

Opioid Investigations Subcommittee

Minutes

December 12, 2019, 9:00AM-11:30AM
2nd Floor Meeting Room, 710 Kipling, Lakewood, CO

ATTENDEES:

TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Bill Kilpatrick, Subc. Co-chair, Golden Police Chief
Matt Lewis, Subc. Co-chair, Mesa County Sheriff
Todd Fahlsing, West Metro Drug Task Force
Tom Gorman, Rocky Mountain HIDTA*
Peter McNeilly, U.S. Attorney's Office
Ray Padilla, Colorado Drug Investigators Association
Lisa Raville, Harm Reduction Action Center
Jeffrey Taylor, Drug Utilization Review Board Pharmacist, CO Dept. of Health Care Policy and Financing
Dan Volz, Assistant Director of Investigations, CBI
Scot Williams, Boulder County Sheriff's Office

ABSENT

Maria Butler, Epidemiologist, CO Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE)
Jose Esquibel, Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention
Lindsey Myers, CDPHE

STAFF

Damien Angel, Division of Criminal Justice
Kim English, Division of Criminal Justice
Richard Stroker, CCJJ Consultant
Stephane Waisanen, Division of Criminal Justice

GUESTS

Derek Backus, United States Postal Inspection Service
Gordie Burke, ODMAP Outreach Coordinator (Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program)
Kyle Rau, United States Postal Inspection Service, Dark Web Investigations

* High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

Issue/Topic	Discussion
Introductions, Approval of Minutes & Review of Agenda Matt Lewis	<p>Members provided brief introductions. Matt Lewis requested a motion to approve the prior meeting's minutes - Tom Gorman moved and Ray Padilla seconded. With no objections, the minutes were approved.</p> <p>Matt provided a brief overview of the agenda for the day's meeting.</p>

Issue/Topic	Discussion
Investigatory Resources Dark Web Investigations & JCODE Kyle Rau ODMAP Gordie Burke Additional Resources & Their Allocation Dan Volz	<p>Kyle Rau, a United States Postal Inspector with the USPIS' Contraband Interdiction and Investigation team presented an overview of their approach to dark web interdictions, as well as their participation in Joint Criminal Opioid Darknet Enforcement (JCODE).</p> <p>Following the presentation, Kyle took questions from the Subcommittee members and discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships with local agencies • Distribution of manpower/resources • Participation in investigations outside of Colorado <p>Gordie Burke, an ODMAP (Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program; odmap.org) outreach coordinator, joined the subcommittee meeting via online conference call. Gordie presented an overview of ODMAP's origins, functionality, and benefits. The presentation can be found under "Materials" at, colorado.gov/ccjj/ccjj-cOpSubc.</p> <p>Gordie informed the group that they are welcome to join one of ODMAP's weekly demonstrations, or schedule one, where they can get an in-depth look of how ODMAP functions during the day-to-day operations of its users.</p> <p>Dan Volz provided a verbal presentation on the issue of whether allocating additional resources, via new legislation, is necessary for conducting the necessary investigations into illicit opioids. During his presentation, Dan covered the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A brief history of funding for black market drug investigations in Colorado, beginning with illicit marijuana markets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The original resource allocation that was provided for black market marijuana interdiction efforts. ○ The current size and organization of Colorado's black market marijuana task force.

<p>Issue/Topic Investigatory Resources</p> <p>Additional Resources & Their Allocation Dan Volz (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Original jurisdiction” structure in Colorado and how CBI’s lack of original jurisdiction affects their role in assisting local law enforcement. ○ Misconceptions regarding the resources necessary for illicit market investigation. ○ The amount of additional resources needed to investigate illicit opioids, in addition to illicit marijuana, would be great given the current resource deficits. <p>Dan fielded a few questions and comments from other subcommittee members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Would the CBI itself be capable of taking on opioid intervention work if the state provided additional resources? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dan stated that the CBI doesn’t currently have that capacity, and that – while the CBI may or may not be poised to – he cannot speak for the CBI as to whether or not it could absorb additional resources and lead the state’s black market opioid intervention efforts. ○ The group discussed how the current need for CBI collaboration varies across the state and can be dependent on the availability of resources at the local level. ● The group discussed the topic of “original jurisdiction” and how an organization focused on illicit opioid intervention would be faced with challenges should it not have illicit opioid investigations under their jurisdiction. ● It was discussed that the high prevalence of methamphetamine overdoses still makes opioids appear to be a lessor issue for Colorado, or, at least, one that still has not risen to its highest potential impact. As such, the group explored how resources aimed at the intervention of illicit substances, generally, might be expanded and also include opioids. ● The group discussed the compartmentalized nature of current efforts, addressing illicit drugs and whether or not a recommendation to craft a statewide action plan was appropriate. Matt Lewis recounted the success of JCODE as described by Kyle Rau earlier in the meeting.
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Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p>Possible Recommendations Richard Stroker</p>	<p>Richard Stroker drew the group’s attention to their position on the timeline wherein recommendations are due to the CCJJ. Richard then laid out what is necessary to accomplish in the following months to meet the CCJJ deadlines.</p> <p>Richard explained that as the Subcommittee explored their legislative mandate during the prior months, they have identified a variety of topics that could be used to form a recommendation. Richard walked the group through their work thus far and helped to organize the information into themes:</p>

<p>Issue/Topic</p> <p>Possible Recommendations</p> <p>Richard Stroker (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of investigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Traditional Criminal Organizations ○ Diversion of legally manufactured medication ○ Dark net • Issues & Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collaboration/Communication across agencies (State, Local, Fed) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deconfliction (reduce jurisdictional conflicts) ○ Effective resource utilization ○ Regional & Rural specific challenges • CBI's role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential for expansion to grow support for local agencies. • Strategic Plan & Problem Identification. • Data to define prevalence of the problem (opioids): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ODMAP <p>After identifying the major themes of their prior work, Richard and the group began to outline <u>potential</u> recommendations and their associated parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State level preparedness for an opioid epidemic response. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strategic plan for spikes in various drugs, including opioids. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Structured for a collaborative response. ○ Re-tool CBI Black Market Marijuana Task Force (or similar state-wide agency) to include work in Opioids. 2. Support & resources for local/regional activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Resources for rural & regional response efforts. ○ Community and agency education. 3. Mandate ODMAP participation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Capture EMS, Law Enforcement, Coroner, and Healthcare data. <p>The group discussed the difficulties/challenges that the implementation of their recommendations could pose moving forward. The following topics were of concern and were explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to coroner data - Which state agency is best suited to achieve the goals of their first recommendation (CBI or other) - Limitations on funds from marijuana sales
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Issue/Topic	Discussion
Next Steps & Adjourn Matt Lewis	Matt and Richard restated the Subcommittee timeline and summarized the group's goals for the next two meeting. With no further comments, Matt adjourned the meeting.

Next Meetings:

Thursday, January 9, 2020

9:00am-11:30am

2nd Floor Meeting Room

710 Kipling St, Lakewood, CO

(all meetings same as above unless noted otherwise)

February 13, 2020

March 12, 2020

April 9, 2020

May 7, 2020 (**Location! 4th Floor Training Room, 700 Kipling**)

June 6, 2020 [if necessary]