Communicating Evaluation Findings

- » To share key evaluation findings with the public, submit a press release to local newspapers.
- » To get a large group on campus thinking and talking about evaluation findings, convene a campus town hall meeting.
- » To post on websites, distribute to mailing lists, and hand out at events, create fact sheets and/or infographics of key findings
- » To provide funders with a complete overview of the evaluation process and findings, write a full report.
- » To explore findings and potential next steps with student groups, schedule a small group presentation for each group.
- » To contribute to the prevention field, share your findings at a college health-focused conference or write and submit a journal article.

Finish Strong!

When planning a program evaluation, you should know the following:

- » The difference between process evaluation and outcome evaluation
- » How to determine which evaluation instruments can be adapted to assess your program
- » How to share evaluation results with your stakeholders
- » How you will celebrate your team and publicize your program's success to the campus community

MEMORIAL SECTION



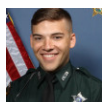
Major Terry Randall "Turtle" Arnold
Cook County Sheriff's Office, GA
EOW: Monday, October 3, 2022
Cause: Heart attack



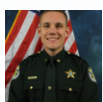
Police Officer Jordan Jackson
Bellevue Police Department, WA
EOW: Monday, November 21, 2022
Cause: Motorcycle crash



Chief of Police Joe Carey
Brodnax Police Department, VA
EOW: Friday, December 16, 2022
Cause: Struck by vehicle



Deputy Sheriff Blane Lane
Polk County Sheriff's Office, FL
EOW: Tuesday, October 4, 2022
Cause: Gunfire (Inadvertent)



Deputy Sheriff Christopher Taylor
Charlotte County Sheriff's Office, FL
EOW: Tuesday, November 22, 2022
Cause: Vehicular assault



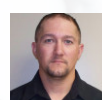
Detective Paul Daniel Newell
Benton County Sheriff's Office, AR
EOW: Saturday, December 17, 2022
Cause: Motorcycle crash



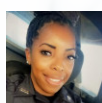
Deputy Sheriff Sidnee Carter
Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office, KS
EOW: Friday, October 7, 2022
Cause: Automobile crash



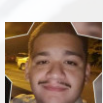
Detective Sergeant Frank Gualdino
Yonkers Police Department, NY
EOW: Thursday, December 1, 2022
Cause: Automobile crash



Deputy Sheriff Corey D. McElroy
Garrett County Sheriff's Office, MD
EOW: Wednesday, December 21, 2022
Cause: Automobile crash



Investigator Myiesha Breanna Stewart
Greenville Police Department, MS
EOW: Tuesday, October 11, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



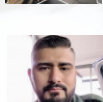
Deputy Sheriff José Angel DeLeon
Warren County Sheriff's Office, NC
EOW: Sunday, December 4, 2022
Cause: Automobile crash



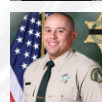
Corporal Ray Charles Hamilton
Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office, FL
EOW: Saturday, December 24, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



Lieutenant Dustin Demonte
Bristol Police Department, CT
EOW: Wednesday, October 12, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



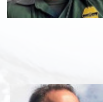
Border Patrol Agent Raul Humberto Gonzalez, Jr.
United States Department of Homeland Security - Customs and Border Protection - United States Border Patrol, US
EOW: Wednesday, December 7, 2022
Cause: Automobile crash



Deputy Sheriff Isaiah Cordero
Riverside County Sheriff's Department, CA
EOW: Thursday, December 29, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



Sergeant Alex Hamzy
Bristol Police Department, CT
EOW: Wednesday, October 12, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



Reserve Deputy Brad Miller
Maury County Sheriff's Office, TN
EOW: Monday, December 12, 2022
Cause: Automobile crash



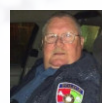
Chief of Police Justin McIntire
Brackenridge Borough Police Department, PA
EOW: Monday, January 2, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Police Officer Truong Thai
Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, NV
EOW: Thursday, October 13, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



Court Services Officer Curtis Matthew Worland
Alaska State Troopers, AK
EOW: Tuesday, December 13, 2022
Cause: Animal related



