

Personal Statement from the Editor...

Welcome to our fall issue of 2023, Narcotic Officers Magazine, Volume 12 Issue 2. 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.

In our last issue I touched 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. In this issue I want to talk about The Power of Healthy Relationships at Work by Emma Seppälä and Nicole K. McNichols.

Research confirms that our desire to feel seen, heard, and recognized is fundamentally human. As a species, we've evolved to place enormous value on our relative roles and relationships to other group members. Not feeling valued for your contributions or sensing that your value isn't acknowledged by others in your group activates the stress response and feels like a threat. Being rejected by your clan would put you at risk of being ostracized, which, in the wild, was akin to death. And that's probably why rejection activates similar regions in the brain as physical pain. It hurts. All of this means that helping employees feel motivated and engaged requires more than just restructuring the nature and design of their jobs. Time off, meditation, on-site daycare and fitness gyms can absolutely alleviate stress. But those things frame unhappiness as an individual condition when it's a relational problem in need of relational solutions. On the next page are five principles for improving work relationships, borrowed from the literature on leadership as well as social psychology research on interpersonal relationships. Whether the context is work or personal, all relationships flourish when you consider the following five core principles: (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!

"It takes guts and humility to admit mistakes. Admitting we're wrong is courage, not weakness." Roy T. Bennett, The Light in the Heart

Matt Neelley
- Editor



1. Transparency and authenticity

Healthy work relationships require clear, consistent, honest, and open communication, which itself is the key element in trust, without which all relationships fail. There is robust research showing that authenticity and transparency are critical to effective leadership. Without those qualities, employees feel disregarded and dehumanized. Moreover, research by James Gross and Robert Levenson also shows that we register inauthenticity as a threat. Our heart rate goes up when we encounter someone who is pretending to be something they are not. Authenticity, even when it means being vulnerable, puts people at ease. In fact, vulnerability has many benefits. Learn to communicate honestly yet compassionately. Make sure to listen and respond so others feel heard, seen, and valued.

2. Inspiration

In healthy relationships, people lift each other up by inspiring each other to be the best versions of themselves. One of the biggest predictors of relationship satisfaction is the ability for people to maintain positive images of each other. When someone sees the best in us, it motivates and inspires us to become better. The same holds true for employee-supervisor relationships, where research also shows that when we feel inspired by someone's perspective of us — that is, they see us for our best selves — it inspires us to improve. Whether it's an employee or a friend, we feel valued when others acknowledge and celebrate our strengths. This kind of interaction is deeply energizing, which further enhances productivity. Everyone wants to feel respected and appreciated for their individuality. Exercises like Reflected Best Self can help them (and you) do so successfully.

3. Emotional intelligence

How you handle emotions (especially the big, bad, negative ones) is critical to your ability to navigate inevitable conflicts. Are you self-aware? Do you know how to handle negative emotions successfully? One of the fastest and most efficient ways to regulate your emotions, our research shows, is through breathing.

When you relate to others, can you read non-verbal cues? Do you know how to act with skill and

compassion toward others? These skills and abilities also feed into another important attribute: the ability to exercise self-control. Research shows that our relationships, whether at home or at work, do better when we don't sweat the small stuff. Research also shows that our relationships thrive when we are able to occasionally put the needs of a relationship ahead of our own.

4. Self-care

Maintaining a connection with others requires maintaining your own balance and sanity as well. Learn which mental states burn you out faster. Exercise self-care by taking your vacations and making the most of minibreaks. Learn recovery techniques and build your stress resilience with meditation and nature. Encourage your employees to do the same (and make sure it's not just lip service). Set aside time just to focus on nurturing your own energy. It's impossible to nurture and honor the mental balance and health of others if you aren't first attending to your own.

5. Values

Humble leaders who are compassionate, generous, forgiving, and ethical do better. They lead with kindness and keep their employees' well-being in mind. They create positive workplaces that yield superior financial performance, customer satisfaction, productivity, and employee engagement. There is also robust research showing that when teams share the same mental models, meaning that they approach projects with the same sets of expectations and priorities, they perform better. Communicate goals clearly with employees and respect differences in how to approach work. Feeling connected to others requires being on the same page emotionally as well as intellectually.

In healthy work relationships, everyone benefits, and everyone experiences moments of authentic happiness and enjoyment. Businesses thrive under such leadership. "Nobody brings out as much engagement and performance as leaders who can balance between the head and the heart," Kushal Choksi shared in an interview. "It brings positive energy and empathy in the management style. And when your team feels inspired and taken care of, they bring their best selves to work."

Table of Contents

- 2 Message from the Editor
- 5 DEA Reports Widespread Threat of Fentanyl Mixed with Xylazine
- 14 DEA's Community Outreach Section
- 15 Thin White Lines by John P Sutton
- 27 Advice for Established and Emerging College AOD Misuse Prevention Professionals
- 36 Protective Factors: Adolescence through Young Adulthood
- 38 Memorial Section - Officer Deaths
- 39 Memorial Section - K9 Deaths
- 40 A Policeman's Prayer
- 41 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

Drug Enforcement Administration
Cheri Oz
Special Agent in Charge
Phoenix
@DEAPhoenixDiv
July 07, 2023
Contact: Jodie Underwood
Phone Number: (571) 387-3289
For Immediate Release

COOPERATION BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND MEXICAN LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADS TO SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION

TUCSON, Ariz. – Today, United States and Mexican law enforcement announced significant enforcement actions against a prolific transnational drug trafficking organization operating in Nogales, Sonora, along the U.S.-Mexico border.

After extensive bilateral cooperation between the United States and Mexico, Mexico's Attorney General's Office, Fiscalía General de la República (FGR) – conducted a significant enforcement operation on June 23, 2023, to dismantle a prolific transnational drug trafficking organization operating in Nogales, Sonora, along the U.S.-Mexico border. The operation resulted in the arrest of five people and the seizure of 120,000 fentanyl pills, 15 pounds of methamphetamine, 17 pounds of heroin, 15 pounds of cocaine, 3 assault rifles, one 9mm handgun, and a vehicle.

In addition, seven U.S.-based coordinators and operators with alleged ties to the same drug-trafficking organization have been arrested and indicted in the United States. Gerardo Bernal-Mazon, 29, Ashley Bernal, 31, Jessica Yesenia Valenzuela, 32, and Delyanira Lovio, 29, all of Nogales, Arizona, Juan Murillo, 48, of Rio Rico, Arizona, and Lilian Sugey Siegfried, 38, of Tucson, Arizona, were indicted by a federal grand jury on drug trafficking charges on February 2, 2023. George

Armenta-Vasquez, 45, of Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, was indicted by a federal grand jury on January 25, 2023.

“Transnational drug trafficking organizations pose an unprecedented public safety threat to both the United States and Mexico,” said Attorney General Merrick B. Garland. “These coordinated law enforcement actions demonstrate the success our countries can have when we work together to meet that threat.”

This effort is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) operation. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/OCDETF>.

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) – Nogales led the investigation in the United States, in concert with the DEA Mexico City Country Office, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) – Nogales, U.S. Customs and Border Protection's U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Field Operation, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives – Tucson. Support from DEA-Mexico City Country Office and FGR's Agencia de Investigación Criminal (AIC) was critical in providing coordination between United States and Mexican law enforcement agencies. The U.S. Department of Justice's Office of International Affairs provided assistance. The United States Attorney's Office, District of Arizona, Tucson, is prosecuting the seven individuals named above

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/07/07/cooperation-between-united-states-and-mexican-law-enforcement-leads>

Drug Enforcement Administration
Cheri Oz
Special Agent in Charge
Phoenix
@DEAPhoenixDiv
February 23, 2023
Contact: Jodie Underwood
Phone Number: (571) 387-3289
For Immediate Release

DEA, ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL & TEMPE POLICE ANNOUNCE 150+ SUBJECTS CHARGED & MASSIVE QUANTITIES OF NARCOTICS SEIZED

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 kilograms of fentanyl powder, 138 kilograms of cocaine, 3100 pounds of methamphetamine, 35 kilograms of heroin, 49 firearms and over \$2 million dollars. The narcotics seized in this investigation is valued at over \$13 million dollars. The fentanyl seized represents more than 30 million potentially lethal doses. This investigation is part of DEA's work in defeating the criminal drug cartels, Sinaloa and Jalisco (CJNG), who continue to drive addiction and drug poisonings in communities nationwide, threatening the safety and health of Americans. The Sinaloa Cartel is responsible for nearly all deadly narcotics flooding into Arizona.

“DEA Arizona is laser focused on the Sinaloa Drug Cartel. We will not stop,” said DEA Special Agent in Charge Cheri Oz. “This investigation is a testament to our strong partnerships which enable us to gain the necessary advantage over these evil criminal networks.”

“There are few families in our state and across our country that haven't

been touched in some way by the scourge of the opioid epidemic and fentanyl crisis,” said Attorney General Kris Mayes. “I am very proud of our agents’ work and am grateful for our strong partnerships with other law enforcement agencies. Getting these drugs off the street will undoubtedly save lives.”

“Our mission to reduce the supply and demand of illegal drugs within the City of Tempe would not be successful without the collaboration and, more specifically the hard work and dedication of our detectives, special agents, and professional staff,” said Interim Tempe Police Chief Josie Montenegro.

Fentanyl is the deadliest drug threat facing our country and most of the fentanyl is trafficked by the Sinaloa and CJNG Cartels who mass-produce the drug in secret laboratories in Mexico with chemicals sourced largely by China. It is a highly addictive man-made opioid and just milligrams of fentanyl, the small amount that fits on the tip of a pencil, is considered a deadly dose. The criminal cartels are mass producing fake pills to look like prescription drugs such as Oxycontin, Hydrocodone, Percocet, Xanax, and Adderall. They are also hiding fentanyl in other drugs such as cocaine, methamphetamine, and heroin. Any illicit fentanyl, regardless of color, shape, or size, is dangerous and can be deadly.

Last year DEA Arizona seized over \$22 million fentanyl laced fake prescription pills, 500 kilograms of fentanyl powder, over 10,000 pounds of methamphetamine, over 1400 kilograms of cocaine and over 400 pounds of heroin.

Law enforcement needs your help in spreading the word, to save lives. Families are encouraged to have open and honest communications with their loved ones, especially young people, about the dangers of fentanyl, fake pills and other illicit drugs. Never take a pill that wasn’t prescribed directly to you by your doctor. Never take a pill from a friend. Just one pill can be deadly.

More information for parents and families on the dangers of fentanyl and fake pills can be found on DEA’s website at One Pill Can Kill ([dea.gov](https://www.dea.gov)).

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/02/23/dea-arizona-attorney-general-tempe-police-announce-150-subjects-charged>

Drug Enforcement Administration
Daniel C. Comeaux
Special Agent in Charge
Houston
@DEAHoustonDiv
August 28, 2023
Contact: Sally M. Sparks
Phone Number: (713) 693-3329
For Immediate Release

LAREDO RESIDENT INDICTED FOR DISTRIBUTING FENTANYL CAUSING THE DEATH TO A JUVENILE

LAREDO, Texas – A federal grand jury has returned an indictment against a 22-year-old resident of Laredo for distributing Fentanyl which caused the death of a juvenile, announced Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Special Agent in Charge Daniel C. Comeaux of the Houston Division and U.S. Attorney Alamdar S. Hamdani.

Authorities arrested Jose Antonio Carlos III today. He is expected to appear before U.S. Magistrate Judge Christopher dos Santos Aug. 25 at 9:30 a.m.

The two-count indictment, returned Aug. 22, alleges Carlos distributed Fentanyl, a schedule II-controlled substance, to another individual May 16. That person was a juvenile who subsequently died after using the drug, according to the charges.

Carlos is also charged with one count of possession with the intent to distribute Fentanyl.

If convicted of the distribution resulting in death, Carlos faces up life in federal prison with a mandatory minimum of 20 years. He could also be ordered to pay up to a \$1 million fine.

The Drug Enforcement Administration would like to thank the hard-working

agents of the DEA Laredo Overdose Task Force. This local task force is comprised of Laredo Police Department, Webb County District Attorney’s Office, Webb County Sheriff’s Department and other local based federal agencies that were instrumental in bringing this local killer of an unwitting teenager to Justice.

This case is being prosecuted as part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) investigation. OCDETF is the largest anti-crime task force in the country. OCDETF identifies, disrupts and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found on the Department of Justice’s OCDETF webpage.

More information on the dangers of fentanyl can be found on the DEA’s website. [#OnePillCanKill](https://www.dea.gov)

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence. A defendant is presumed innocent unless convicted through due process of law.

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/08/28/laredo-resident-indicted-distributing-fentanyl-causing-death-juvenile>

Drug Enforcement Administration
Daniel C. Comeaux
Special Agent in Charge
Houston
@DEAHoustonDiv
March 24, 2023
Contact: Sally M. Sparks
Phone Number: (713) 693-3329
For Immediate Release

CORPUS CHRISTI MAN ARRESTED FOR SELLING FENTANYL-LACED PILLS CAUSING DEATH

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 Ricardo Julian Kross Rios aka Kross, 21, Corpus Christi Thursday. He is expected to make his initial appearance before U.S. Magistrate Judge Mitchel Neurock at 9:45 a.m. Friday.

A federal grand jury in Corpus Christi returned the two-count indictment March 22, 2023. It alleges that on Dec. 9, 2022, Rios possessed and delivered a substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl, the use of which resulted in the death of a person. Rios was also charged with one count of possessing fentanyl for the purpose of distribution on Jan. 17.

If convicted of distributing fentanyl causing death, Rios faces up to life in prison. He could also be fined up to \$1 million. The possession of fentanyl with the intention to distribute carries a 20-year maximum sentence.

The Drug Enforcement Administration led the cooperative law enforcement effort targeting fentanyl with the assistance of Homeland Security Investigations, Jim Wells County Sheriff's Office and police departments in Corpus Christi, Aransas Pass and Mathis. Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert D. Thorpe Jr. is prosecuting this case.

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence. A defendant is presumed innocent unless convicted through due process of law.

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/03/24/corpus-christi-man-arrested-selling-fentanyl-laced-pills-causing-death>

Drug Enforcement Administration
Brian D. Boyle
Special Agent in Charge
New England
@DEANewEngland
July 26, 2023
Contact: Kristen Govostes
Phone Number: (617) 557-2100

For Immediate Release

NEW BEDFORD MAN SENTENCED FOR ROLE IN FENTANYL TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION

BOSTON – A New Bedford man was sentenced today in federal court in Boston for his role in a drug trafficking organization (DTO) operating in Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Jason Cruz, 42, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Allison D. Burroughs to 16 months in prison and three years of supervised release. In May 2023, Cruz pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute fentanyl.

