

SAN BERNARDINO  
COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S  
DEPARTMENT  
OVERDOSE RESPONSE  
TEAM



# SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT OVERDOSE RESPONSE TEAM

- ◆ In February 2021, the Gangs/Narcotics Division launched a pilot program responding to drug overdoses in San Bernardino County Sheriff's jurisdictions. In July, 2022, this pilot program was made permanent.
- ◆ There are currently 22 investigators, including six members of outside agencies, who make up the response personnel from the Gangs/Narcotics Division.
- ◆ Their participation on the team is a collateral duty and has a significant impact on their everyday duties.
- ◆ ORT works with the District Attorney's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office to conduct state and federal cases.



# OVERDOSE RESPONSE TEAM OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Respond and investigate drug overdoses within Sheriff's jurisdictions to prosecute the drug dealers providing the lethal narcotics.
- ◆ Develop intelligence on drug dealers throughout the county, work with patrol stations and proactively combat the problem to limit the number of overdoses and the amount of fentanyl being distributed throughout the county.
- ◆ Educate department personnel and outside agencies on drug trends and the dangers of synthetic opioids.
- ◆ Create a countywide task force to investigate drug overdoses.



# OVERDOSE RESPONSE TEAM OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Be a resource for other agencies in the county on how to investigate and prosecute drug overdose cases.
- ◆ Collaborate with San Bernardino County Fire and the Superintendent of Schools to conduct educational presentations and create flyers to distribute to our children and their families.
- ◆ Provide information to politicians and legislators on fentanyl to help create law and policies to combat the opioid epidemic.



# OVERDOSE RESPONSE TEAM TRENDS

- ◆ Our county has seen significant seizures in the M-30 pill (Oxycodone), which has been found to be laced with fentanyl, causing overdose deaths.
- ◆ These drugs are being branded or referred to as “percs” and “oxys” and it seems the less experienced users of the drugs do not know what they are ingesting.
- ◆ They are simply looking for a high and unknowingly ingesting fentanyl.
- ◆ We have seen a lot of younger kids abusing Xanax and have cases where Xanax is a counterfeit pharmaceutical likely containing fentanyl.
- ◆ Our county’s trend with high school aged kids is on the uprise with the use of counterfeit pharmaceutical drugs.



# OVERDOSE RESPONSE TEAM TRENDS

- ◆ The Gangs/Narcotics Division continually seize pills laced with fentanyl on a weekly basis, the last two years we have seized:
  - ◆ **3,505,500** pills in 2021 (equals **779-pounds** total)
  - ◆ **1,740,000** pills YTD 2022 (equals **387-pounds** total)
    - ◆ **This is a street value of \$17.4 million**
    - ◆ **Currently Average Cost is \$10.00 a pill**
- ◆ The average kilo of cocaine laced with fentanyl coming across the border has about 16% of it made up of fentanyl.
  - ◆ Not every kilo coming across the border has fentanyl in it.



# OVERDOSE RESPONSE TEAM TRENDS

- ◆ We are seeing more and more counterfeit pharmaceutical pills laced with fentanyl being produced in Mexico.
  - ◆ This is different than 2019 when the trend was to have more production here in the states.



# OVERDOSE RESPONSE TEAM FUNDING

- ◆ The Overdose Response Team is funded through the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department general funds.





# OVERDOSE RESPONSE TEAM STATISTICS

- ◆ **2022 YTD Stats**
  - ◆ **65** – Total Callouts for OD Response
    - ◆ **60-Fatal & 5-Non-Fatal**
    - ◆ **57** – Adults
    - ◆ **8** – Juveniles



# QUESTIONS?

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