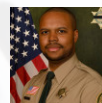
Police Officer Carl Douglas Kimball
St. Francisville Police Department, LA
EOW: Thursday, January 12, 2023
Cause: COVID19



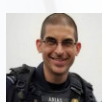
Police Officer Steven R. Nothem, II
Carrollton Police Department, TX
EOW: Tuesday, October 18, 2022
Cause: Automobile crash



Senior Corrections Officer Scott Ozburn Riner
Gwinnett County Department of Corrections, GA
EOW: Tuesday, December 13, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



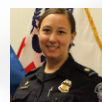
Deputy Sheriff Darnell Calhoun
Riverside County Sheriff's Department, CA
EOW: Friday, January 13, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Officer Jorge Arias
United States Department of Homeland Security - Customs and Border Protection - Office of Field Operations, US
EOW: Wednesday, October 19, 2022
Cause: Gunfire (Inadvertent)



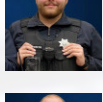
Police Officer Brandon Paul Estorffe
Bay St. Louis Police Department, MS
EOW: Wednesday, December 14, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



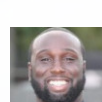
Supervisory Officer Jacqueline Montanaro
United States Department of Homeland Security - Customs and Border Protection - Office of Field Operations, US
EOW: Saturday, January 14, 2023
Cause: Fire



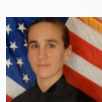
Police Officer Logan K. Medlock
London Police Department, KY
EOW: Sunday, October 30, 2022
Cause: Vehicular assault



Sergeant Steven Robin
Bay St. Louis Police Department, MS
EOW: Wednesday, December 14, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



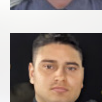
Master Patrol Officer Clarence L. "CJ" Williams
Cairo Police Department, GA
EOW: Saturday, January 28, 2023
Cause: Duty related illness



Lieutenant Kristina Zell
Niagara Falls Police Department, NY
EOW: Monday, November 7, 2022
Cause: COVID19



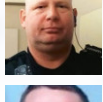
Sergeant Donald Scoby
Stuttgart Police Department, AR
EOW: Thursday, December 15, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



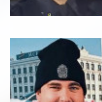
Police Officer Gonzalo Carrasco, Jr.
Selma Police Department, CA
EOW: Tuesday, January 31, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



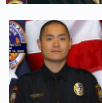
Criminal Investigator Steven A. Carnes
Tom Green County District Attorney's Office, TX
EOW: Sunday, November 13, 2022
Cause: Heart attack



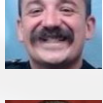
Deputy Sheriff Daniel J. Kin
Wyandot County Sheriff's Office, OH
EOW: Thursday, December 15, 2022
Cause: Automobile crash



Police Officer Sean L. Sluganski
McKeesport Police Department, PA
EOW: Monday, February 6, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Police Officer Brandon Tsai
Grand Prairie Police Department, TX
EOW: Monday, November 14, 2022
Cause: Vehicle pursuit



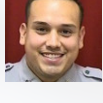
Deputy Sheriff Oscar Yovani Bolanos-Anavisca, Jr.
Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, NC
EOW: Friday, December 16, 2022
Cause: Vehicular assault



Police Officer Peter E. C. Jerving
Milwaukee Police Department, WI
EOW: Tuesday, February 7, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Marine Interdiction Agent Michel O. Maceda
United States Department of Homeland Security - Customs and Border Protection - Air and Marine Operations, US
EOW: Thursday, November 17, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



Police Officer Charles Herring
Pembroke Pines Police Department, FL
EOW: Thursday, February 9, 2023
Cause: Motorcycle crash





Police Officer Julian Becerra
Fountain Police Department, CO
EOW: Saturday, February 11, 2023
Cause: Fall



Police Officer James Muhlbauer
Kansas City Police Department, MO
EOW: Wednesday, February 15, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



Police Officer Geoffrey Redd
Memphis Police Department, TN
EOW: Saturday, February 18, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Correctional Officer Jay Miller
Washington State Department of Corrections, WA
EOW: Saturday, February 11, 2023
Cause: COVID19