Between approximately April 2022 and approximately June 2022, Cruz purchased fentanyl from the DTO that he then redistributed to others. Intercepted communications depicted Cruz discussing purchasing fentanyl from the DTO. In addition, surveillance footage showed other members of the DTO visiting Cruz's residence for brief periods of times, often times consistent with illegal drug trafficking.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy; Brian D. Boyle, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration, New England Field Division; New Bedford Police Chief Paul Oliveira; and Fairhaven Police Chief Michael J. Myers made the announcement today. Special assistance was provided by the Massachusetts State Police; Homeland Security Investigations; Bristol County Sheriff's Office; and Fall River, Taunton, Attleboro, Scituate, Yarmouth, Providence (R.I.) and West Warwick (R.I.) Police Departments. Assistant U.S. Attorney John T. Mulcahy of the Narcotics & Money Laundering Unit prosecuted the case.

This effort is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) operation. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven,

multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/OCDETF>.

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/07/26/new-bedford-man-sentenced-role-fentanyl-trafficking-organization>

Drug Enforcement Administration
Brian D. Boyle
Special Agent in Charge
New England
@DEANewEngland
May 24, 2023
Contact: Kristen Govostes
Phone Number: (617) 557-2100
For Immediate Release

TWO CONVICTED FOR ROLES IN DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION WITH TIES TO MEXICAN CARTEL

BOSTON – Two men were convicted today by a federal jury in Boston for operating a large-scale international fentanyl trafficking and money laundering conspiracy.

Fermin Castillo, 43, of Boston, and Andre Heraux Martinez, 24, of the Dominican Republic, were convicted following a seven-day jury trial of conspiracy to distribute over 400 grams of fentanyl and conspiracy to commit money laundering. U.S. Senior District Court Judge William G. Young scheduled sentencing for Sept. 12, 2023. Castillo and Heraux were indicted on April 15, 2021.

In July 2020, law enforcement began an investigation into a drug trafficking and money laundering organization distributing large quantities of fentanyl and laundering drug proceeds. Intercepted communications identified Fermin Castillo as the leader of the organization who coordinated fentanyl shipments from Sinaloa, Mexico to Massachusetts and the laundering of hundreds of thousands of dollars. As part of the conspiracy, Heraux maintained a drug stash apartment located in Hyde Park, which was used to store and process kilograms of fentanyl and delivered a total of over \$500,000 in

drug proceeds to undercover officers posing as money launderers.

In August 2020, Castillo coordinated the delivery of \$200,000 to a separate New York-based money laundering organization, as well as the delivery of \$100,000 to an undercover officer in December 2020. In January 2021, Castillo coordinated the delivery of \$150,000 which was ultimately seized from Heraux as he attempted to deliver the money on behalf of Castillo. Additionally, in February 2021, 197 grams of fentanyl was seized from Heraux as he attempted to deliver the drugs to a customer of the organization.

In total, over 10 kilograms of fentanyl and heroin were seized from Heraux's stash apartment along with additional fentanyl from other members of the drug trafficking and money laundering organization.

The charge of conspiracy to distribute over 400 grams of fentanyl provides for a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years and up to life in prison, at least five years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$10 million. The charge of conspiracy to commit money laundering provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, at least three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$500,000, or twice the value of the funds laundered, whichever is greater. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy; Brian D. Boyle, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration, New England Field Division; and John E. Mawn Jr., Interim Colonel of the Massachusetts State Police made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Leah B. Foley and Stephen W. Hassink of Levy's Narcotics & Money Laundering Unit are prosecuting the case.

This case is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) Strike Force Initiative, which provides for the establishment of permanent multi-agency task force

teams that work side-by-side in the same location. This co-located model enables agents from different agencies to collaborate on intelligence-driven, multi-jurisdictional operations to disrupt and dismantle the most significant drug traffickers, money launderers, gangs, and transnational criminal organizations. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/OCDETF>.

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/05/24/two-convicted-roles-drug-trafficking-organization-ties-mexican-cartel>

Drug Enforcement Administration
David F. Reames
Special Agent in Charge
Seattle
@DEASeattleDiv
August 04, 2023
Phone Number: (571) 387-3831
For Immediate Release

BORDER ENFORCEMENT SECURITY TASK FORCE SEIZES 30,000+ FENTANYL PILLS FROM ALLEGED TRAFFICKER IN TUKWILA, WASHINGTON

SEATTLE – A 46-year-old Mexican citizen is in federal custody tonight charged with possession of controlled substances with intent to deliver, for some 30,000 fentanyl pills found in his pick-up truck, announced Acting U.S. Attorney Tessa M. Gorman. David Garcia-Garcia made his appearance on the criminal complaint this afternoon. He remains detained pending further hearings.

According to records filed in the case, the Border Enforcement Security Task Force became aware that a dealer known as "Daby," was offering fentanyl for sale. Agents were able to identify Daby as an alias for Garcia-Garcia. A meeting was arranged with Garcia-Garcia near a restaurant in Tukwila to review the goods for a possible drug sale. Following the drug

meeting, officers moved in and arrested Garcia-Garcia and impounded his truck.

Law enforcement obtained a search warrant for the truck and found multiple packages of fentanyl pills – the total was more than three kilos – likely more than 30,000 fentanyl pills.

Because of the amount of fentanyl involved, Garcia-Garcia faces a mandatory minimum ten years in prison and up to 40 years in prison.

The charges contained in the criminal complaint are only allegations. A person is presumed innocent unless and until he or she is proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Garcia-Garcia faces deportation following any prison term.

The case was investigated by agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and officers from Homeland Security Investigation (HSI), and the Seattle Police Department.

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/08/04/border-enforcement-security-task-force-seizes-30000-fentanyl-pills>

Drug Enforcement Administration
David F. Reames
Special Agent in Charge
Seattle
@DEASeattleDiv
June 16, 2023
Phone Number: (571) 387-3831
For Immediate Release

FORMER ALASKA ADVANCED NURSE PRACTITIONER SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS FOR ILLEGALLY PRESCRIBING MILLIONS OF OPIOIDS CAUSING FIVE DEATHS

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA—Former Advanced Nurse Practitioner Jessica Joyce Spayd (52) was sentenced in U.S. District Court yesterday to 30 years (360 months) imprisonment for illegally prescribing and dispensing opioids outside the scope of legitimate medical practice that resulted in the

deaths of five people between 2014 and 2019. United States District Judge Joshua M. Kindred handed down the sentence.

A jury convicted Spayd on October 27, 2022, of 10 crimes including five counts of illegal drug distribution that resulted in death and one count of maintaining a drug involved premises. She was also ordered to forfeit \$117,000 in unlawful proceeds.

The parties presented 51 witnesses during the four-week trial. Government witnesses included pharmacists who refused to fill prescriptions from Spayd, law enforcement agents and officers who investigated the deaths, Spayd's employees, individuals who received pills from Spayd, medical experts, every Medical Examiner in Alaska (each of whom performed autopsies on different overdose victims), and family members of the victims.

Evidence presented during the trial showed that Spayd prescribed and dispensed 4.5 million dosages of opioids in just over five years including fentanyl, methadone, oxycodone, and hydromorphone. Many times she combined those prescriptions with prescriptions for dangerous other drugs like valium and muscle relaxers, known as the "holy trinity," greatly increasing the chances of overdose death. She wrote these prescriptions with little to no medical justification or treatment plan; minimal, if any, tests or physical examinations; and little, if any, considerations of non-opioid treatment. Many of her patients were vulnerable and suffering from chronic pain, addiction, and mental illness, yet Spayd disregarded their medical histories, risk factors, past overdoses, symptoms, and pleas to reduce or taper their doses. She also ignored warnings from patients' family members, pharmacists, and other medical providers, and defied thousands of warning letters sent by insurance companies about the dangers of her practices.

"Ms. Spayd betrayed the trust of her profession, those under her care, and her community by prescribing a staggering amount of opioids along with other powerful narcotics," said Jacob

D. Galvan, Acting Special Agent in Charge, DEA Seattle Field Division. "This lengthy sentence emphasizes the seriousness of Ms. Spayd's actions and should be seen as deterrent to those who aim to bring harm to our communities."

In imposing the sentence, Judge Kindred emphasized the trust that society places in medical practitioners like Spayd and remarked that "when [practitioners] fail in their responsibilities, [they] can do far greater harm than the drug dealer on the street corner." He also acknowledged that Spayd "knew she was in effect killing people, and she just kept doing it," for nearly two decades.

"This is the deadliest drug case in this district's history. And disturbingly, the five deaths the Defendant was convicted of at trial are just the tip of the iceberg" because "Spayd may have caused or contributed to the deaths of dozens: 20 total confirmed drug overdoses and many others suspected. She was a serial killer with a 'poison pen,'" Assistant U.S. Attorney Ryan D. Tansey wrote in a sentencing memorandum filed with the court. "[H]er conduct was far more insidious" than that of a street level dealer "because she sanctioned (and supplied) lethal levels of drugs for her patients, day after day, year after year, under the shroud of a prescribing license, assuring them that it was safe and necessary. In the process, she abused her authority and violated her oath as a medical professional, prescribing higher doses per patient than any other prescriber in Alaska during the charging period."

"Medical practitioners who abuse their positions of trust by supplying millions of opioids for no legitimate medical purpose wreak havoc on our community," said U.S. Attorney S. Lane Tucker. "Let this sentence send a clear message to any other medical practitioners considering similar conduct in Alaska: our office and law enforcement partners will work tirelessly to investigate and prosecute these cases, and you will be punished severely."

"Spayd callously abused her dispensing authority, while fueling the opioid epidemic and poisoning our communities in the process," said Special Agent in Charge Antony Jung of the FBI Anchorage Field Office. "This investigation and subsequent prosecution was about seeking justice for the victims and their families, and holding Spayd accountable for her destructive and lethal crimes. With Spayd's abuse linked to a significant loss of life, this sentence will undoubtedly have a direct public safety impact on our community."

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Ryan Tansey and Michael Heyman prosecuted the case.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) conducted the investigation leading to the charges in this case, with invaluable assistance from members of the North Slope Borough Police Department, the Alaska Health Care Fraud Task Force, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services-Office of the Inspector General, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Office of Law Enforcement and Security, Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Alaska State Parks Rangers, Alaska State Troopers, Anchorage Police Department, Alaska Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, and the State of Alaska Division of Insurance.

The Alaska Health Care Fraud Task Force (AHCFTF) is a partnership of local, state, federal, and private agencies focused on the investigation of health care fraud, waste, and abuse in Alaska or affecting Alaskan interests. For more information: <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/anchorage/alaska-health-care-fraud-task-force>

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/06/16/former-alaska-advanced-nurse-practitioner-sentenced-30-years-illegally>

Drug Enforcement Administration
Eduardo A. Chávez
Special Agent in Charge
Dallas
@DEADallasDiv
July 06, 2023
Contact: Cynthia M. Velazquez
Phone Number: 571-324-7481
For Immediate Release

FENTANYL DISTRIBUTER TIED TO 13-YEAR-OLD'S OVERDOSE DEATH PLEADS GUILTY

DALLAS, TX - A drug distributor who was selling fentanyl-laced counterfeit M30 pills to a Carrollton middle schooler shortly before her fatal overdose pleaded guilty today to a federal drug crime, announced Eduardo A. Chávez, Special Agent in Charge of DEA Dallas

Rafael Soliz, Jr., 23, was indicted in March. He pleaded guilty Thursday to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute fentanyl before U.S. Magistrate Judge Renee Harris Toliver.

"Anyone selling fentanyl to children will find themselves becoming a top priority for the Drug Enforcement Administration," said DEA Special Agent in Charge Eduardo A. Chávez. "The DEA will continue to focus our resources on stopping this deadly threat from reaching and causing more harm to our next generation."

"My heart aches for the victim in this case – a promising young girl who'd barely entered her teens. The defendant not only sold her fentanyl but also taught her how to ingest it. In essence, he encouraged a mere child to snort a terrifyingly potent, highly addictive drug – and then urged her to cover for him with law enforcement," said U.S. Attorney Leigha Simonton. "The Northern District of Texas is pulling out all the stops to rid the streets of dealers and keep fentanyl out of the hands of our kids. Our community cannot endure much more of this."

"We will never stop fighting to protect our community from this dangerous drug. I'm proud of the men and women of the Carrollton Police Department, who are working tirelessly

ly to rid the community of this poison. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family," said Carrollton Police Chief Roberto Arredondo.

According to plea papers, Mr. Soliz admitted he sold fentanyl to both street-level dealers and directly to users, including children.

Mr. Soliz used an Instagram account to communicate with both adult and minor customers interested in purchasing counterfeit M30 pills containing fentanyl. On Nov. 30, Mr. Soliz responded via Instagram messenger to a 13-year-old girl who asked him if she could buy "percs." Soliz agreed and delivered the pills to her residence. He then advised her how to snort them.

A few days later, upon discovering that the child, a student at Dewitt Perry Middle School, was just 13, he expressed dismay at her age but agreed to continue selling to her if she would "keep it on the down low" and deny he was her dealer if she ever got caught. On December 9, 2022, he advised her to "delete our chat" and instead use Instagram Vanish Mode.

Two days later, the child was found dead in her Carrollton bedroom. An autopsy revealed she'd died from a toxic combination of fentanyl and cough medicine.

In his plea papers, Mr. Soliz stipulated that he personally distributed approximately 1,500 fentanyl pills to adults and juveniles, including the 13 year-old victim. He stated he dealt hundreds of pills directly to Luis Eduardo Navarrete, one of the first traffickers charged in the wake of the Carrollton juvenile fentanyl overdoses.

Mr. Soliz is the fifth defendant charged in the wake of the Carrollton / Flower Mound juvenile overdose investigation to enter a guilty plea. Jason Xavier Villanueva, Magaly Cano, Donovan Jude Andrews and Stephen Paul Brinson pleaded guilty earlier this year; three other defendants, including Mr. Navarrete, have been charged but not yet convicted. (All are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.)

Mr. Soliz now faces up to 40 years in federal prison. Under the terms of his plea agreement, he may be called upon to testify in court.

The Drug Enforcement Administration's Dallas Field Division and the Carrollton Police Department conducted the investigation with the assistance of the Carrollton - Farmer's Branch Independent School District. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Rick Calvert and Phelesa Guy are prosecuting the case.

Note: Illicitly produced, fentanyl-laced pills often look similar to legitimate prescription pills like Oxycontin or Percocet, but can pose significantly more danger. On the street, these pills are often referred to as "M30s" (a reference to the markings on some of the pills), "blues," "perks," "yerks," "china girls," or "TNT." DEA research shows that six out of ten pills laced with fentanyl contain a potentially lethal dose. One pill can kill. For resources, visit <https://www.dea.gov/onepill>.

