

Florida Drug Control Strategy 1999-2005

Office of Drug Control
Executive Office of the Governor
State of Florida



JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA
August 1999

My Fellow Floridians,

As Florida enters the 21st century, one of the most serious challenges our state faces is the scourge of drugs.

The pervasiveness of drug abuse throughout our communities has resulted in hundreds of thousands of lost lives and shattered dreams. Drug abuse affects every one of us, no matter our place of residence, our socio-economic condition, our educational background, or our ethnicity.

This insidious problem will not be righted in a single day or even over the course of a year. Indeed, it will take a concerted and continuous effort.

This document constitutes the blueprint for implementing that effort. It is Florida's comprehensive drug control strategy. With it, we commit ourselves to a balanced plan for lowering the incidence of drug abuse and the supply of illegal drugs in Florida. This *Strategy* takes a long term approach to solving what has been a lasting problem for Florida. It reflects our will and determination to reverse the years of lost human, social, and economic potential wrought by the illegal drug trade and to bring down appreciably the numbers of our citizens caught in the grip of drug abuse.

My administration is determined to reduce drug use in Florida by 50 percent. If we are successful in accomplishing this ambitious goal, drug use in our state will reach its lowest level ever. However, this ambitious goal can only be achieved with the commitment of our efforts and resources on many fronts – in awareness, prevention, treatment and law enforcement.

Most of all however, it will take leadership – leadership at the community level, in the public and private sectors, by law enforcement officials and by government – to coordinate and direct a balanced approach to lowering both the demand for and the supply of drugs. This *Strategy* reflects the best thinking of that leadership and codifies it as an action plan. It gives clear guidance as to our goals and objectives and how we intend to achieve them. It is, therefore, both a call to action and a commitment of the collective will of the state of Florida and its people to undo the damage done by illegal drugs.

This has been and remains one of my foremost priorities. I resolve to make Florida a better place to live and work for all of us. Most of all, I resolve to make Florida a safer and healthier place for our children to grow and to realize the full potential that life has to offer them in the 21st Century.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeb Bush".
Jeb Bush