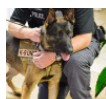
Sergeant Christopher D. Fitzgerald
Temple University Police Department, PA
EOW: Saturday, February 18, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Detention Officer Kenneth Fowler
Pontotoc County Sheriff's Office, OK
EOW: Sunday, February 19, 2023
Cause: Fall



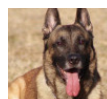
K9 MEMORIAL



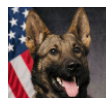
K9 Beni
Heflin Police Department, AL
EOW: Wednesday, January 5, 2022
Cause: Struck by vehicle



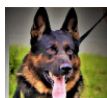
K9 Bluz
Kings County Sheriff's Office, CA
EOW: Thursday, May 12, 2022
Cause: Heatstroke



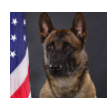
K9 Blue
Niceville Police Department, FL
EOW: Sunday, August 7, 2022
Cause: Automobile crash



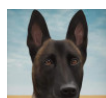
K9 Jedi
Seattle Police Department, WA
EOW: Wednesday, January 5, 2022
Cause: Stabbed



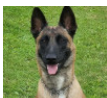
K9 Drago
Columbia County Sheriff's Office, FL
EOW: Wednesday, June 15, 2022
Cause: Heatstroke



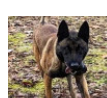
K9 Hannes
Kern County Sheriff's Office, CA
EOW: Thursday, August 18, 2022
Cause: Heatstroke



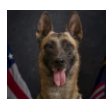
K9 Nitro II
York County Sheriff's Department, NE
EOW: Tuesday, February 8, 2022
Cause: Vehicular assault



K9 Exo
Pascagoula Police Department, MS
EOW: Thursday, June 23, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



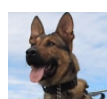
K9 Axel
Kern County Sheriff's Office, WV
EOW: Saturday, August 27, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



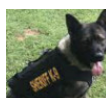
K9 Maya
West Jordan Police Department, UT
EOW: Thursday, February 17, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



K9 Odin
Virginia State Police, VA
EOW: Sunday, June 26, 2022
Cause: Fire



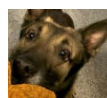
K9 Lux
Delaware Department of Correction, DE
EOW: Sunday, September 18, 2022
Cause: Heatstroke



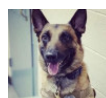
K9 Ciro
Humphreys County Sheriff's Office, TN
EOW: Thursday, March 3, 2022
Cause: Fire



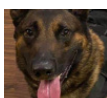
K9 Cannon
Fountain Valley Police Department, CA
EOW: Tuesday, June 28, 2022
Cause: Heatstroke



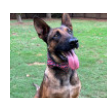
K9 Rocket
Metropolitan Police Department, DC
EOW: Monday, September 19, 2022
Cause: Heatstroke



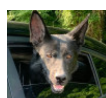
K9 Dash
Shepherdsville Police Department, KY
EOW: Wednesday, March 9, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



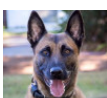
K9 Drago
Floyd County Sheriff's Office, KY
EOW: Thursday, June 30, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



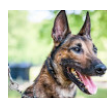
K9 Figo
Georgia State Patrol, GA
EOW: Friday, October 7, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



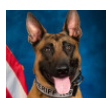
K9 Major
Franklin County Sheriff's Office, NC
EOW: Sunday, April 10, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



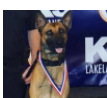
K9 Frankie
Massachusetts State Police, MA
EOW: Tuesday, July 26, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



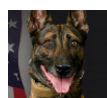
K9 Pepper
Greenville Police Department, NC
EOW: Wednesday, November 16, 2022
Cause: Animal related



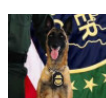
K9 Jinx
El Paso County Sheriff's Office, CO
EOW: Monday, April 11, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



K9 Max
Lake Wales Police Department, FL
EOW: Wednesday, August 3, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



K9 Jack
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, CA
EOW: Thursday, December 22, 2022
Cause: Gunfire



K9 Mina
United States Department of Homeland Security - Customs and Border Protection -
United States Border Patrol, US
EOW: Monday, May 2, 2022
Cause: Animal related



A POLICEMAN'S PRAYER

Saint Michael, heaven's glorious commissioner of police, who once so neatly and successfully cleared God's premises of all its undesirables, look with kindly and professional eyes on your earthly force.