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/07/06/fentanyl-distributor-tied-13-year-olds-overdose-death-pleads-guilty>

Drug Enforcement Administration
Robert J. Murphy, Jr.
Special Agent in Charge
Atlanta
@DEAAtlantaDiv
June 29, 2023
Contact: SA Crystal Harper
Phone Number: (571) 362-3433
For Immediate Release

U.S. ATTORNEY ANNOUNCES 17 INDICTMENTS IN FAYETTEVILLE AREA AS PART OF ONGOING FEDERAL VIOLENT CRIME AND DRUG STRATEGY

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. – Today, U.S. Attorney Michael Easley, along with federal and local law enforcement, announced ongoing and coordinated efforts to address violent crime and drug trafficking in Fayetteville and surrounding areas.

This effort was conducted as part of

two strategic initiatives underway in the region: the Violent Crime Action Plan (VCAP) and the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF).

Over the last two months, 17 individuals were indicted by grand juries for federal charges and are currently in custody. As part of the initiative, 16 guns, four auto sash machine gun switches, nearly 1500 rounds of ammunition, nearly a kilogram of cocaine, approximately an ounce of fentanyl, 100 MDMA/fentanyl pills, cash and two luxury SUVs have been seized.

Additionally, convictions have now been secured against all three North Carolina defendants in an international fentanyl trafficking ring that operated in multiple cities, including the city of Fayetteville. Earlier this month, a federal jury returned verdicts of guilty on both counts against Hector Perez Valenzuela, who was found with seven kilograms of pure fentanyl. In total, the fentanyl trafficking ring was held accountable for distributing more than 40 kilograms of fentanyl around the country.

“As we head into the summer months, when we typically see an uptick in violent crime, we want to send a strong and unified message that this community stands against gun violence and drug traffickers,” said U.S. Attorney Michael Easley. “We are working with law enforcement at every level to get dangerous, illegal guns and drugs off the streets and put the individuals most responsible for violence and narcotics behind bars. We are using every tool available to keep our communities safe.”

VCAP is a collaboration of the U.S. Attorney’s Office with the Fayetteville Police Department (FPD), the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office (CCSO), the Cumberland County District Attorney’s Office, and the United States Marshals Service (USMS). A primary objective of the VCAP is to identify and systematically investigate and

prosecute individuals contributing to crime in the city of Fayetteville and surrounding areas. Law enforcement partners use inter-agency coordination and intelligence-led policing, analyzing crime data to deploy resources where they are most needed and leveraging federal Task Force officers to bring federal technology to address local gun violence.

OCDETF investigations identify, disrupt, and dismantle the highest-level drug traffickers, money launderers, gangs, and transnational criminal organizations that threaten the United States by using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach that leverages the strengths of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies against criminal networks.

“Fentanyl poisonings and other dangerous drugs have taken a terrible toll on our communities,” said Robert J. Murphy, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Atlanta Division. “Violent criminals and drug traffickers will face the consequences of their actions.”

“The Fayetteville Police Department remains committed to our partnership with Federal and State agencies to remove violent and career criminals from our community,” said Fayetteville Police Chief Kemberle Braden. “This partnership and the highlighted cases presented today support our goal of making Fayetteville a safe and secure community.”

“These indictments and seizures demonstrate the FBI’s relentless determination to eradicate the sales of illegal drugs. We are proud to work side by side with our law enforcement partners to hold these individuals accountable,” said Robert M. DeWitt, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Charlotte Special Agent in Charge.

“Drugs are affecting families and killing our loved ones,” said Cumberland County Sheriff Ennis W. Wright. “Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Agencies nationwide are constantly collaborating to find opportunities to improve safety in our communities. We hold everyone who endangers our communities with gun violence

and poisons like Fentanyl, Cocaine, Meth, and Heroin responsible. While the drug dealers think they are safe, we are putting you on notice that your dealings are being watched, and rest assured that we are on the way to you and have a place for you to stay.”

“ATF and our law enforcement partners support the Violent Crime Action Plan because it focuses on those individuals who pose the biggest threat to our communities,” said Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Special Agent in Charge Bennie Mims. “We can have a major impact on the level of crime and violence in a community when we take firearms out of the hands of dangerous, prohibited individuals.”

“The Cumberland County District Attorney’s Office is proud to be a part of the Violent Crime Action Plan,” said Cumberland County District Attorney Billy West. “We are committed to partnering with our local, state, and federal law enforcement to aggressively prosecute violent crime. These indictments are an example of working together with our partners to remove dangerous and illegal drugs and guns as well as violent offenders from our community.”

There are a wide range of charges on these subjects including felon in possession of a firearm, robbery, possession with intent to possess/distribute narcotics, as well as possessing firearms in furtherance of drug trafficking crimes and crimes of violence.

The following individuals, all from Fayetteville and surrounding areas, face federal prosecution resulting from VCAP:

- Norman Vincent Brown, age 33, felon in possession of a firearm
- Malik Crawford, age 26, interference with commerce by robbery and possession of firearm during a crime of violence
- Joseph Monroe Griffin, age 33, felon in possession of a firearm
- Ondrilleis Malloy, age 26, felon in possession of a firearm

- Demarco McLucas, age 22, felon in possession of a firearm
- Tammy Michelle Mitchell, age 42, felon in possession of a firearm
- Anthony Thomas, age 27, interference with commerce by robbery and possession of firearm during a crime of violence
- Samuel Thompson, age 20, possession of a machinegun and felon in possession of a firearm
- Zaire Whitten, age 26, felon in possession of a firearm

The following defendants were indicted as part of an OCDETF investigation:

- Eric David Black, age 30, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 40 grams or more of fentanyl; possession with intent to distribute fentanyl; possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.
- Robert James Colt, a/k/a “RJ,” age 38, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute fentanyl; possession with intent to distribute fentanyl; possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime; possession of a firearm by a felon.
- Jean Raymond Desire, a/k/a “Krim,” age 50, conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture containing methamphetamine; distribution of 50 grams or more of a mixture containing methamphetamine; and distribution of a quantity of cocaine and aiding and abetting.
- Rashard Antwon Hardy, a/k/a “Gump,” age 42, conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of a mixture containing methamphetamine and distribution of 50 grams or more of a mixture of methamphetamine and abetting.
- Rick Derrell McIntyre, age 44, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine; distribution of 50 grams or more of methamphetamine.
- Laron Marcell McIntyre, a/k/a “Rat,” age 48, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine; distribution of 50 grams or more of methamphetamine.
- Natadja Denae Owen, age 26, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of a mixture containing methamphetamine; distribution of 50 grams or more of a mixture containing methamphetamine and aiding and abetting; and distribution of a quantity of cocaine and aiding and abetting.
- Kenneth Brandon Pomeroy, Jr., a/k/a “Spazz,” age 38, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 40 grams or more of fentanyl; possession with intent to distribute fentanyl; possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

The VCAP initiative is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), which is the centerpiece of the Department of Justice’s violent crime reduction efforts. PSN is a program bringing together all levels of law enforcement and the communities they serve to reduce violent crime and make our neighborhoods safer for everyone. As part of this strategy, PSN focuses enforcement efforts on the most violent offenders and partners with locally based prevention and reentry programs for lasting reductions in crime.

Michael Easley, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina made the announcement. The Fayetteville Police Department, the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office, the Cumberland County District Attorney’s Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the U.S. Marshals Service are involved in the investigations. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Caroline Webb and Chad Rhoades are the

lead prosecutors for the cases, with assistance from other criminal Assistant U.S. Attorneys in the office.

The DEA encourages parents, along with their children, to educate themselves about the dangers of legal and illegal drugs by visiting DEA’s interactive websites at www.JustThinkTwice.com, www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com, www.CampusDrugPrevention.gov, and www.dea.gov. Also follow DEA Atlanta via Twitter at @DEAATLANTADiv

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/06/29/us-attorney-announces-17-indictments-fayetteville-area-part-ongoing>

Drug Enforcement Administration
Robert J. Murphy, Jr.
Special Agent in Charge
Atlanta
@DEAAtlantaDiv
June 12, 2023
Contact: SA Crystal Harper
Phone Number: (571) 362-3433
For Immediate Release

DRUG DEALER WHO SOLD FENTANYL-LACED CRACK SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 16 YEARS AFTER FOUR PEOPLE DIED IN A SINGLE DAY

ELIZABETH CITY, N.C. – A Beulaville man was sentenced today to 200 months in prison for conspiracy and distribution of cocaine base (crack) and fentanyl. Four people died from overdoses after consuming drugs sold by Marshall Ray Scarborough on a single day in April 2021. Scarborough was also ordered to pay the funeral expenses for all the victims. On February 7, 2023, Scarborough, age 65, pled guilty to the charges.

“Drug dealers who lace fentanyl into their supply are killing Americans at record rates, and families across Eastern North Carolina are feeling the pain of burying their loved ones far too early,” said U.S. Attorney Michael Easley. “Four of this fentanyl dealer’s customers had their lives snuffed out in a single day. Dealers should know, the U.S. Attorney’s Office is partnering

local Sheriff's Offices to send fentanyl dealers to federal prison for the death and sorrow they sow."

"This is a great example of what happens when we work together, and I commend the men and women who worked relentlessly in conducting a thorough investigation," said Duplin County Sheriff Stratton Stokes. "Today, Marshall Scarborough was sentenced to a lengthy prison sentence in federal court, which ensures that he will no longer spread poison in our community, or other communities. I hope this brings some form of comfort and closure to the victims' families. Let this be a notice to anyone actively dealing narcotics or planning to deal narcotics in Duplin County. Our Office will continue to work diligently with our local, state, and federal allies to rid our communities of these issues."

According to court documents and other information presented in court, deputies with the Duplin County Sheriff's Office responded to three separate residences with unresponsive individuals, and the Columbus County Sheriff's Office responded to a fourth. Efforts to revive individuals were unsuccessful. In three of the four cases, autopsies were performed, and the cause of death was listed as acute fentanyl and cocaine intoxication. In the fourth case, no autopsy was performed, but a blood test revealed fentanyl, cocaine and diazepam. The investigation determined that Scarborough was the source of supply for the crack that all four victims had ingested.

Michael Easley, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina made the announcement after sentencing by U.S. District Judge Terrence

W. Boyle. The Drug Enforcement Administration and the Duplin County Sheriff's Office, the Wallace Police Department, and the Columbus County Sheriff's Office investigated the case and Assistant U.S. Attorney Tyler Lemons prosecuted the case.

The DEA encourages parents, along with their children, to educate themselves about the dangers of legal and illegal drugs by visiting DEA's interactive websites at www.JustThinkTwice.com, www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com, www.CampusDrugPrevention.gov, and www.dea.gov. Also follow DEA Atlanta via Twitter at @DEAATLANTAdiv

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2023/06/12/drug-dealer-who-sold-fentanyl-laced-crack-sentenced-more-16-years-after>

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>

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 Ozmment, 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.

"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.

CHAPTER 4

DURING THE EARLY 60s, the CIA and other governmental agencies trained expatriated Cubans, Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, Mexicans and other South Americans for insertion into Cuba for a proposed Coupe d'Etat against Fidel Castro. These Soldiers of Fortune (SOF), were trained in hand-to-hand combat, guerilla warfare, special forces tactics, intelligence acquiring human, signal, imagery and last but not least alternative income acquiring tactics from legal and illegal sources.

"The Company" which had grossly underestimated Castro's strength and intelligence capabilities inserted the SOFs into Cuba. They were quickly beaten, many slain and thousands were held as prisoners of war; some were killed for their disloyalty to Cuba.

Others were punished unmercifully, maimed, crippled and released. Castro used most of the captured SOF as bargaining chips, which he later traded for tractors. The CIA delivered or

caused to be delivered large numbers of tractors to Cuba for the release of about 60,000 SOF who had no monetary reward forthcoming or job guaranty. Like many survivalists, about 70% of those released re-entered into the American society with little difficulties, 10,000 to 15,000 opted the easy out, the alternative income acquiring method with many robbing dopers, dope houses, stealing shipments of dope and selling it on the street. This went on for several years until the traffickers got smart, hired bodyguards, henchmen, killers, full and part-time and fought back. The SOF then went full time into drug trafficking, initially starting with cocaine and venturing into heroin, marijuana and dangerous drugs.

The BNDD launched "Operation Eagle" to immobilize these well-trained SOF. Every Cooperating Individual (CI) available was questioned regarding Cuban/Puerto Rican and Hispanic former Bay of Pigs invaders being involved in drug trafficking. A major effort was undertaken to dismantle the CIA trained drug trafficking groups that had set up camp in most major cities in the U.S. with a pipeline for heroin, cocaine and marijuana funneled through Mexico.

A CI from Compton, California cut Special Agent (SA) Joe Gordon into the LA based group. Intelligence collated indicated that there were about 35 significant Cuban/Puerto Rican CIA trained drug traffickers in the Los Angeles area. Joe and I formulated a plan to knock off at least 25 of these major traffickers.

We assumed an undercover role of Big John and Joe; two major Black Los Angeles based dope dealers. Through the CI, we met and negotiated with a go-between for the proposed purchase of a four piece (4 ounce) heroin sample as a prelude to subsequent multiple kilogram heroin purchases. We knew that BNDD, operating on a shoestring budget, would not allow multiple kilogram heroin purchases to walk. Consequently, we had to negotiate up the ladder to the highest trafficker in the organization before spending a significant amount of money.

Joe and I negotiated up to the main L. A. based dealer, Jimmy Raville, a Black Cuban who lived in a swank house in Carson, California. We ordered a kilogram of heroin, advising that we would come back the next day to buy 10 kilos. A white Cuban was scheduled to deliver the heroin to us in the Silverlake district of Los Angeles. We picked up foot, stationary and mobile counter-surveillance before the delivery. The deliveryman drove by us twice in a white Chevrolet, circled the block, drove gingerly past us to the corner, parked, exited his car and started walking toward the undercover car. Joe and I exited the U/C car. I grabbed the \$12,000 official government funds and we walked toward him. As we came near, we could see he was carrying a brown paper bag in his left hand with his right hand resting on a .45 pistol in his waistband. The deliveryman appeared frightened but businesslike. There was no doubt in either of our minds he was a killer; he would not hesitate to kill. Perhaps he was frightened of our sizes, which aggravated the situation. Joe and I walked toward him. As we came near, he readied the .45 automatic and we heard the hammer as it was pulled back. The first thought in my mind was a possible hit for the \$12,000. I immediately started thinking taking this crook "10-7" (out of service—kill him). Upon meeting, Joe extended his right hand and simultaneously shook the crook's hand and stating,

"Hey man I'm Joe; this is my partner Big John. How are you doing?"

