DRUG TRAFFICKING
IN ARIZONA
To protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity and providing vital support to the State of Arizona and its citizens.
ISSUES WE FACE

• Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs) and Violence
• DTO areas of control in the U.S.
• Drug Trafficking Corridors
The single biggest shift in geography of drug trafficking has been drugs originating in Colombia.

Prior to the 1980s, Colombian drugs reached the US and Canada either direct or via the Caribbean.

Vigilance of U.S. law enforcement in 1980’s resulted in a shift of supply routes through Mexico.

Mexican gangs became increasingly involved and resulted in the DTOs Mexico has today which control the trafficking into the U.S.
MEXICAN DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS (DTO)

- DEA has identified eight major DTOs in Mexico
- The areas of their operation are constantly shifting (due to turf feuds or high profile arrests of cartel members)
This map shows the areas of influence of the major Mexican drug trafficking organizations within the United States.

The Sinaloa Cartel controls the majority of drug trafficking in Arizona.
Drug Trafficking Corridors in the U.S.

- Seizure data has shown there are eight “corridors” which are used to transport drugs and drug proceeds.
- Arizona is in Corridor A which runs west-east from southern California through the Southwest, Pacific, West Central, and Northeast regions.
CHANGES IN U.S. DRUG TRAFFICKING SEIZURES (2014)

- Methamphetamine
- Heroin
CHANGES IN U.S. DRUG TRAFFICKING SEIZURES (2014)
COMBATING DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS

- Narcotic Investigations and Highway Investigation Teams
- Highway Interdiction
- Rural Operations
NARCOTIC INVESTIGATIONS

• A cooperative effort to enforce laws to deter organized crime.

• Highway Investigation Teams (HIT) respond to highway interdiction seizures and assumes/furthers the investigation.

• Work in conjunction with intelligence resources at the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center (ACTIC) and Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA).

• Arizona Department of Public Safety Canine Unit is nationally recognized in the proficient use of police canines to detect the odor of drugs, currency, ammunition, etc.
METHAMPHETAMINE SEIZURES IN ARIZONA

• Arizona State Trooper stopped suspect driving on Interstate 8 outside of Yuma.
• Trooper had suspicions of criminal activity and a search revealed $1,500 in illicit currency.
• Trooper requested a Border Strike Force HIT Detective to assist.
• Investigation linked suspect to narcotics transportation cell.
• Investigation led to 5 different seizures in CA and AZ that resulted in the seizure of 130 pounds of methamphetamine, 5 vehicles and 5 additional arrests
METHAMPHETAMINE SEIZURES IN ARIZONA

Gas Tank & Tire Concealments
Border Strike Force K9 Trooper made traffic stop on Interstate 10.
Indicators of criminal activity were observed.
Investigation revealed suspect crossed US/Mexico Border earlier in the day & traveled I-19 through Santa Cruz County.
Search revealed an after-market compartment built under the center console and front seats.
Compartment contained:
- 40.75 lbs. of Methamphetamine
- 9.95 lbs. of Heroin
- One box of rifle ammunition
HEROIN SEIZURES IN ARIZONA

Concealed in Burritos
HEROIN SEIZURES IN ARIZONA

20.5 lbs. concealed in furniture
COCaine Seizures in Arizona

Natural Void Behind Back Seat

7 kilos in constructed compartment
MARIJUANA SEIZURES IN ARIZONA
Fentanyl is a Schedule II synthetic opioid that is approximately 80-100 times stronger than morphine, and 25-40 times more potent than heroin.
FENTANYL SEIZURE IN ARIZONA

16 lbs. concealed in the driveshaft
RURAL OPERATIONS

• Deploys in rural, remote areas of the state used by criminal couriers to transport contraband including: drugs, criminal paraphernalia, weapons and undocumented humans.

• In cooperation with the Alliance to Combat Transnational Threats (ACTT) and numerous partnering agencies, coordinates and manages large scale rural operations in furtherance of the mission.

• Deploys with specialized equipment and tactics.

• Further criminal investigations initiated during rural operation deployments.
RURAL OPERATION
PINAL COUNTY

- Operation Sidewinder II
- Coordinated by Border Strike Force and ACTT
- 72 hour deployment
- Multi-agency collaboration
- 3,743 lbs. of Marijuana seized
- 40 felons arrested
DRUG COURIERS PACKING ACROSS SONORAN DESERT PINAL COUNTY
Recap

Issues Arizona is faced with:
- Ever evolving Transnational Drug Trafficking Organizations
- Expanding and changing drug corridors
- New and improved concealment and trafficking methods

What we are doing:
- Expanding investigative resources and partnerships
- Continuous training and adoption of new methods to detect and deter trafficking
Border Strike Force and Governor’s Office Prevention Initiatives

Debbie Moak

Director, Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith and Family
“A child who **gets to age 21** without smoking, using illegal drugs or abusing alcohol is **virtually certain never to do so**”

- Joseph A. Califano
  National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse
SAMHSA Risk Factors

- Family conflict
- Substance use by other family members
- Parental monitoring of children is limited
- Lack of meaningful and on-going conversations
- Chaotic home environment
- Substance use by friends and peers
- Attending a school without strict rules that address substance use
- Residing in a community with a high tolerance for substance use
SAMHSA Protective Factors

Parental involvement in a child’s life

Clear limits and consistent enforcement of discipline

Being involved in healthy activities that involve managed risk, such as rock climbing, karate or camping

Spending time around positive role models

Attending a school with an effective drug education program and a no-tolerance policy for alcohol and drugs

Positive emotional support outside of the family

Being active in faith-based organizations, school, athletic or community activities
What percentage of addiction begins before the age of 18?

