



**CITY OF PITTSBURGH
BUREAU OF POLICE**

"...accountability, integrity and respect."

CHIEF'S OFFICE

*1203 Western Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15223*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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**PBP & DEA TAKING BACK UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AT PBP HQ AND
ALL CITY POLICE ZONE LOCATIONS**

PITTSBURGH: On April 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public another opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your medications for disposal to PBP Headquarters or any PBP Zone location lobby as listed below. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last September, Americans turned in 242,000 pounds—121 tons—of prescription drugs at nearly 4,100 sites operated by the DEA and more than 3,000 state and local law enforcement partners.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

Four days after last fall's event, Congress passed the Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010, which amends the Controlled Substances Act to allow an "ultimate user" of controlled substance medications to dispose of them by delivering them to entities authorized by the Attorney General to accept them. The Act also allows the Attorney General to authorize long term care facilities to dispose of their residents' controlled substances in certain instances. DEA has begun drafting regulations to implement the Act, a process that can take as long as 24 months. Until new regulations are in place, local law enforcement agencies like the PBP and the DEA will continue to hold prescription drug take-back events every few months.

Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Headquarters

1203 Western Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
412-323-7800

Zone 1 Police Station

1501 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
412-323-7201

Commander:

RaShall Brackney

Zone 2 Police Station

2000 Center Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-255-2827

Commander:

George Trosky

Zone 3 Police Station

830 East Warrington Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15210
412-488-8326

Commander:

Cathy McNeilly

Zone 4 Police Station

5858 Northumberland Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
412-422-6520

Commander:

Kathy Degler

Zone 5 Police Station

1401 Washington Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-665-3605

Commander:

Timothy O'Connor

Zone 6 Police Station

Special Deployment Division
312 S. Main Street
Pittsburgh PA 15220
412-937-3051

Commander:

Scott Schubert