The delivery man removed his hand from the gun and exchanged handshakes with us and

We all relaxed. About that time a car containing two white surveillant agents passed. The deliveryman stated,

"There seems to be a lot of heat in the area. Our people (counter-surveillance) had picked up several cars with two guys each riding around in the area. Let's get this one over and talk later you got the money?" He asked.

"Yeah, let us see the package," I responded. The deliveryman

then handed me the brown bag. I examined it and noted a brown rock substance weighing approximately one kilogram with a strong acid smell similar to heroin. I handed the \$12,000 to Joe and kept the heroin. Joe handed the \$12,000 to the deliveryman. We exchanged farewells and left the area. While departing the area, I performed a presumptive field test on the heroin and noted a positive reaction for heroin. We drove back to the office, met with surveillant agents, processed the evidence, forwarded to the laboratory and prepared preliminary reports. Joe and I negotiated several subsequent times with the Cubans for the purpose of delivery of ten kilograms of heroin.

Prior to the proposed delivery date, orders came down to do the nationwide roundup of all the suspects in "Operation Eagle." The 10-kilogram heroin seizure was aborted. Like good obeying soldiers, we rounded up the Los Angeles-based Cubans. We arrested less than 21 in the Los Angeles area and less than 1,000 nationwide. I don't recall any subsequent intensive enforcement efforts directed toward these superbly trained alternative income-acquiring soldiers of fortune.

Although it will never be acknowledged, they were trained at the request of an U.S. Government Agency. During that training process, the focus was so intensely directed toward obtaining a desired result—removal of Castro from office—that a clandestinely created monster, a monster that today preys heavily on the weak and strong communities of America continues to thrive and eat at its core like a cancer.

The dope thing grew strong all over America. Many soldiers returning to the States after a tour in Vietnam were addicted to heroin, had strong marijuana abuse habits; non-veterans were following the lead of the soldiers; they too were doing a thing called "chasing the dragon," smoking number 3 Southeast Asian heroin on aluminum. Thai sticks hit the streets and became fashionable in all communities. White heroin number 4 from the Golden Triangle, Laos-Burma and Thailand, started showing

up on the west coast, then made its way east. I did a three day undercover caper up in Bakersfield, California for a kilo and a half of heroin for \$35,000. The crooks told me they had to travel back to North Carolina but would return as soon as possible. I flashed the \$35,000 to three Black crooks, then checked into a hotel to await delivery. I provided them with a telephone number to the hotel and my room number where I could be reached.

I needed the three-day rest for I had had two wisdom teeth extracted that day, drove from Los Angeles to Bakersfield, met with the crooks, negotiated and flashed \$35,000. My mouth was swollen and the painkiller the dentist prescribed did not ease the pain. On the third day, during the early morning hours, the crooks delivered approximately 3 pounds of white heroin to me in my hotel room and were arrested in lieu of payment by surveillant agents. Initially we thought it was a burn but it immediately responded presumptive positive to the field test. Since this was one of the first and largest white heroin seizures, the heroin was hand delivered to the laboratory in San Francisco. About three days later, I received a telephone call from the analyzing chemist advising that the heroin was 100% pure.

Further investigation revealed the heroin source was Leslie Atkinson, a former black U.S. Army Sergeant heavily involved in heroin trafficking as a soldier. His partner was identified as Herman Jackson, another Black former U.S. Army Sergeant.

I learned, or rather experienced, my first disparate treatment on the part of the BNDD. Almost all of the agents involved, some had minor involvement were given monetary incentive awards for the case, from the agent that wrote the surveillant reports to those in suck ass positions with management. I did not even receive a letter of commendation or award.

During the same period I was assigned Duty Agent for a week. The BNDD office had relocated to a two story federal building on West 6th Street, diagonally across the street from Central Receiving Hospital. About the second day, I was called to the

reception area to handle a duty call. At the desk, I was introduced as the Duty Agent to a neatly dressed middle aged Caucasian male that looked very much like former President Harry Truman. He wore a gray plaid suit, beautiful matching necktie, a narrow brim Stetson felt hat, highly polished shoes, and bifocal glasses and his fingernails were neatly manicured. His hair was neatly cut and he spoke like a college professor, initially using numerous polysyllabic words. Shortly into the conversation he changed to using words he apparently thought I would have less difficulty understanding. The man related that drugs were an awful cancer that was eating at the core of the American cardiovascular system, that certainly more efforts should be deployed to eradicate this great evil from our society. The tone of his voice and the aura about him indicated that he was a gentleman with money; that he was one of those Americans who were fortunate to have been born with mountains of riches; that he had never experienced hunger or the want of any material thing.

We sat in the interview room and chatted for about 15 minutes. He related that he lived in a mansion in Beverly Hills on Doheny. I guessed his age between 60-65 years old. He was a patriotic man that expressed an appreciation for America, Americans, the American flag, soldiers, the police, and certainly he had nothing but high admiration for all crime fighters, especially drug agents. He related how dangerous he believed drug law enforcement was and related that he took his hat off to all drug law enforcement officers.

After about twenty minutes of this heart warming and enlightening conversation, I finally decided to ask this man what BNDD could do for him or what was his purpose for contacting us. The man turned directly toward me, looked me straight in the eyes and stated, "I am glad you asked. I hope you will believe what I am about to tell you for it is as true as I am sitting in this room."

Immediately I began to think that I was about to be introduced

to the biggest case of my career. I adjusted my seat, pulled out my pen and prepared to write and asked, "Sir please tell me. I will believe you." I assured him.

He stated, "Adolph Hitler, is alive, in good health and is living in Beverly Hills. He has dyed his hair blond and has several close friends that are Jewish."

The man looked me sternly in the eyes for a few seconds. I did not know whether he had told a joke and somewhere I had missed the punch line until he asked seriously, "You don't believe me do you?"

I was speechless for several seconds. The only reply I could make was to ask, "Have you seen him? Have you seen Hitler in Beverly Hills? Do you know his address?"

The man looked at me very seriously and answered, "Yes, I have seen him several times. The last time I saw him was a week ago at the Chalet Gourmet house on Sunset Boulevard. I do not know the number of his house or the street name but I can point it out to you today, right now."

"Okay sir, that is very interesting. I will see what we can do with this valuable information. I cannot go with you right now. Can we do it tomorrow?" I asked.

"Sure we can do it today or tomorrow, I have plenty of time," he assured.

I left the room a few minutes and returned with another agent. The man added, "Another thing I think you should know. The Russians are causing 35% of the babies in America to be aborted. They use a laser beam that is directed at women in their first trimester. The laser sometimes burns these women and causes them to have ugly varicose veins on their legs," he related.

"Sir that is very interesting, do you have any information about drugs or dope?" I asked.

"No just about Hitler and the Russians aborting 1/3 of our babies. You know the Russians have the most powerful laser in the world. It is strong enough to dry up the Pacific Ocean", he

related.

"Sir, before we moved here, the FBI was in this building. All of the information you have related falls under the jurisdiction of the FBI. We are the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, not the FBI," I advised him.

"Well, the people over at the hospital told me you were the FBI," he related.

"No sir, they moved to West Wilshire, to 11000 West Wilshire Boulevard," I advised.

"Well I guess I'll have to go over there. You are such a pleasant person to talk to and I was thinking that I would be working with you on this information."

I faked calling the FBI and pointed the man in the direction of their office, approximately ten miles away. I watched him leave the building, walk over to Central Receiving Hospital where he entered a chauffeur driven Lincoln and departed the area west bound on Sixth Street.

The next day I responded to the reception area for a duty call and met a very tall masculine, but attractive middle-aged grayish blond lady. After the initial introduction she related her name was Grace Istanbulian of Russian extraction. Grace related that she had been referred to us from across the street (Central Receiving Hospital). We talked in generalities for a while and I noted that she was content and pleased at what insignificant topics we discussed. We talked randomly for about twenty minutes and Grace alerted me that I was not complying with BNDD policy regarding interviewing females. Grace related that there are aliens invading California and zapping people with ray guns. She raised her long shirt up to her pelvic area and tried to show me a mark on her inner left thigh where she had been zapped. I immediately excused myself for a few minutes, got another agent to witness the interview and rejoined Grace in the interview room.

Grace again raised her skirt up to her pubic area and tried to show us the mark where she had been zapped by the aliens.

During my second duty agent assignment, I was called to the reception area to meet another walk-in source of information. I met a neatly dressed Black male and escorted him into the interview room. I called another agent in to assist. I introduced myself as Agent Sutton to the walk-in. He introduced himself as "Bonny."

"Bonny what can we do for you?" I asked.

"It is a long story. Do you have the time?"

"Yes, all we have is time Bonny. What's on your mind?" I asked.

"Well, there is this little rich Mexican motherf_____ named El Flacco that lives up in Altadena. He's been dealing dope like forty going west. You know he's going huckly-buck dealing all kinds of dope. He'll sell anything as long as it is dope, heroin, cocaine, marijuana, pills—you name it as long as it is dope. Man I tell you he's going huckly buck and he's brazen. He seems to get some sort of sexual thrill out of it and he likes to deal dope right around police stations. He told me he just did a 5 kilo coke case in front of Parker Center, that it went as smooth as owl shit."

"Do you know him well enough to duke (introduce) someone into him?" I asked.

"Yeah, I could duke you or this white guy or both of you into him. The guy will sell dope to the police. He's just that bold. Man this guy has balls bigger than a brass ass monkey. He's easy to take down."

"Bonny, let us process you. We will do a background on this guy El Flacco. Try to set up a deal to introduce me to him for a multiple kilogram heroin or cocaine deal. Give me a six-hour notice, that is, give me enough time in advance to put a good posse together and we will do the deal. Bonny have you been cracked before?" I asked.

"Only for traffic tickets and child support, nothing major."

"What is your connection to El Flacco?" I asked.

"He was my oldest boys connect. My boy took a fall for him

She wore no panties and pointed to an imaginary scar about 2" below where her left leg joined her hip. We looked but could see nothing irregular on her skin. Her conversation went on and on about how other women were being zapped by aliens. When I asked Grace if the aliens were possibly using laser beams to cause abortions, she immediately dropped her skirt, looked at both of us with extra wide open eyes and asked, "How do you know? You guys don't have anything to do with them do you?" We were both somewhat dumb founded because the other agent was aware of the assertions made by the Truman look-a-like.

I recalled a similar incident when I was a policeman, where my partner used a flashlight beam on a man who was seeing a little man flitting about the floor with sparks flying from his shoes. I went upstairs got a flashlight and asked Grace if she wanted us to remove the zapped scar from her thigh. She agreed. We had her hold up her skirt and we turned the lights out I flashed the beam of the flashlight on the imaginary scar advising Grace that when I flicked the light beam off and on three times that the scar would disappear. After three flicks, according to Grace, the scar had disappeared. She remarked, "That's amazing, you know my doctor tried all kinds of medicines and he could not heal the scar. That's amazing." Grace left the office very appreciative of the cure. I felt certain that we would never see her again.

A week later I received a ten-page letter from Grace that had apparently been slid under the entrance door. The handwriting was legible and appeared to be that of a teacher. I failed to find a complete sentence in the entire letter. I was able to discern that Grace was a friend that we had helped in a way she could never repay. I surmised that Grace was one of those non compos mentis persons who had no family, no friends and certainly posed no significant threat to herself and only a bother, not a physical threat, to others.

The BNDD office became plagued with visitors from Central Receiving Hospital; became a referral from the hospital staff.

and now he doesn't want to pay him as he promised. That's my connection with the motherf_____r."

"Okay, Bonny go ahead and make the arrangements and we'll take this shit bird down okay?" I said.

We ran a preliminary check to identify Flacco. The next day, at noon, Bonny telephoned and advised that Flacco had a shipment of drugs in and was ready to do business. According to Bonny, Flacco would not advise if he had heroin, cocaine or pills other than he had a significant shipment and he was ready to do business. I instructed Bonny to determine the type of drugs Flacco had and schedule a meeting for 6:00 p.m. that day.

Bonny called back and advised that Flacco wanted to have a sit down chat before finalizing a deal. Flacco had agreed to meet with us at Li Po's Restaurant in Chinatown at 3:00 p.m.

I met with Bonny at 2:20 p.m. He was unable to determine the kind of drug that Flacco had for sale. We entered a flashy Cadillac El Dorado with wide whitewall tires and drove over to Li Po's and entered at about 2:40 p.m. to await the arrival of Flacco. At about 2:55 p.m., two neatly dressed well polished, Mexican males wearing sunglasses, one tall and muscular, the other medium height and stocky like a weight lifter, entered the restaurant and without being seated, walked over to the walls, returned to the front and exited. Each had a noticeably bulge under their left armpit. Bonny advised that they were likely Flacco's bodyguards or henchmen. A few minutes later, the two males re-entered the restaurant and requested seats to our rear. A neatly dressed well-groomed Mexican male entered with a very attractive; young Mexican female with dyed blond hair. Bonny advised, "That's him with the cute chick in the red dress." Flacco spoke softly paused with the Host for a few seconds then joined us at the table. Close up the female was more attractive than at first glance and smelled perfumy.

After exchanging pleasantries, Bonny introduced me as Beenum to Flacco. After a brief general conversation I advised, "I

hear you got the girl (cocaine) and boy (heroin) good Flacco. I just raised and I am trying to get down again (fresh out of prison trying to re-enter the drug trafficking business)."

Flacco's response was shocking to me and almost caused me to gag on a cup of coffee.

"Yeah what's your name again, Bee, Bee, Bee..."

"Beenum. Beenum, Flacco. Beenum," I advised.

"Yeah, Beenum, I got it all good heroin, coke, uppers, downers, and on occasions I have PCP and LSD. I'm what the feds call a polydrug trafficker, a major violator," he advised.

My immediate reaction was that I was dealing with an undercover officer from State Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE), Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles Sheriff's office or maybe even U.S. Customs.

I directed the conversation to not wanting to be busted that Flacco appeared to be the police to me. Flacco countered by accusing me of possibly being the police. The subject went on for about five minutes until I suggested that we were having a nice Chinese meal and suggested that we forget the deal. Flacco disagreed and related that when he moves it's for money, that he had come down to meet and finalize a deal. He then related that I probably would like the product that he wanted to move right away. I told Flacco that I did not want to ever discuss business with him until I was assured that he was not the police. Bonny tried to vouch that Flacco was not the police. I insisted that I was not certain that he was not; that the phrase he had said about the feds caused me a lot of concern.

After bickering back and forth, even after ordering food, Flacco had a solution. He asked his girlfriend for her Bible. She reached inside of a red purse and handed Flacco a small Bible. Flacco placed his left hand on the Bible, raised his right hand and stated, "I swear before God almighty that I am not the police, nor am I working for the police, so help me God."

