

Drug Policy Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2007
10 – 3 pm
The Capitol, Conference Room 2103

Members Present	
Name	Representing
Colonel Christopher Knight	Florida Highway Patrol
Bernie DeCastro	CEO - Time For Freedom
Bill Stewart	Deputy Chief of Staff – Attorney General’s Office
Phil Diaz	Aspire Behavioral Health
Representative Nicholas Thompson	Florida House of Representatives
Colonel William Janes	Florida Office of Drug Control/ Assistant Secretary for Substance Abuse and Mental Health for DCF
Babette Hankey	Center for Drug Free Living
Gail Honea	Community Drug and Alcohol Council
Members not Present	
Joseph Baker	Cardiologist
Shirley Coletti	Operation PAR
Peggy Sapp	Informed Families
Burt Saunders	Florida Senate
Walter McNeil	Department of Juvenile Justice
Other in Attendance	
Todd Dixon	Center for Drug Free Living
Brooks Rumenik	Department of Education
Keith Wilmer	Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Stephanie Colston	Department of Children and Families
Pam Denmark	Department of Corrections
Lt. Colonel William Lefevre	Florida National Guard
Robin Peters	Florida Office of Drug Control
Andy Benard	Florida Office of Drug Control
Jeff Cece	Florida Office of Drug Control
Gilbert Barnes	Florida Office of Drug Control
Mary Booker	Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association
Special Agent Greg Millard	Drug Enforcement Administration
ASAC Jennifer Pritt	Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Bob Denniston	Office of National Drug Control Policy
Art Gordon	Orange County Sheriff Office
Skip Forsyth	Department of Children and Families
Karen Randolph	Florida State University
Nancy Hamilton	Operation PAR
Special Agent Mark Cutcliffe	Drug Enforcement Administration
Linda Loy	Department of Children and Families
Mike Erickson	Senate Criminal Justice Committee

Welcome and Opening remarks by William Janes, Director, Office of Drug Control

- Drug Policy Advisory Council member Enrico Lamberti passed away
- Sgt. Ron Harrison of the Hillsborough Sheriff Office DUI Task Force was killed in action.
- 3 Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Agency (HIDTA) will provide 3 threat assessment briefings to the council per year.
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and the Florida National Guard (FLNG) will do a statewide drug threat assessment. By combining the HIDTA and FDLE/FLNG threat assessments, we will have our first statewide threat assessment.
- Attorney General Office, Office of Drug Control and Florida Department of Law Enforcement will send report to the Joint Inter-Agency Task Force South as shared intelligence
- Gulf Coast HIDTA and Atlanta HIDTA will contribute to our analysis with information from their region.
- Ed Williams of North Florida HIDTA will be present for the November 2007 DPAC meeting
- A HIDTA summary of their threat assessment was sent to each DPAC member.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes from June 26, 2007 were approved by council. There were roster/attendance corrections noted.
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- DPAC Annual Report review will be considered during the November meeting
- Drug Control Strategy Meeting – Partners are meeting and recommendations are being made by law enforcement, prevention and treatment teams. Stakeholders are reviewing strategy and deciding what to retain, update and delete.
- Draft of ODC Strategy will be completed by end of January 08. Initial objectives will be discussed during November DPAC meeting.
- Meth Strategy to be released within 2 weeks. Builds on 2003 Strategy which includes updates to Drug Endangered Children and Law Enforcement, but also includes prevention, treatment and environmental sections. All have measurable goals and objectives.
- Meth Tool Kit – Includes community involvement to address issue and will be updated annually. The toolkit is available on line at www.methinflorida.org.
- Suicide Prevention Council – Bill passed during 2007 Session, creating council in ODC. Black-box warning on depression medications was discussed.
- Phil Diaz made a request made for Suicide Prevention Council member list, summary of their statistics and 2-3 page summary of council's role.
- HB 1 created two task forces. Drug Paraphernalia Abatement Task Force and the Remediation of Illicit Drug Labs Task Force.
- Salvia Divinorum – Council considered recommending scheduling of the drug. More research is needed before any decision can be rendered. FDLE has not seen the drug in their labs. Treatment centers haven't seen it either. This will be discussed again during the November 2007 meeting.

- **Motion made by Bernie DeCastro to continue to monitor Salvia Divinorum. Motion was seconded by Phil Diaz.**

Note*: Numbers correspond to agenda outline.

1) Presentation by Bob Denniston, Director, National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign, Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP):

- a. Campaign focuses on youth and parent outreach, which includes a methamphetamine and prescription drug campaign.
- b. Stop drug use before begins is the priority message.
- c. Last 5 years have shown a 23% decline in teen drug use and a 25% decline in the use of marijuana.
- d. There has been an increase in the use/abuse of prescription drugs by those 12 and older.
- e. ONDCP collaborates with Partnership for a Drug Free America to create ads for youth.
- f. Campaign ads hit 80% of teens 3.5 to 4 times per week through web content, banner ads, as teens are on-line as much as they watch TV.
- g. “Above the Influence” campaign seeks to identify what influences youth and what is their point of view.
- h. Ads target youth during after school as this is often unsupervised and a time of greater risk. Gives reasons why youth should not try drugs
- i. Girls are catching up and even surpassing boys with some drug use.
- j. Teen meth use is down 41% over last 5 years.
- k. 10% of ONDCP is dedicated to meth advertising at a time when funding has been reduced. Target group is 18-34. Average age of use is 22.5 when they first use.
- l. Campaign seeks to delay age of first use as its primary goal.
- m. Myth – Meth is so addictive, that there is no treatment. Not true at all; treatment is available and effective.
- n. There has been an increase in binge drinking among youth.

