



# Kentucky Narcotics KNOA Officers' Association



KNOA  
Fall 2006  
Vol. 2, Issue 1

## Looking Forward...

### A Message From the President

#### Inside this issue:

**D**uring the early Spring of 2006, myself and Vice-President Tommy Loving contacted all Kentucky Narcotics Officer's Association members urging each of you to contact your Congressional Representative and Senator to fight against devastating cuts to drug enforcement programs that were proposed in the FY 2006 federal budget. This was one of the most important battles the KNOA has taken on in the past two years of our existence. If the original proposed budget had been implemented, drug enforcement by state and local agencies would have been devastated. Narcotic enforcement had already been dramatically reduced by severe budget cuts in FY 2004 and 2005. Additional cuts would mean the end to as much as eighty percent of state and local drug enforcement efforts across the country.

JAG funded task forces. This is certainly not to take away from the Federal agencies that service our entire Nation in drug enforcement. The hard work of many resulted in the House allocating \$348 million for funding of the Byrne/JAG Program. Although we had hoped for full funding, this



Dave Gilbert, KNOA President

proposed appropriation was much better than had been expected. Because the program had been eliminated (along with LEBG and COPS grants) in the President's proposed budget, I certainly considered this funding a success and thank each of the KNOA members that contacted their Representatives and Senators.

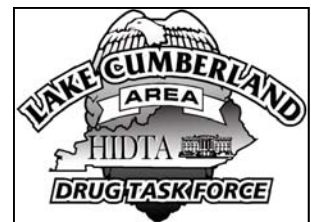
During the 2006 Kentucky General Assembly, the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy and members of the KNOA visited members in the state Senate and House to educate members on how the federal government had re-

duced Byrne Funding by almost 70% during the past two years. Special thanks goes to Teresa Barton, then Executive Director of the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy and now Justice Deputy Secretary, for providing tremendous invaluable assistance in helping convince the state legislature of the desperate need for state funding for state and local drug enforcement programs.

Without Mrs. Barton's assistance, Kentucky drug enforcement could not have been successful in receiving the two million dollars in funding during this year's final biennium budget.

As my tenure as president ends, I want KNOA to know 1st VP Tommy Loving is taking leadership with a great knowledge and guidance for all of us. Lastly, I want to encourage you to attend the Kentucky Narcotics Officers' Annual Training Conference in Louisville, December 3-5. This conference is in conjunction with the Kentucky ODCP, Kentucky State Police and the Regional Organized Crime Information Center. If you are not a member of the KNOA, please take time and fill out the application on the back page. Thank you and may God bless.

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Featured Logo This Issue

#### Special points of interest:

- **Don't forget** to reserve your room or vendors for the 2006 KNOA Conference. Seats are going fast!!!
- **Make your voice heard:** KNOA elections will be held at the 2006 Conference.
- **Special thanks** to KY ODCP for providing membership dues for 150 KNOA members.

## Illegal Out of State Pharmacies

by: Jennifer Shearer, KBI

**T**he Kentucky Bureau of Investigation (KBI) has seized over 215,000 pills in the past year, totaling over \$1 million in street value. The pills were shipped into Kentucky by illegal out-of-state pharmacies. The majority of these shipments arrived from Florida.

KBI Agents are actively enforcing Senate Bill 63. The law forbids the sale and shipment of drugs by unlicensed out-of-state pharmacies. Already, many unli-

censed pharmacies refuse to ship to Kentucky due to the penalties now in place.

To legally ship prescription drugs into Kentucky, out-of-state pharmacies must obtain a permit from the Kentucky Board of Pharmacy and comply with the KASPER monitoring system. They must also maintain a toll free number where patients can consult with a qualified pharmacist. Furthermore, all pharmacies doing all business via the Internet must obtain and

display a VIPPS (Verified Internet Pharmacy Practice Site) certification.

KBI agents are working in cooperation with Kentucky State Police, Cabinet for Health and Family Services-Office of Inspector General, Drug Enforcement Administration and Kentucky Army National Guard, in their efforts to crack down on rogue out-of-state pharmacies shipping drugs into Kentucky.



One of many packages illegally shipped to Kentucky and seized by KBI.