He then handed me the Bible and asked me to swear to the

same. I complied. Afterwards, Flacco related that if either turned out to be the police that little ritual would prevent prosecution. I became more alarmed of Flacco's identity but let it fade and asked him how much good coke and heroin he had available for sale. Flacco related that he had not yet restocked his supply. He further related that a biker and a trucker had just stood him up. As a result, he had a lot of pills that he would sell dirt cheap to get them off his hands.

"What kind are they?" I asked.

"Mini-bennies, made in the U.S.A., shipped to Mexico, then smuggled back up to Los Angeles. The best you can buy Amigo, Dextroamphetamine sulfates. They'll keep a motherf---er awake for weeks. Why don't you take them off my hands, Beenum? I'll give you a good deal for them." He advised.

"How much? How much do you want for them?" I asked.

"Well, I was supposed to get \$150 per thousand from the trucker and \$160 per thousand from the biker for about \$300,000. I'll let you have the whole shipment for \$200,000. All 2,000,000 pills, 2,000 jars, a thou to the jar."

"I'll take them, if you will give me a good deal on five kilos of cocaine and two kilos of heroin when your shipment comes in," I advised. I wondered if this was some kind of test.

"It's a deal. When do you want to do it?" He asked.

"Hey, Flacco, let's get it over as soon as possible. Let's do it tonight," I urged.

Flacco agreed to do the deal that night and requested that I bring only \$100 and \$50 notes.

"Okay, Beenum, let's do it tonight at 7:30 p.m. Let's meet on the parking lot at 7:30 p.m. at Charlie Brown's restaurant off the Pomona Freeway and Rosemead Boulevard." We exchanged farewells. Bonny and I drove from the area, met with surveillance agents and advised them what had transpired.

We went back to the office where a heated discussion occurred regarding the unavailability of a \$200,000 flash roll that

day. I convinced surveillance that I would convince Flacco to deliver the 2,000,000 mini-bennies without the need of a flash roll. Bonny thought I was crazy and strongly advised that the deal would not go without the money. He was afraid of getting "waxed" (killed), if things did not go right. Bonny was certain the two subjects that entered the restaurant before Flacco were his henchmen, "stone killers." I tried to calm him by advising that if any fireworks erupted that it would be spitting from my guns, that I would be illuminating the sky with fireworks, not Flacco or his henchmen. I instructed Bonny that if fireworks erupted to immediately fall to the ground, that I would take it from there. Despite my encouragement and confidence, I believe Bonny viewed my remarks as the false bravado of a seemingly self-assured undercover agent.

I stressed to Bonny that I was not afraid—that if he wanted to he could sit in the undercover car and that I would take it from there. Bonny nervously joined me in the undercover Cadillac and we drove over to Charlie Brown's restaurant on Rosemead Boulevard, just off the Pomona Freeway in Montebello. Shortly after we parked, Flacco and the female drove up in a black, white topped Mercedes SL190. Two Mexican males, driving a Dodge Challenger, followed them onto the lot. There appeared to be a trail car cruising the area. The trail car, a 1964 Chevrolet, occupied by two male Mexicans pulled into the parking lot, proceeded to the rear and parked in the southwest corner facing the Pomona Freeway. The two occupants exited and entered the restaurant as Flacco drove gingerly around the parking lot. They parked next to the undercover car. I yelled over, "I am ready Flacco, you got the materials?"

"Yeah, I am ready do you have the ducats?" he asked.

"Yeah, I got it let me see the material and we can get it over very quickly." Flacco continued to gaze at passers-by in the lot and related that the material was in the Chevrolet. From the undercover car, I could see boxes in the rear seat area and the rear

of the Chevrolet set low on the ground like a low rider. When I exited the undercover vehicle Flacco told me to get back into my car and stand by for a few minutes. I rejoined Bonny in the undercover car and sat for about five minutes watching Flacco inspect the parking lot. The two occupants of the Challenger parked on the northwest corner of the parking lot facing the load car remained in the car with the engine running. A few minutes later the occupants of the Chevrolet, exited Charlie Brown's, entered the Chevrolet (load car) and drove from the area. Flacco told me to follow him and drove from the parking lot. I followed Flacco westbound on the Pomona Freeway for a distance. We pulled off the freeway then drove north in a circuitous route until we arrived about a block and a half from East Los Angeles Sheriff's station.

Flacco parked and walked up to the undercover car and told me to walk with him. I got out and walked with Flacco toward the Sheriff's station about half way up the street, I saw the load car park on the street ahead. We walked up to the load car. Flacco handed me the keys. I entered the rear seat area, inspected the boxes in the rear and noted approximately 700,000 or more mini-bennies. I opened the trunk and examined six large boxes of mini-bennies approximately 1,300,000. I closed the trunk and advised Flacco that I would go back to get the \$200,000, pay him and make arrangements for the cocaine and heroin deal in a few days. I then lit a Kool filter king cigarette, took three puffs and tossed it against the curb (arrest signal).

Almost immediately, tires screeched, agents jumped out of cars and snatched up Flacco and the occupants of the Chevrolet. The occupants of the Dodge Challenger led the agents in a brief chase but were apprehended a short distance away in heavy traffic.

Two million mini-bennies were seized, believed to be the largest undercover seizure of mini-bennies.

Unbeknownst to me an official from Washington, D.C.

Headquarters was riding along and experienced the chase. Consequently, I was recommended for a monetary Special Achievement Award for the case.

On the following day we presented Flacco et al, for arraignment before the U.S. Magistrate and requested \$250,000 bail for Flacco and \$100,000 bail for the other defendants. Bail for Flacco was set at \$25,000 corporate surety and \$15,000 C/S for the other defendants. That day Flacco posted cash bail and became an instant fugitive. The word on the streets was that Flacco had gone into the interior of Mexico, grew a beard, put on a lot of weight and would never be apprehended.

A lot of out-of-staters came to California, saw a laid back life style, a kind of "laissez-faire" lifestyle where even the police were neatly dressed and rode around in highly polished clean cars, very few were fat and only a few security guards were seen on foot patrol.

Opportunists from Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio and other places in the Midwest and East moved west to sunny Southern California, a place where the sun shone long hours, almost all year.

With this crowd came bands of expatriated Cubans that had entered the U.S. via Miami and were developing anonymity with a fast moving young crowd. Some were murielitos; others were remnants of the Bay of Pigs invasion, the alternate income acquirers.

Drugs became fashionable all over California, spread north and deliberated into a pandemic. Out of the drug culture developed a major cancer, an underground economy that continues to eat at the very core of the American economy. Numerous entrepreneurs dropped legitimate businesses and entered into a more profiting enterprise—drug trafficking. Farmers in various parts of the U. S. stopped harvesting corn and started harvesting marijuana and/or leasing fertile land to marijuana growers for large

amounts of money. Some growers took to growing marijuana on abandoned land; land involved in crop rotation (restoration) programs, U.S. Park, U.S. Forest, state and city lands.

Prior to this time, Mexico had produced the best marijuana. Most of it was smuggled into the U.S. via small aircraft that made clandestine landings at various airports, some manned, some unmanned, some with illuminated landing strips, others unlighted. Rialto, Compton, Hawthorne, Barstow, Daggett, Elsinore, Flabob, and Riverside were some of the major smuggling ports of entry from Mexico. World War II pilots, new pilots, and novices, purchased, leased and/or stole vintage DC-3 aircraft, went south and returned back to the states with ton quantities of marijuana and 100 pound quantities of cocaine and lesser quantities of heroin. When airports became hot, the smugglers resorted to landing/smuggling drugs into the U.S. from Mexico by landing on dry lake beds in the Mojave Desert around Apple Valley, Lucerne, Hesperia, Adelanto, Victorville, El Mirage, Helendale, Hodge, Lenwood, Vermo, Newberry Springs, Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree and Twenty-nine Palms. Soggy dry lake beds were frequent landing strips during the day and during various night hours from sunset to early sunrise. During darkness the dry lake beds were illuminated with high beam lights of delivery campers on each end awaiting their loads. Small aircraft often arrived loaded with marijuana from the end of the fuselage to the dashboard of the right co-pilot's seat, providing the pilot that often flew on vision only a 90 degree scope of vision.

After smuggling a big load, the pilots secured their aircraft at a legitimate airport, drove down to one of the beach towns, had a drink, flashed a little coke to a barfly then bedded down with her for the night. The amount of money produced in this underground economy was in the hundred billions, mostly U.S. dollars in \$100 and \$50 denominations. In batches of millions they flowed from the United States into foreign bank accounts like an unregulated river; the monies flowed out of the country

with no tangible asset realized. Often these multiple 100 millions changed hands four, five and sometimes six times before the U.S. came close to realizing any tax benefit. Even today there is still an uncontrolled large amount of U.S. dollars flowing in the underground economy with a significant quantity flowing out of the country into secret, clandestine accounts of traffickers committing offenses against the United States.

Along with the huge amounts of money involved in the underground economy came crimes of omissions and corruption. Our South and Central American law enforcement counterparts began to acquire large amounts of money, often more than they could legally make in a lifetime, to not see a particular act or not be at a location at a designated time. Bribery became widespread and spilled over into the U.S.

As it related to the amount of U.S. money flowing in the underground drug economy, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was burdened with that responsibility. The CIA was also tasked with the responsibility of determining marijuana, coca, and opium production in source countries; to supplement its budget, it is believed in certain circles that the CIA has the responsibility to be involved in alternative income acquiring activities.

In part, because of the appearance of a lack of adequate police in California, its geographical makeup, cosmopolitan makeup, drug dealers, potential drug dealers, influencers and financiers moved into California in hordes. The dismantling of the French heroin producers and smugglers by law enforcement made Mexico ideal for the production of lower grade heroin for importation into the United States, Canada and throughout the world market. Heroin production in laboratories in Culiacan and Matzatlán caused these cities to become known as heroin producing capitals in Mexico.

Of the hordes of newcomers to California, some attempted legal jobs; others tried to get rich quickly by dealing dope. Several arrestees, when questioned regarding how they got into the dope

business, related being disenchanted trying to be a movie star. Some had been bit actors in subplots; others were passersby in atmospheric scenes. They went into the dope business to make up for failed acting careers. Several related they wanted to make enough money dealing dope to produce their own movie; some related having drug addictions and habituations beyond their means to sustain.

One of the oddest newcomers to California was one Edward Kassaka also known as Hollywood Eddie, (AKA) Eddie. Eddie was one of the dumbest, slowest talking New Yorkers I ever met. He appeared shy and when he spoke he was most naive and wanting to please. Eddie did not like confrontations and would have been a very good customer service officer for some big department store like Sears, J.C. Penny or K-Mart.

Eddie had moved to California from New York. It was unknown what he did in New York. He came to California with a little money and with the intent of making several big scores in the drug business. He was an avowed Catholic. In reviewing background information on him, he had the misfortune to be praying aloud in a Catholic Church in San Fernando Valley. Next to Eddie at the time was an U.S. Customs CI. The CI heard Eddie praying to the Almighty to allow him to make several big scores in the dope business and he promised to retire, amend his ways and be a good tithing Catholic thereafter, that he would thereafter say ten Hail Mary's daily and walk, rather go in the way of our savior Jesus Christ.. The CI thought it was hilarious to one point and realizing that Eddie was not an intoxicated person and was joking with his friend who was praying with him. The CI became very irate and decided that he would assist Eddie for a broker's fee, and then turn him into U.S. Customs for a moiety.

After they exited the church, the CI befriended Eddie and inquired about how serious he was. Eddie assured him that he was serious, invited the CI to his apartment where he flashed \$15,000 to substantiate his seriousness about the dope trade.

The CI made the necessary contacts with U.S. Customs, then traveled to Tijuana, B.C. Mexico and brokered a 200 pound marijuana deal between Eddie, Eddie's friend and a local Tijuana marijuana trafficker. Eddie and his friend paid the CI \$1,500 for his services. The CI went back to the Tijuana dealer and was paid a \$1,000 finder's fee. The CI contacted U.S. Customs and dined Eddie out (informed on him-talked to the police) and was promised \$2500 upon the arrest and seizure in the case. Eddie left his Chevrolet in Tijuana. On the next day, he was telephoned at a hotel in National City and told where to pickup his car loaded with 200 lbs. of marijuana. Eddie and his friend took a taxi over to Chula Vista picked up his marijuana-laden car and then drove northbound on Interstate 5.

About two miles north of Encinitas, U.S. Customs agents surveilling Eddie and his friend, activated a cut-off switch that caused Eddie's car to lose all electricity and stop. Surveilling customs agents approached Eddie and his friend and noted a strong order of marijuana coming from the car. Eddie and his friend were placed under arrest; 200 pounds of marijuana and the car were seized.

About two months later, I received a telephone call from a BNDD CI relating that Hollywood Eddie, a white boy living in an apartment on Van Nuys Boulevard in the valley, was selling multiple ounce quantities of cocaine like he had a license. According to the CI, he had never seen a multiple ounce cocaine dealer as open and loose as Hollywood Eddie. The CI further related that Eddie would soon be busted because he has a lot of foot traffic in and out of his apartment and that he would deliver a quantity of four ounces or more to the buyer. The CI added that he was in Hollywood Eddie's apartment yesterday and saw him in possession of approximately eight pounds of coke, which he was selling on an "as-come" basis from the apartment. I told the CI to make arrangements to introduce me to Hollywood Eddie for a multiple ounce cocaine transaction.

A few minutes later the CI called back and related that I could walk into Hollywood Eddie's cold and cite the name of anybody as a referral; Hollywood Eddie would sell to me. The CI further advised that an ounce of uncut cocaine cost \$750, that I could buy three ounces for about \$2,000 to \$2,100. The CI provided the address and telephone number where Hollywood Eddie could be reached. I put together a lightweight posse and pre-surveillance was initiated on Hollywood Eddie's apartment. A lot of vehicular and foot traffic were observed arriving, entering for a short while then leaving the area.

About two hours later I telephoned Hollywood Eddie and related, "H. E. — Hello" Beenum—"Hello, may I speak to Hollywood Eddie?"

"H.E. — You're talking to him, you sound like a bro. What can I do for you bro?"

"Yeah, I am Beenum, I am a bro. One of my non-bro friends tells me you got the girl real good (has cocaine)", I remarked.

"What if I do have the girl? What do you want to do, just talk about it?"

"No man, I want to cop (buy) three or four pieces (ounces)," I advised.

"Hey bro, if you want to cop then you had better hurry on over here. These things are going like Nathan's hot dogs. Shit, you don't know about Nathan's at Coney Island, so that's Greek to you, huh bro?"

"No, I've been to Coney Island. I like the frog legs at Nathan's better than the hot dogs. Hey, what does this have to do with buying three or four pieces?"