2) Statewide Intelligence Briefing by Keith Wilmer of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement:

- a. New concerns: Cheese, Salvia, budder, officer safety and statewide drug arrest information.
- b. Cheese: Heroin with Tylenol PM mixture. Looks like cheese and is cheap. \$2 per hit and is highly addictive. Users snort the substance and it is primary seen among Hispanic females. FDLE has not reported any Cheese in its labs. Symptoms include drowsiness, euphoria, change in friends and grades and overdoses.
- c. Salvia: Hallucinate with no known medical use; lack of accepted safety for use has had no medical supervision. High last 20 minutes. It is not a drug of choice and if used once isn't one you would use again.
- d. Butter: Small condensed drug. 82%-100% THC content. Drug is inhaled and the high last for hours at a time.

- e. Officer Safety: Cellular phone radio frequency devices. They are readily available and are inexpensive. Detects radio frequencies of under cover narcotic officers. FDLE wants these devices to be considered paraphernalia as they are only used to stop law enforcement investigative efforts.

f. Jennifer Pritt will provide ODC with language and particulars of how to include these radio frequency alert devices as paraphernalia.

- g. Medical Examiners report listed 7,741 decedents with at least 1 drug in their body at the time of death.
- h. Ecstasy deaths have more than doubled from 2005 to 2006.
- i. Broward County wants a prescription drug data base. ODC will support them in their efforts.
- j. 3 most found in most decedents were alcohol, cocaine and benzodiazepines.
- k. Most lethal drugs were heroin, methadone, fentanyl and oxycodone.
- l. Prescription drugs are found more often than illicit drugs in lethal and non-lethal doses.
- m. Prescription drugs are found 3 times more frequently than illegal prescription drugs in decedents.

3) Presentation by Assistant Special Agent in Charge Jennifer Pritt, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, on the Florida Fusion Center:

- a. There will be 7 Regional Fusion Centers throughout the state.
- b. The Tallahassee Fusion Center is a compilation of State and Federal agencies. This is an all crimes, all hazards collection of data.
- c. INSITE – Information sharing system which looks at domestic security, gangs, drug trafficking, economic and violent crimes modules.
- d. Allows for subject information, vehicles, case information and addresses to be entered into the system and it can be accessed through criminal justice systems.
- e. The sharing of information by law enforcement is totally voluntary. Only 1/3 of agencies enter their data into the system.
- f. FACS: Factual Analysis Criminal Threat Solution – Investigative source from public resources of data from across the state.
- g. THREATCOM – Web-based communication tool. Used to push alerts and messages throughout the state by various means of communications; cell phones, computers, and personal digital Assistants all at the same time.
- h. Private Sector Outreach – Get and give information for protection of private businesses. Provide 1-stop web site for businesses to use. Look for sector and fact sheets to report suspicious activity.

i. Motion made by Phil Diaz to Legislators and to Governor, in our Annual Report that participation in the INSITE program to be encouraged through mandate or incentives to get law enforcement to participate at desired levels. Bernie DeCastro seconded the motion.

4) **Presentation by Greg Millard, United States Department of Justice - Hydroponics:**

- a. Drug Enforcement Administration has Domestic Cannabis Eradication and Suppression Program. Run by DEA and ONDCP and local state partners of FDLE and Department of Agriculture Law Enforcement.
- b. It's a federal grant program run by DEA and ONDCP, who provides money and gives it to state agencies for their participation in sharing their statistical drug arrest data.
- c. Law enforcement participation is strictly voluntary.
- d. Trends – Marijuana production is moving inside. Outdoor grows of THC are still a problem, but not on the same scale of hydroponics, (grown in a water base).
- e. There is a difference in state and federal guidelines. Florida needs to raise it's punishment to the federal level as a deterrent. Production of hydroponic marijuana is very popular because it provides the least penalty and the most profit.
- f. 2006 calendar year – 41 of 67 FL counties had a least 1 indoor drug arrest. 511 grow houses were found with 37,000 plants were found in Florida last year.
- g. We rank #2 in the country with the number of grow-houses.
- h. 21% THC level found in Miami and 30% level found in Cape Coral.
- i. Prices are up to \$6,000 per pound.
- j. State trafficking laws says 25 pounds or 300 plants, 1st degree felony with a 3 year min/man sentence. Federal guidelines go by plant counts.
- k. What can Florida do:
 - i. Match Federal guidelines
 - ii. Increase charges when kids are present
 - iii. Keep sample of drugs in evidence and not be required to keep entire case as evidence. This would reduce the burden on law enforcement in storing these drugs.

7) **Presentation by Karen Randolph, Assistant Professor FSU – Parental Involvement:**

- a. Parents are extremely important. They are considered part of the prevention work force. When they use prevention in their own home, things change.
- b. If people have information on the effects and consequences of unhealthy behavior, they tend not to do those behaviors.
- c. Florida Initiative for Family Engagement – How do we engage our families into doing things at home based on good prevention work?

- d. Joint venture with DCF and the FSU School of Social Work
- e. Population based approach to prevention: Goal is to change community norms, the change the way communities think about behaviors. Change policy and behavior.
- f. Lots of programs are on the internet, but effectiveness measurements are seldom found.

8) Adjournment