Give us cool heads, stout hearts, and uncanny flair for investigation and wise judgment.

Make us the terror of burglars, the friend of children and law-abiding citizens, kind to strangers, polite to bores, strict with law-breakers and impervious to temptations.

You know, Saint Michael, from your own experiences with the devil, that the police officer's lot on earth is not always a happy one; but your sense of duty that so pleased God, your hard knocks that so surprised the devil, and your angelic self-control give us inspiration.

And when we lay down our night sticks, enroll us in your heavenly force, where we will be as proud to guard the throne of God as we have been to guard the city of all the people.

Amen.



Most Wanted Fugitives



**Yulan Andony
Archaga Carias**

is wanted for the following
alleged federal violations:
Cocaine importation;
racketeering conspiracy;
possession and conspiracy
to possess machine guns.



Chuen Yip

is wanted for the following
alleged federal violations:
Title 21 USC 846.



**Kenny Jing Ang
Chen**

is wanted for the following
alleged federal violations:
Conspiracy to Distribute
Heroin, 21 USC 846; Aid
& Abet Distribution of
Heroin, 841(a)(1) and 18
USC 2; Aid & Abet Carrying
of Firearm During Drug
Trafficking, 18 USC 924(c)
(1); Use of Minors in Drug
Trafficking, 21 USC 861(a)
(1).



**Nemesio Oseguera-
Cervantes**

is wanted for the fol-
lowing alleged federal
violations: 21 USC 846 21
USC 963 21 USC 959 21
USC 841 21 USC 924.



**Ismael Zambada
Garcia**

is wanted for the following
alleged federal violations:
The following alleged
Federal Drug Violations: 1)
18 USC Sec 1962 (d) RICO
Conspiracy; 2) 21 USC 846
and 841 (a)(1) Conspiracy
to Possess Controlled
Substance, over 5 kilograms
of cocaine and over 1000 ki-
lograms of marijuana; 3) 21
USC 963 952(a) and 960(a)
(b)(1)(B) and (G); Conspi-
racy to import a controlled
substance, over 5 kilograms
of cocaine and over 1,000
kilograms of marijuana; 4) 18
USC 1956 Conspiracy to
launder money instru-
ments; 5) 18 USC 2 & 924(o)
Conspiracy to possess
firearms in furtherance of
drug trafficking crimes and
aid and abet; 6 thru 10)
18 USC 2 & 1959(a)(1)&(5);
Violent Crimes in aid of rac-
keteeering activity and aiding
and abetting; 11) 21 USC
848 (e)(1)(A) Murder while
engaging in or working in
furtherance of a conti-
nuing criminal enterprise
or drug trafficking; 12) 21
USC 848(b)(1) and (2)(A)
Engaging in a continuing
criminal enterprise in furt-
herance of drug trafficking;
13) 18 USC 956 Conspiracy
to kill in a foreign country;
and (14) 18 USC 2 & 1201
Kidnaping and aiding and
abetting.



Julio Alex Diaz

is wanted for the following
alleged federal violations: 21
USC 846 Conspiracy to Pos-
sess with Intent to Distribute
heroin, fentanyl, and cocaine.



**Rommel Pascua
Cipriano**

is wanted for the following
alleged federal violations:
Distribution.



**Jesus Alfredo
Guzman-Salazar**

is wanted for the following
alleged federal violations:
Conspiracy to Possess with
Intent to Distribute Controlled
Substance; Attempt/Conspi-
racy-Controlled Substance-Im-
port/Export with Intent to
Distribute.



Helping our **“WARRIORS”**, veterans and first responders, grow their physical, mental, spiritual, and financial success. We do this by having them commit to **“The Experience”**.

A program that focuses on the four core areas, inspire, educate, empower, impact.



**HELPING OUR VETERANS, FIRST
RESPONDERS, & LAW ENFORCEMENT
TRANSITION.**

**www.warriorsgrace.org
844-927-1413, ext. 101**