Nothing, bro. Why don't you saddle up and ride over before I run out of stock."

"Hey, when you run out of stock, will you be out of business or will you be restocked?" I asked.

"I get my stock in sometimes twice a week. I am not a fly-by-night man. I'm in business for the long haul."

"Okay, I'm on my way. I'll see you in thirty."

About thirty minutes later I arrived at Hollywood Eddie's apartment building, rang the bell to his apartment and identified myself as Beenum to see Hollywood Eddie. I was buzzed into the apartment complex. While approaching Hollywood Eddie's apartment, three males exited examining what appeared to be several ounces of cocaine packaged in rubber contraceptives. As I started to ring the doorbell, a male and female exited Eddie's apartment with cocaine. I walked into the apartment as they were exiting. I could see a man in the kitchen as described as Hollywood Eddie by the CI finishing up a two piece sale to a slick black male and a beautiful longhaired blond in the kitchen. He looked up briefly at me and asked, "How many pieces do you want? What's your name?"

I am Beenum, I called you earlier about the four piece sale." I advised.

"Yeah, yeah, I remember. I am glad you came right over for these things are going faster than I can ounce them out man. I'm going to be out of stock in a little while. My stock boy won't be here for three days," Eddie remarked

I told Hollywood Eddie that he should watch himself that he seemed kind of lax dealing dope. He told me to call him Eddie, not Hollywood Eddie and remarked that the police in California could not catch a dealer if he fell out of the sky. I agreed and found his remark interesting. I was glad I came over as soon as possible for I feared that Hollywood Eddie, so loose with his operation, would certainly be busted in a short while. It was like the CI explained; Hollywood Eddie had opened a cocaine super-market and was dealing dope like he was immune from arrest. I surmised the slick black guy and the blond with the long hair were from LAPD major narcotic crew.

I copped (purchased) four pieces (ounces) from Hollywood Eddie and made arrangements to buy a pound from him the following week. After copping, I hung around and engaged

him in conversation to determine his source. Hollywood Eddie advised that his source were Cubans in New York. He further related that on two previous occasions the couriers ran off with the coke. As a consequence, he had to fly back to New York to score more coke. I advised Hollywood Eddie that I had a partner and that we wanted to cop five or seven kilograms of cocaine. He advised that he could handle the order and advised me to give him a one-day notice when ready. Hollywood Eddie was very straightforward, rather had no problem discussing his operation. He was a slow talker but did not hesitate or show any aversion to discussing drugs. After I had elicited as much information about his operation, I told him that I would bring my partner with me on the next deal. Hollywood Eddie related that he would like to have a sit down negotiations prior to doing a multiple kilogram transaction. We exchanged farewells. I gave Hollywood Eddie a telephone number where I could be reached. While walking to the elevator, two other customers got off and walked to Hollywood Eddie's apartment.

Two days later Special Agent G. Robert "Bob" Warren was putting together a surveillant posse for a pending three-ounce cocaine purchase he had scheduled that afternoon in San Fernando Valley. I joined up with Bob's crew and we initiated surveillance on Denny's restaurant on Van Nuys Boulevard, San Fernando Valley at about 11:30 a.m. At about 11:50 a.m., undercover agent (U/A) Warren arrived entered the restaurant and joined the purported dealer in a booth in the southeast corner of the restaurant. I entered the restaurant to cover Bob and noted that he was sitting with Hollywood Eddie. I immediately left the dining area called a waitress and instructed her to give Bob a note. Bob noted my rapid exit and conversation with the waitress, took a trip to the restroom. I joined him in the restroom and advised that his defendant Eddie was actually Hollywood Eddie a defendant in my case.

Bob rejoined Hollywood Eddie and tried to kill the deal by

GOLD DOT GOLD STANDARD

EVERY DAY, 3,000+ LAW ENFORCEMENT
AGENCIES WORLDWIDE TRUST SPEER® GOLD DOT®



SPEER®
LE

BUY NOW AT
SPEER.COM

PROTOCOL PROVEN

THE WOUND BALLISTICS WORKSHOP ADVANTAGE

Speer® and Federal® pioneered the use of Wound Ballistic Workshops as a service to police departments nationwide. Utilizing the rigorous FBI Ammunition Testing Protocol, firearms training officers test ammunition side-by-side to make informed decisions on the duty ammunition their department will carry.

All testing is hands-on by the officers and allows them to document the entire process from start to finish. All necessary equipment is provided at no cost to the hosting agency - another sign of our brands' continued commitment to the law enforcement community and the public it serves.

Testing is completed in 10 percent ordinance gelatin, and consists of shots in bare gelatin, gelatin covered in FBI specification heavy clothing, steel, wallboard, plywood, and the toughest challenge of all- laminated automobile safety glass.



asking Eddie to front him a half-pound of cocaine for two weeks. Bob negotiated up to a one pound front thinking this would send Hollywood Eddie en route. Hollywood Eddie told Bob to wait for him a few minutes and left the restaurant. Shortly after he departed, Bob left and put the deal down. Surveillance agents followed Hollywood Eddie from the restaurant to his apartment, then back to Denny's restaurant where he entered carrying a brown paper bag. After not finding U/A Warren, he returned back to his apartment.

Upon returning to the office, I found a message that Hollywood Eddie had called. I placed a telephone call to Hollywood Eddie. He related that he had just been stood up by a guy he was about to front a pound of coke. I asked Hollywood Eddie if he had done business with the guy before and he related that he had not. I then stated, "Hey Eddie, you have done business with me, why not front the pound to me for about a week?"

"Okay. Come on over and I'll front it to you for not more than two weeks okay?"

"Okay, I'll be there in forty-five or an hour, make it an hour." I stated.

"Okay, I'll see you then, bye."

"Bye."

I drove over and took delivery of the pound of coke and decided to introduce another agent to Eddie regarding purchasing five kilograms of coke. I got back to Eddie three days later and introduced him to Special Agent Larry Lusardi. We ordered five kilos of coke from Eddie advising that we had to have it within four days. Eddie placed a telephone call to his source in New York. S/A Lusardi peeked over his shoulder and got the number he dialed and wrote it down in the palm of his hand. Eddie ordered five kilograms of cocaine and advised that he would be traveling to New York for delivery. If we wanted we could travel to New York. Agent Lusardi and I agreed to meet Eddie in New York a day after he arrived. We got a telephone number where Eddie

won't be long, so just sit tight. I'll see you later, okay?"

"Okay Eddie, bye, we'll see you later."

"Bye."

Surveillance agents followed Eddie in a rented Mercedes over the Triboro Bridge into Queens, to a high rise apartment building on Sanford Avenue, two blocks off Main, where he entered. About ten minutes later, he exited with two Latin males that appeared to be of Cuban or Puerto Rican descent. They entered the Mercedes and proceeded over toward the JFK Hilton. About ten miles from the Hilton, they pulled over to a pay phone and placed a telephone call to the undercover room.

"Hello."

"Hey Beenum, this is Eddie. I am on my way. There is a small change. We will deliver two kilos now and deliver three more about two hours later okay? My connect is with me, I'll do all of the deal so you guys don't have to worry about meeting anybody strange okay?"

"Sure Eddie, we are standing by. We'll separate \$30,000 for two kilos and await your arrival."

About thirty minutes later, Eddie called from the hotel lobby advising that he was coming up. A few minutes later I let him into the room. Immediately upon walking into the room, Eddie handed me a brown paper bag containing a package about the size of a football covered with white adhesive tape. He related that there were four and a half pounds of uncut cocaine in the two-kilo package. Larry and I inspected the package, determined that it possibly contained cocaine and then both gave a prearranged arrest signal. Agents converged into the room from both adjoining rooms and the front door screaming, "Freeze, motherf____r, federal agents, if you move, we'll blow your God D____n brains out!"

We were placed under arrest, handcuffed and taken down to the BNDD office at 90 Church Street. While sitting in the holding cell at 90 Church Street feigning being arrested a white agent,

could be reached in New and agreed on the price of \$75,000 for five kilos of cocaine. We exchanged farewells and left.

Agent Lusardi and I drove back to the office and made arrangements to fly a TWA .747 flight non-stop from Los Angeles to JFK International Airport, New York. Two days later we boarded the flight to New York and met with Bob Manning's group at the JFK Hilton hotel.

We obtained a \$40,000 flash roll, secured the undercover, surveillance rooms and placed surveillance around the hotel and the location of the telephone number where we were to call Eddie. I placed a telephone call to Eddie at the number and advised, "Hey Eddie we just got in, freshened up, had a bite and we are now ready to roll. We want to cop the five kilos and do a turn around back to L.A. We got hungry customers standing by..."

"Okay Beenum, give me a few minutes to raise up and I'll bring the merchandise right over, okay..."

Agent Lusardi interrupted, "Hey Beenum let me holler at Eddie." I gave Lusardi the telephone and he belted out, "Hey Eddie my man it is good to hear your voice. Hey man we are ready for Freddy, you are not going to hang us up are you?"

"Oh hell no man, what kind of dope peddler do you think I am? Do you think I'll have you guys come all the way, 3,000 miles to hang you, no, no way."

"Okay, we'll stand by here for a bell from you. Give us a Bell (telephone call) when you are on your way. You know we don't want to let anybody in the room especially since we are carrying all these ducats (dollars), you know what I mean?"

"Yeah, man you know it pays to be careful. New York is five times faster and slicker than L.A. Hey just give me your room number. The only telephone call you will receive will be when I am on my way, okay?" "Okay Eddie, we'll stand by, please don't hang us up 'cause we want to sky up as soon as we cop okay! We are in 16-42."

"16-42 okay, I'll call you when I am on my way to you. It

not related to the caper, commenced calling me a dope dealing no good black sleazy motherf____r. When I did not respond to his angry outburst he screamed, "You are one of those quiet black no good motherf____rs. Now you don't want to talk. On the streets you think you are king riding around in Cadillacs with that loud colored fucked up crushed velvet seats and shit."

When I did not react to his outburst, he became angrier. I thought he was over playing his role but there was an aura about this face that indicated he was serious. I had always been told that silence is golden. I remained silent as he continued to lambaste me with unpleasant remarks. Twice he threatened to come in and "kick your black ass, you no good motherf____r". I remained quiet. Eddie, the two Cubans, in adjoining holding cells remained quiet. The agent ranted on and his angered intensified. "Answer me you motherf____r. Don't you hear me talking to you motherf____r?"

I remained quiet, thinking—rather wishing—that he would go away. It was apparent that he was totally unaware of my identity. I remained quiet and on one occasion looked at him as he, screamed at me. This angered him more. After cursing me again, calling me a series of profane names, he never used the big N word; he accused me of "casting spears" at him. I then looked up and asked, "I am doing what to you?" "Casting spears motherf____r, casting spears at me", he yelled back.

I knew then this white agent was not white, that he was a very light complexioned Creole or mulatto with a small portion of black blood flowing in his veins. I remained silent—did not answer or respond to his shouts and questions. He became angrier, opened the holding cage, entered and struck me hard in the stomach just below my solar plexus. I folded forward and caught another blow in my left kidney area. I realized that my assailant was not role-playing or if so, had played his role beyond the level I was willing to accept. When he pulled his right fist back, threatening to bust my nose if I did not answer him, I started

stuttering, confused him, moved to his right pushing his right hand away from me and grabbed him from the back and locked his neck in the fold of my left arm. I then squeezed it tight until I felt the pulse of his carotid artery, arched it up diagonally and braced and tightened it with my right hand. I held him in that position, cutting off his breathing and the flow of blood to and from his head, until his body went limp. I released the hold and watched him fall limp to the floor. I backed into the corner and waited. A few minutes later several agents came into the holding area just as the unconscious agent was getting up off the floor. One asked, "Hey what happened to you?" I told them that he had fainted. The freshly unconscious agent echoed that he had fainted. He then left the area staring gingerly back at me. I don't believe out of lost pride that he ever learned that a brother federal agent had choked him out.

I later told the other agents I had had enough of being an arrestee that I had telephonically introduced myself to Eddie so there was no need for a further ruse. Additionally, I wanted to flip Eddie and work him in California. He had displayed good potential for a CI. Afterwards, I talked for a half-hour convincing him that I was a federal narcotic agent, not a bona fide crook. It must have been the undercover role that had upset him for Eddie refused to cooperate with me or any other agent. One agent threatened to have his bail set at \$2,000,000. The threat went unheeded. Eddie refused to cooperate. We took Eddie and his cohorts before the U.S. Magistrate and bail for each was set at \$50,000 corporate surety. I was certain Eddie would post bail and possibly beat us back to Los Angeles.

About a month later another group was putting a posse together to do a take down with Pasadena PD narcotic unit and asked for assistance. I joined the posse and during the briefing was advised that Pasadena PD had a CI with two crooks in an undercover capacity. The crooks and CI in two cars were en route to Pasadena to deliver a quarter ton of marijuana to a PPD

undercover officer. The delivery was scheduled to take place at 3:00 p.m. that date. A bird dog monitor had been placed on the load car.

We drove up to Pasadena, met with the PD narcotic unit, participated in the briefing then drove over to an apartment complex off Colorado Boulevard to await the delivery. About thirty minutes later a surveillant unit advised other units that the load car and U/C car were now northbound on the Pasadena freeway from Interstate five. We waited and heard the units arrive in our area.

"This is PD-1. I got the eyeball; the vehicles are entering the area five minutes from your 10-20"

"10-4. PD 3 and other units are standing by."

"10-4."

"I got eyeball of vehicles pulling into the target area, PD-1 you can drop off if you want"

"10-4. I'll peel off and take a pit-stop. I'll been 10-7 for 5."

"10-4."

As the load car turned the corner and drove pass my location, I got a quick glance of the passenger in the front seat and immediately noted how he resembled Hollywood Eddie. They pulled up to the apartment complex exited and entered the apartment. About five minutes later the undercover officer advised, "I just received a telephone call from suspect Eddie advising we have a green light. I am saddling up and riding your way with an ETA of 2 minutes. The bust signal is the open trunk of the U/C vehicle. Bust signal number 2 will be my gun drawn on the suspect or suspects at the load vehicle. The trouble signal will be the removal of sunglasses and hat. 10-4."

"10-4. We got you U/C."

The undercover agent arrived at the location, parked in the front of the apartment and entered the apartment complex.

"The Kel is working perfectly. The U/C and Eddie will be coming down to see the dope and flash in a short while."

A few minutes later the U/C and two crooks exited the apartment complex, walked to the rear parking lot where the U/C looked into the rear seat area, removed a package and shook and examined it.

PD-5 relayed "The U/C is advising the crooks the marijuana package he has in his hands appears to be lighter than 20 pounds. The crooks are advising the U/C that some are 21,22,23 and as much as 25 pounds, none of them are under 20 pounds."