- 20%
- 50%
- 70%
- 90%

9 out of 10 addicts started smoking, drinking or using drugs before the age of 18.

- National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 2012
HB 2355 - Naloxone

This bill allows a pharmacist to dispense Naloxone without a prescription to a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose, a family member or community member in a position to assist that person.

SB 1283 - CSPMP

This bill requires physicians in Arizona to access and update the CSPMP database before prescribing a controlled substance to a patient.
What percentage of parents believe their child would abuse drugs to deal with school stress?

- 7%
- 11%
- 37%
- 52%
What percentage of youth report that school stress is the primary reason for drug use?

- 73% of students say they use drugs to deal with the pressures and stress of school
- 7% of parents believe their teen might use drugs is to deal with stress

- Partnership Attitude Tracking Study (PATS) Teen, 2007
Prescription Drug Misuse & Abuse Initiative

Goal: Reduce RX Drug Overdose Deaths in Arizona by 18% by 2018.

Strategy 1: Reduce illicit acquisition and diversion of prescription drugs.

Strategy 2: Promote responsible prescribing and dispensing policies and practices.

Strategy 3: Enhance Rx drug practice and policies in law enforcement.

Strategy 4: Increase public awareness and patient education and Rx drug misuse and abuse.

Strategy 5: Enhance assessment and referral to substance abuse treatment.
According to the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD), alcoholism is the 3rd leading lifestyle-related cause of death in the nation. Get More Facts.
Screening assesses the severity of substance use and identifies level of treatment.

Brief intervention increases insight and awareness regarding substance use and motivation toward behavioral change.

Referral to treatment provides those identified as needing more extensive treatment with access to specialty care.
Providing Paths To Recovery

The Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (P.A.A.R.I.) supports local police departments as they work with opioid addicts.

Since the program began in Gloucester, MA:

- **391 addicts** have turned themselves in at the police station.
- **56 police departments in 17 states** have started programs modeled on or inspired by Gloucester.
- **200 treatment centers** across the country have signed on as partners.
Established by A.R.S. 41-1604.17.

Governor appointed board of parents, prevention specialists and community stakeholders.

Annually, provides $4,000,000.00 of funding to increase and enhancement parental involvement and increase education about the serious risks of alcohol and substance abuse.
Arizona Substance Abuse Task Force

Co-Chairs
Debbie Moak, Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Dr. Sara Salek, Arizona Health Cost Care Containment System

Subcommittees
- Access to Care
- Prevention
- Medically Assisted Treatment
- Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
Governor Ducey’s Commission on Substance Abuse

Established by Executive Order 2013-05.

Governor appointed commission of state agency directors, prevention specialists and community stakeholders.

The ASAP initiatives and supports improvement in substance abuse policy, develops dynamic partnerships and participates in informed planning processes.
Having the Conversation

- More awkward talks
- Less likely to drink

- Alcohol, Marijuana, Prescription Drugs
- Direct messaging for youth and adults
Mission

Cultivate healthy student choices regarding substance use through prevention education.

Goals

- Educate families, focus on prevention
- Family engagement
- Provide evidence based tools and resources
- Create an annual “Family Plan”
“Now You See Me”

Addiction: The Elephant in the Room
October 24, 2016
National Red Ribbon Week Kickoff Event
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Arizona State Capitol – Senate Lawn
1700 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ, 85007
Keynote Speaker:
Governor Douglas Ducey
Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership

Bill Montgomery  
Chair

Debbie Moak  
Vice Chair

Cara Christ  
DHS John Cocca  
Department of Liquor Control

Maureen Curley  
Tribal Government in Arizona

Kathleen Grimes  
Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition

Alberto Gutier  
Governor’s Office of Highway Safety

Thomas Kelly  
State or Local Law Enforcement

David Klein  
US Department of Veterans’ Affairs

Sara Salek  
AHCCCS

Leah Landrum-Taylor  
Department Economic Security

Lawrence LaVeque  
Arizona Business Representative

Dona Marie Markley  
Department of Juvenile Corrections

Dawn Mertz  
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

Frank Milstead  
Department of Public Safety

Duce Minor II  
Parker Area Alliance for Community Empowerment (PAACE)

Charles Ryan  
Department of Corrections

Maria Syms  
Attorney General’s Office

John Vivian  
Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group Chair

Tobi Zavala  
AZ Board of Behavioral Health Examiners

Karen Ziegler  
Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Kathy Waters  
Administrative Office of the Courts

Wanda Wright  
Arizona Veteran Services

Kelli York  
Substance Abuse Treatment Provider
Prevention is the only 100 percent safe and effective treatment!