The U/C and two crooks then walked around the front of the apartment to the undercover car. The U/C waked back to the rear of the U/C car and opened the trunk. Immediately Eddie took off running between the apartments. I jumped out of my car and chased him through several yards, between apartments for three blocks until he became exhausted and fell to the ground. As I approached Eddie to handcuff him, he looked up and saw me and screamed "All fuck, no not you again. This is some kind of fucking nightmare."

"Yeah, Eddie, this is your friend Beenum again. Why did you run?" I asked.

"When that guy popped that trunk, I knew I had been had. I was busted two times before when the trunk was opened. That is the silliest fucking thing I ever heard of. In the middle of doing big dope deals involving thousands of dollars, some motherf___r has to open a god d___n trunk" Eddie shouted.

I could not help but laugh and feel sorry for poor old Eddie. The United States Attorney's office for the Central District of California had charged him with four ounce sale and one pound cocaine case he had with me, Eddie had two U.S. Customs cases involving marijuana smuggling; LAPD, LASO and state narcotic each had multiple hand-to-hand ounce buys from him and he had a two kilo cocaine case in New York.

If it were not for bad luck, Eddie would have no luck. It seems almost everybody he met upon his move to California was either a CI or an undercover agent. When Eddie raises up out of prison,

dope dealing and drug abuse could well be a thing in the past



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

ISBN 141220114-4



9 781412 201148



CHAPTER 8

Advice for Established and Emerging College AOD Misuse Prevention Professionals: A Conversation with Dolores Cimini, University at Albany

“

“Our goal is not necessarily to chase the drug when we are developing interventions but to see what the bigger issues are, the environmental issues and hold on to what the best practices are at the individual, campus and policy level.”

—Dolores Cimini, Director, Center for Behavioral Health Promotion and Applied Research, University at Albany

In this final chapter of the guide, we provide an inside look at the lessons learned by a prevention professional with a history of addressing AOD misuse among college students. We provide advice for both established and new professionals.

For over 30 years, Dolores Cimini has been a mentor in the field of college AOD misuse prevention. Based at the University at Albany, one of the university centers of the 64-campus State University of New York system, Cimini has spent her career working directly with students. She has produced numerous peer-reviewed public health studies and is the co-editor of *Promoting Behavioral Health and Reducing Risk Among College Students: A Comprehensive Approach* (2018). Cimini currently runs the award-winning Middle Earth Peer Assistance Program at the University at Albany and is the director of the Center for Behavioral Health Promotion and Applied Research.

Cimini is passionate about teaching and educating emerging professionals, and she is a well-loved educator in the School of Education at the University at Albany. She is also excited about the changes in the field of prevention: **“We have steadily moved beyond traditional counseling services toward early intervention and universal intervention that reflect a true public health approach and engages the entire campus.”**

Cimini’s hard-earned advice is offered below.

For Established Professionals

Dealing With Changes in Upper Administration

In her long tenure at the University at Albany, Cimini has worked under 13 university presidents. AOD issues are a charged issue on campus, and the fear of an unsupportive upper administrator is shared by many who do prevention work in these spaces.

Cimini offers advice for weathering changes in transition:

“When new presidents come in, by and large, they have a lot on their plate. They are learning about a new campus, meeting new people—their time is at a premium.”



In response, Cimini and her team introduce themselves while remaining in the background. “We want new administrators to know that they have a program on their campus that is running well and moving forward,” she says. “We let them know that we’d love to talk to them about our program, but we know they have a lot on their plate right now. When we do that, we’ve found that they are not as concerned, and they let us do our work.”

Cimini has found that using this approach establishes the competency of her office up front and also provides concrete data and program information for the president when they do have the time to meet with her and her team. Says Cimini, “When new administrators come visit, we provide a more comprehensive, data-driven picture of what we are doing. We also make it clear to them what support from their office looks like so they aren’t guessing about how they can help us or inform our work.”

Diversify Funding and Share Ownership to Embed Prevention into the Lifeblood of the Campus

For professionals who have worked to establish a successful AOD misuse prevention program on their campus, Cimini offers methods for integrating programming into the day-to-day functioning of campus: “We look for ways to engage the whole campus: This is not the job of one office.”

Cimini points to two areas for established professionals to pursue to ensure their prevention work remains central to the campus:

1. **Diversification of resources:** “As part of their budget, many new prevention professionals may get some funding to implement strategies or programs. It’s important not to just rely on that one funding source,” Cimini explains. “If one is working in a grant-funded program, it’s important to not depend on that. Grants come and go, and budgets can be higher or lower depending on the particular academic year or institution. It’s important to look for other sources of not only funding support but also looking at how to sustain funding you do have.” One program that has benefited from this approach is the [Middle Earth Peer Assistance Program](#), which is supported by a wide range of campus partners, including Student Affairs, Academic Departments and Student Government.
2. **Connection to academics:** Another method Cimini uses at the University at Albany is to foster links between prevention programming and academics. She points again to the 50-year lifespan of the Middle Earth Peer Assistance Program as an example: “We’ve linked ourselves with the School of Education and are able to offer 3 credit hours each semester to students who participate in the Middle Earth Program. It’s wonderful because the students benefit, the university benefits, and our program benefits.” In the 2019-2020 academic year, Middle Earth had 157 student peer assistants and peer educators, a testament to the value of the program for all on campus.

Using Data to Stay Abreast of Emerging Drug Issues

From cocaine in the 1980s to the rise of ecstasy and other club drugs in the 1990s to the misuse of prescription medications as study aids starting in the early 2000s, Cimini has seen a lot of trends in drug use over the course of her 30 years at the University at Albany. Throughout it all, she says, the popularity of cannabis has remained unchanged: “College students tend to believe that cannabis isn’t harmful and that perception has remained constant over time.”

So how does Cimini handle changes in drug popularity at the University at Albany? “We value data and collection of data. We also rely on receiving valuable information from our peer leaders since they work directly with the students,” Cimini says. “They serve as our eyes and ears for what’s happening on campus.”

Cimini also stresses the importance of data analysis as a key part of the process, explaining that she has seen many colleagues collect data but then have challenges with finding the resources and expertise for data analysis. She acknowledges that she is lucky: “We have a graduate program with students and faculty who are interested in this area.”

For those who are struggling to find help with data analysis, Cimini suggests, “Partner with faculty on your campus who may be interested in data collection and analysis, even if it’s a slightly different field. The skills are transferable, and it’s a win-win for everyone since you’re all working to build a healthier campus.”

Working toward Holistic Prevention

Cimini is sympathetic and attuned to the many challenges facing college students today:

We can’t deny that college students are coming to campus with much more complex substance use and co-occurring mental health challenges. As a result, what we are seeing is an increased number of students who are facing potentially dropping out of school, stopping out of school, not graduating, or not moving into the workforce as has historically been the case. In addition to that, college students, particularly those at many public universities, are facing challenges such as financial concerns, food insecurity, or not being able to afford professional clothing when they do get job interviews. At times students need to decide between going to classes and doing their classwork as a top priority or needing to work and hold on to some role in supporting their families.

As research has shown, financial stressors and mental health conditions are risk factors for substance misuse.

With that in mind, Cimini believes in fostering partnerships and developing a comprehensive holistic approach to prevention. She explains, “Our goal is not necessarily to chase the drug when we are developing interventions but to see what the bigger issues are, the environmental issues, and hold on to what the best practices are at the individual, campus, and policy levels.”

Cimini currently works with departments across campus to find ways to reduce the impact of risk factors, from establishing supports for first-generation college students to supporting the university’s growing initiatives around mindfulness and well-being programming aimed at reducing student stress and anxiety on campus.

Innovate Using Evidence-Based Programs as a Framework

For established prevention professionals, the list of evidence-based AOD misuse prevention programs is well known. Conducting screening and brief intervention programs, establishing alcohol-free spaces on campus, and advocating for increased enforcement of AOD policies are the backbone of campus prevention programming. For many prevention professionals, implementing evidence-based prevention programs and policies comprises the majority of their efforts for their first 5 to 10 years on campus.

Once those key evidence-based programs have been established, however, Cimini encourages professionals to innovate using the principles central to the success of evidence-based prevention programming. For example, her office received a federal grant to work with fraternity and sorority students on establishing a BASICS-like screening and brief intervention program. Fraternity and sorority leaders involved in the program's creation advocated for the program to highlight fraternity and sorority values around shared identity, brotherhood/sisterhood, and campus reputation, in addition to providing individual and aggregate alcohol use feedback and alcohol expectancy data for each fraternity or sorority compared to all fraternities and sororities.

While the program looks like BASICS and uses motivational interviewing principles in its approach, it's entirely designed to fit the needs of the population. "We have to be willing to adapt our interventions, while keeping fidelity in mind, to meet our target population's needs and to be responsive to their cultures," Cimini explains.

For New Professionals

Understand Your Campus's History around AOD Issues

Taking the time to dive into your new campus's past efforts at addressing AOD issues is well worth the effort, says Cimini. "You are walking into a living history," she explains. "To conduct effective prevention, you must understand how your campus has worked with these issues in the past. What types of programs have they tried? How did the campus respond? How much support has the person working on these issues received in the past? Why is that? What resources has the program had in order to operate?"

New professionals can gain a valuable perspective on the history of AOD misuse prevention on their campuses by using archival data, such as student newspapers, to learn how AOD use has been reported over time, along with conducting interviews with long-time campus leaders.

In addition, Cimini advocates establishing a linkage with your primary supervisor and other campus leaders: "It's really important to work with your supervisor or director to get the history and guidance of where your challenges may be and brainstorm how to address them. How did the program that I'm going to run in the next few years get to where it is? And what can I do to contribute to it in a unique way?"

Go on a Listening Tour

Along similar lines, Cimini recommends taking a semester to conduct what she calls “listening tours” with your likely stakeholders. She recommends not only talking to faculty leaders and student life department heads but also interviewing student leaders and conducting focus groups with students who are traditionally considered “high risk” based on research. Learning how these groups of students have traditionally viewed the work of the AOD misuse prevention office is imperative before embarking on new prevention programming. Just as important is learning how the office has traditionally worked with faculty and other campus departments.

For example:

- » **How do faculty feel about the work you’re doing?**
- » **Are there clear lines of communication between faculty and the AOD office?**
- » **How have other student life departments worked with the AOD misuse prevention office in the past?**
- » **What types of initiatives do student life departments and faculty want for students around AOD issues?**

Don’t Rush into Programming—Take Your Time

As a professional who has mentored generations of prevention professionals, Cimini understands the zeal of newly minted professionals to get started with the important work of crafting a prevention program. However, she cautions against jumping right in without doing a comprehensive needs assessment: “It can be tempting to start right in with prevention programming, but it’s important for us to really understand our stakeholders and target population groups, understand their cultures and their concerns, and be open and responsive to that.”

For new professionals who may be worried that they might be viewed as ineffective if they don’t rush into enacting programs, Cimini recommends keeping key stakeholders engaged in your needs assessment and strategic planning processes. She says, “It’s really important to have a mind-set of collaboration with any stakeholder, not only how to collaborate with them, but to assess the strengths that they will be bringing to your work. Ideally, you want to place them in a position that will capitalize on their strengths. That may take some time to figure out. Don’t feel rushed.”

A Final Note

Like many others who have been in the field for years, Cimini is continually impressed by the quality and passion of new prevention professionals, saying, “We have come so far in how we understand these issues on campus, and there is a great deal of talent coming into these positions. It’s a truly exciting time for AOD prevention on campus!”

These resources are offered to inform your progress through the steps of the Strategic Prevention Framework. The inclusion of resources in this guide does not constitute a direct or indirect endorsement by DEA of any entity's products, services, or policies, and any reference to an entity's products, services, or policies should not be construed as such.

Understanding the Problem

Campus Drug Prevention (Drug Enforcement Administration)

<https://www.campusdrugprevention.gov>

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.

Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking (2018)

<https://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/resources/reporttocongress/RTC2018.aspx>

Compiled by the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking, this report provides policy summaries and state summaries identifying current legislative and other ongoing efforts.

Facts on College Student Drinking

https://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/media/THMs/tipsresources/5486_UADPEI_College_Drinking_Fact_Sheet_FINAL_4-2016.pdf

This two-page fact sheet created by the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking provides an overview of the issue and breaks down binge and heavy drinking by gender, alcohol use consequences, and alcohol use prevention.

Step 1: Needs Assessment

National College Health Assessment (American College Health Association)

<https://www.acha.org/NCHA>

The National College Health Assessment offers national searchable survey results from 2015 until the present, reports and statistics, and access to published research.

Monitoring the Future (National Institute of Drug Abuse)

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/related-topics/college-age-young-adults>

Monitoring the Future provides the most recent data on substance use among this age group, including patterns of marijuana use, nonmedical use of prescription drugs, cocaine, and newer trends, such as synthetic drugs, e-cigarettes, and hookah use. It also provides other links of interest to educators, residence hall staff, counselors, clinicians, researchers who work with this age group, as well as students and parents.

College Drinking: Changing the Culture

<https://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov>

A comprehensive resource from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, this site is a central location for information related to alcohol use by college students, including the following:

- » College Alcohol Policies is a compilation of alcohol and other drug policies from thousands of colleges and universities across the United States.
- » College Alcohol Statistics provides updated national data on prevalence and consequences of alcohol use among college students.

Step 2: Building Capacity

Community Readiness Model

<https://tec.colostate.edu/community-readiness-2/>

The Community Readiness Model was developed at the Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research at the University of Colorado to provide communities with an easy-to-use method to assess resources and readiness to address a public health issue.

Prevention Collaboration in Action Toolkit

<https://pscollaboration.edc.org>

Created by Prevention Solutions at the Educational Development Center, this toolkit offers tools and stories from the field on building partnerships and developing collaborations to reduce substance misuse.

Step 3: Planning

College AIM

<https://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov/CollegeAIM/Default.aspx>

Developed by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, College AIM is a toolkit designed to help schools identify effective alcohol interventions to address harmful and underage student drinking.

Safer Campuses and Communities

<https://prev.org/SAFER/index.html>

Based on an NIAAA-funded study conducted at the University of California and California State University systems, SCC examined a variety of environmental-level strategies that could be implemented on campuses and in their surrounding communities. The site provides a free toolkit for fostering campus and community collaboration and implementing evidence-based environmental interventions.

Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center

<https://www.samhsa.gov/ebp-resource-center>

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration provides analyses, costs, and contact information for several individual- and environmental-level strategies to reduce alcohol use by college students.

Logic Model Development Guide

<https://www.wkkf.org/resource-directory/resource/2006/02/wk-kellogg-foundation-logic-model-development-guide>

Developed by W.K. Kellogg Foundation, this guide provides practical assistance to nonprofits engaged in program development, implementation, and evaluation processes.

Step 4: Implementation

National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments

<https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/events-products-and-ta/center-products-tools/higher-education-products>

This website provides evidence-based approaches to address alcohol and other drugs and issues of violence on campus. The site offers a variety of products: webinars and in-person learning opportunities, data resources, lessons learned profiles, and case studies from prevention professionals at colleges and universities.

College Drinking: Prevention Perspectives – Lessons Learned at Frostburg State University

<https://store.samhsa.gov/products/College-Drinking/All-New-Products/PEP18-FROSTBURG>

Per the website description, “This video shows the actions taken by Frostburg State University to reduce campus underage and harmful drinking.”

Step 5: Evaluation

An Overview of Quantitative and Qualitative Data Collection Methods

https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2002/nsf02057/nsf02057_4.pdf

Created by the National Science Foundation, this guide provides information on quantitative and qualitative data collection methods, as well as theoretical and practical issues for consideration.

A Practical Guide for Engaging Stakeholders in Developing Evaluation Questions

<https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/research/2009/12/a-practical-guide-for-engaging-stakeholders-in-developing-evalua.html>

This guide by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation provides the reader with “a five-step process for involving stakeholders in developing evaluation questions and includes a set of four worksheets to facilitate this process.” This guide aims to assist evaluators and their clients in the process of engaging stakeholders—that is, those with a stake or interest in the program, policy, or initiative being evaluated.

Developing an Effective Evaluation Report

https://www.cdc.gov/eval/materials/Developing-An-Effective-Evaluation-Report_TAG508.pdf

This comprehensive workbook applies the CDC Framework for Program Evaluation in Public Health to report evaluation results to a variety of audiences.

Protective Factors: Adolescence through Young Adulthood

Prevention is not just about eliminating a negative behavior; it is also about striving to optimize well-being and supporting factors that protect against misuse. These protective factors can reduce the negative impact of risk factors. The following tables, compiled by the National Research Council and Institute of Medicine and the United States Surgeon General, show select protective factors that are associated with healthy development at the individual, family, and school/community levels during specific stages of development from adolescence through young adulthood.

PROTECTIVE FACTORS: ADOLESCENCE

Individual	Family	Community (School)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive physical development (good health habits, good health risk management skills) • Positive intellectual development (life, school, vocational skills; critical and rational thinking; cultural knowledge and competence) • Positive psychological and emotional development (self-esteem and self-regulation; coping, responsibility, problem-solving; motivation and achievement; morality and values) • Positive social development (connectedness to peers, family, community; attachment to institutions) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical and psychological safety • Appropriate structure (limits, rules, monitoring, predictability) • Supportive relationships with family members • Opportunities to belong (sociocultural identity formation, inclusion) • Positive social norms (expectations, values) • Support for efficacy and mattering, or the feeling that one is making a difference • Opportunities for skill building • Integration of family, school, and community efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical and psychological safety • Appropriate structure (limits, rules, monitoring, predictability) • Supportive relationships • Opportunities to belong (sociocultural identity formation, inclusion) • Positive social norms (expectations, values) • Support for efficacy and mattering • Opportunities for skill building • Integration of family, school, and community efforts

PROTECTIVE FACTORS: YOUNG ADULTHOOD

Individual	Family	Community (School/Work)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identity exploration in love, work, and worldview• Subjective sense of adult status in self-sufficiency, making independent decisions, and becoming financially independent• Future orientation• Achievement motivation• Belief in a higher being, or involvement in spiritual practices or religious activities• An individual's belief that they can modify, control, or abstain from substance use	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Balance of autonomy and relatedness to family• Behavioral and emotional autonomy• Married or living with a partner in a committed relationship who does not misuse alcohol or drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunities for exploration in work and school• Connectedness to adults outside of family

References

National Research Council and Institute of Medicine. (2009). *Preventing mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders among young people: Progress and possibilities* (O'Connell, M. E., Boat, T., & Warner, K. E., Eds.) (pp 78–80, Appendix E). Washington, DC: National Academies Press.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General (2016). Facing addiction in America: The Surgeon General's report on alcohol, drugs, and health. Washington, DC. Retrieved from <https://addiction.surgeongeneral.gov>

MEMORIAL SECTION



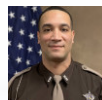
Police Officer Andres M. Vasquez Lasso
Chicago Police Department, IL
EOW: Wednesday, March 1, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



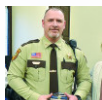
Investigator Patrick J. Hogan
New York State Police, NY
EOW: Thursday, April 13, 2023
Cause: 9/11 related illness



Deputy Sheriff Marcus Zeigler
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, OH
EOW: Friday, May 26, 2023
Cause: Duty related illness



Deputy Sheriff Asson Hacker
Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office, IN
EOW: Thursday, March 2, 2023
Cause: Duty related illness



Deputy Sheriff Josh Owen
Pope County Sheriff's Office, MN
EOW: Saturday, April 15, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Police Officer Horren Randy Tyler
Madison Police Department, MS
EOW: Thursday, June 1, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Master Trooper James R. Bailey
Indiana State Police, IN
EOW: Friday, March 3, 2023
Cause: Vehicular assault



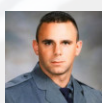
Reserve Corporal Joseph Johnson
Nysa Police Department, OR
EOW: Saturday, April 15, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



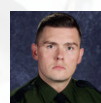
Corporal Shawn Kevin Kelly
Denham Springs Police Department, LA
EOW: Friday, June 2, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



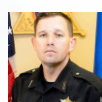
Detective Sergeant Mason Griffith
Hermann Police Department, MO
EOW: Sunday, March 12, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Senior Investigator Nicholas Georgeadis
New York State Police, NY
EOW: Friday, April 28, 2023
Cause: 9/11 related illness



Sergeant Cory Maynard
West Virginia State Police, WV
EOW: Friday, June 2, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Deputy Sheriff Jeremy McCain
Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office, OK
EOW: Monday, March 20, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



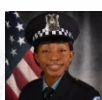
Lieutenant Richard Weber
Newark Police Division, NJ
EOW: Monday, May 1, 2023
Cause: COVID19



Chief of Police Anthony Rickerson
Jasper Police Department, FL
EOW: Sunday, June 11, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



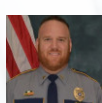
Patrolman Joseph Barlow
McAlester Police Department, OK
EOW: Monday, March 20, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



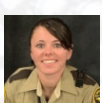
Police Officer Aréanah M. Preston
Chicago Police Department, IL
EOW: Saturday, May 6, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Captain Christopher J. Garrow
New York State Police, NY
EOW: Monday, June 12, 2023
Cause: 9/11 related illness



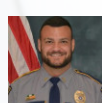
Sergeant David Poirier
Baton Rouge Police Department, LA
EOW: Sunday, March 26, 2023
Cause: Aircraft accident



Deputy Sheriff Kaitie Leising
St. Croix County Sheriff's Office, WI
EOW: Saturday, May 6, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Police Officer Mark Christopher Wagner, II
Wintergreen Police Department, VA
EOW: Friday, June 16, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Corporal Scotty Canezaro
Baton Rouge Police Department, LA
EOW: Sunday, March 26, 2023
Cause: Aircraft accident



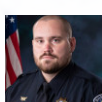
Police Officer Robert Shisler
Depford Township Police Department, NJ
EOW: Sunday, May 7, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Trooper Jacques F. Rougeau, Jr.
Pennsylvania State Police, PA
EOW: Saturday, June 17, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



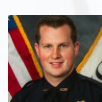
Police Officer Garrett Crumby
Huntsville Police Department, AL
EOW: Tuesday, March 28, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



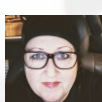
Detective Jacob Arthur Beu
Rutherford County Sheriff's Office, TN
EOW: Sunday, May 7, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



Trooper Aaron N. Smith
Indiana State Police, IN
EOW: Wednesday, June 28, 2023
Cause: Vehicular assault



Police Officer Timothy James Unwin, III
Springfield Township Police Department, OH
EOW: Friday, March 31, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



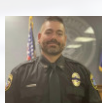
Port Police Officer Kimberly Sickafoose
Alabama Port Authority Police, AL
EOW: Thursday, May 11, 2023
Cause: Drowned



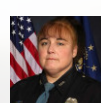
Police Officer Carlos Taylor
Montgomery Police Department, AL
EOW: Friday, June 30, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



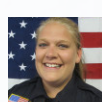
Detective Sergeant Nicholas Pepper
Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office, LA
EOW: Sunday, April 2, 2023
Cause: Vehicular assault



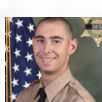
Sergeant Joshua Lee Clouse
Cameron Police Department, TX
EOW: Thursday, May 11, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



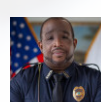
Sergeant Heather Glenn
Tell City Police Department, IN
EOW: Monday, July 3, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



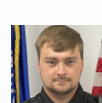
Police Officer Emily Ann Breidenbach
Chetek Police Department, WI
EOW: Saturday, April 8, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



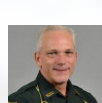
Deputy Sheriff Brett Harris
Riverside County Sheriff's Department, CA
EOW: Saturday, May 13, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



Detective Delberth Phipps, Jr.
Virgin Islands Police Department, VI
EOW: Tuesday, July 4, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Police Officer Hunter Timothy Scheel
Cameron Police Department, WI
EOW: Saturday, April 8, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Sergeant Michael Kunovich
St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, FL
EOW: Friday, May 19, 2023
Cause: Heart attack



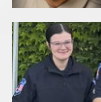
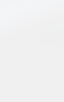
Deputy Sheriff Tyee Michael Browne
Crisp County Sheriff's Office, GA
EOW: Wednesday, July 5, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Senior Police Officer Trevor Abney
New Orleans Police Department, LA
EOW: Sunday, April 9, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Deputy Sheriff Caleb Conley
Scott County Sheriff's Office, KY
EOW: Monday, May 22, 2023
Cause: Gunfire

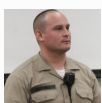


Police Officer Jessica Ebbighausen
Rutland Police Department, VT
EOW: Friday, July 7, 2023
Cause: Vehicular assault





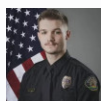
Deputy Sheriff John Durm
Marion County Sheriff's Office, IN
EOW: Monday, July 10, 2023
Cause: Assault



Deputy Sheriff Alejandro Martinez
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, CA
EOW: Friday, July 28, 2023
Cause: Vehicular assault



Officer Bill Sapolu
Honolulu Police Department, HI
EOW: Tuesday, August 8, 2023
Cause: Motorcycle crash



Police Officer Jake Wallin
Fargo Police Department, ND
EOW: Friday, July 14, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Sergeant William Cherry
Macon County Sheriff's Office, TN
EOW: Saturday, July 29, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



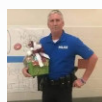
Special Agent Patrick Bauer
United States Department of the Treasury
- Internal Revenue Service - Criminal
Investigation, US
EOW: Thursday, August 17, 2023
Cause: Gunfire (Inadvertent)



Police Officer Anthony Ferguson
Alamogordo Police Department, NM
EOW: Sunday, July 16, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Deputy Marshal Barry Giglio
Ville Platte Marshal's Office, LA
EOW: Monday, July 31, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Officer Bryan Holley
Hudson Independent School District Police
Department, TX
EOW: Friday, August 18, 2023
Cause: Duty related illness



Sergeant Edwin Maldonado-Garcia
Puerto Rico Police Department, PR
EOW: Wednesday, July 19, 2023
Cause: Struck by vehicle



Sergeant Pedro Torres-Santos
Trujillo Alto Municipal Police Department, PR
EOW: Monday, July 31, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Police Officer Anthony Francone
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Police
Department, TR
EOW: Friday, August 25, 2023
Cause: Vehicular assault



Deputy Sheriff David Bosecker
Eastland County Sheriff's Office, TX
EOW: Friday, July 21, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



Deputy Sheriff Timothy J. Guyer
Johnson County Sheriff's Office, IN
EOW: Tuesday, August 1, 2023
Cause: Heart attack



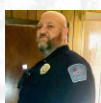
Special Agent Robert C. Castioni, Jr.
United States Department of Homeland Security
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement -
Homeland Security Investigations, US
EOW: Monday, July 24, 2023
Cause: 9/11 related illness



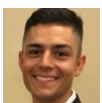
Police Officer Matthew Hare
Easley Police Department, SC
EOW: Wednesday, August 2, 2023
Cause: Struck by train



Sheriff Robert Daniel Rodgers
Wilcox County Sheriff's Office, GA
EOW: Tuesday, August 29, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



Lieutenant Michael Wood
Newberry Police Department, SC
EOW: Wednesday, July 26, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



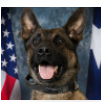
Police Officer Jonah Oswald
Fairway Police Department, KS
EOW: Monday, August 7, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



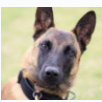
Deputy Sheriff Matthew Pierson
Shelby County Sheriff's Office, TX
EOW: Tuesday, August 29, 2023
Cause: Automobile crash



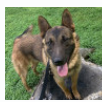
K9 MEMORIAL



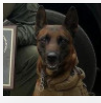
K9 Lenin
Baytown Police Department, TX
EOW: Thursday, March 9, 2023
Cause: Animal related



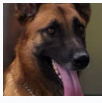
K9 Chase
Cobb County Police Department, GA
EOW: Tuesday, June 6, 2023
Cause: Heatstroke



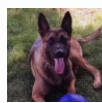
K9 Kuno
Forest Heights Police Department, MD
EOW: Sunday, July 2, 2023
Cause: Heatstroke



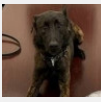
K9 Rudy
Riverside County Sheriff's Department, CA
EOW: Friday, April 14, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



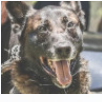
K9 Aron
Houston Police Department, TX
EOW: Monday, June 12, 2023
Cause: Heatstroke



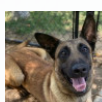
K9 Falco
Gary Police Department, IN
EOW: Thursday, July 13, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



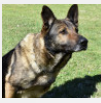
K9 Hudson
Kane County Sheriff's Office, IL
EOW: Wednesday, May 24, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



K9 Harrie
Shreveport Police Department, LA
EOW: Saturday, June 24, 2023
Cause: Heatstroke



K9 Sir
San Diego Police Department, CA
EOW: Wednesday, August 2, 2023
Cause: Gunfire



K9 Santos
Wake County Sheriff's Office, NC
EOW: Friday, May 26, 2023
Cause: Gunfire (Inadvertent)



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-
keteering 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.

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE HEROES THAT PROTECT US.



For more information visit our website
or follow us on social media

narcoticofficersmagazine.com



facebook.com/NarcoticOfficersMagazine