## Methadone Use In Kentucky

by: Karyn Hascal & Van Ingram, ODCP

**R**ecent information has raised concern about the use and abuse of methadone in Kentucky. Office Of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) is researching issues related to methadone. Current information reveals the number of deaths attributed, in all or part, to the abuse of methadone are on the rise. According to a sample of data obtained from Kentucky's medical examiner, 50% of overdose deaths involved methadone. This sample indicated methadone was found in combination with a number of other drugs.

Often victims used methadone in combination with benzodiazepine, which is a "lethal cocktail." It is believed that methadone alone does not produce a sufficient euphoric feeling until taken in combination with another drug such as benzodiazepine, which potentiates the effect of methadone. There are also incidents of deaths where

other contributory factors such as drowning, alcoholism, diabetes, hypertension, etc., were involved. Rarely is death attributed to methadone alone. Following a preliminary review by ODCP, we have learned these facts about methadone use and abuse in Kentucky.

Methadone is commonly prescribed for treating patients suffering from chronic pain. Medical professionals describe methadone as an effective tool for pain management.

- Methadone used to treat pain can be prescribed by any licensed physician in Kentucky.
- Prescriptions written for methadone are reported by physicians to eKASPER as well as prescriptions filled for methadone by pharmacies.
- eKASPER reports an overall decrease in pre-

scriptions written for methadone in a comparison of 2004 to 2005.

- Methadone written for pain relief by primary care physicians is dispensed in dry (pill) form.

In Kentucky, methadone is also used to treat the addiction of narcotics/opiates. Kentucky has 11 Narcotic Treatment Programs (NTP) across the state. Methadone is the most commonly used drug for the treatment and maintenance of narcotic addiction. ODCP has gathered the following facts related to narcotic treatment in Kentucky:

- All treatment delivered by NTPs is overseen by a physician licensed in Kentucky.

(Continued on page 3.)

*According to Kentucky's Medical Examiner, 50 % of overdose deaths involved methadone*



(Methadone Continued)

- NTPs are tightly regulated at state and federal levels. On the federal level, they are regulated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. At the state level, they are regulated by the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (MHSA) and Kentucky Board of Pharmacy.
- Kentucky NTPs are subject to stricter requirements than federal guidelines; therefore, they have more rigid guidelines than those programs in bordering states.
- Methadone administered and dispensed by Kentucky NTPs is always in liquid form. The product used by NTPs is delivered in wafer form. The wafer is then dissolved in juice and consumed by the patient. Medication dispensed by NTPs for use at home is dispensed in liquid form. NTPs in Kentucky do not dispense dry (pill) form methadone.
- NTP patients must comply with a set of criteria to

be eligible to “take home” methadone. Those criteria include compliance with the program, negative random drug screens and no program violations for a period of time. The average “take home” dosage is from two to five doses. Kentucky statute indicates the maximum number of doses is fourteen days. In bordering states, patients may be eligible to take home doses for up to thirty days. MHSA has a record of the exact number of doses of methadone “taken home” from a NTP on any given day.

- Clients who are appropriately regulated on methadone do not report feeling a euphoria or “high.” Clients in NTPs receive frequent urine drug screens and are required to be free from other illegal/prescription drugs. Clients who use/abuse other illegal or prescription drugs are sanctioned by the NTP.

Those sanctions may include discharge from the program.

- The dosage of methadone is individualized for each client and is regulated by the physician. The dosage administered is the minimum required to prevent the withdrawal phenomenon.

ODCP is working through a variety of entities (insurance companies, Board of Medical Licensure, Pharmacists Association and managed care companies) to provide education to the health care community. More extensive use of eKASPER reports as a standard of practice in the prescribing and filling of prescriptions would be helpful in assuring those patients who receive methadone are also informed about the implications of using other drugs. Many Kentucky residents seeking this form of treatment enroll in programs across state lines due to fewer requirements.



*“More extensive use of eKASPER reports as a standard of practice in the prescribing and filling of prescriptions would be helpful in assuring those patients who receive methadone are also informed about the implications of using other drugs.”*



## Legislative Review

by: **Tommy Loving, First Vice President**

**T**he Kentucky Narcotic Officers’ Association was very pleased to play a role in the 2006 State Legislature that placed \$1 million in the state budget for each of the next 2 years to replace the funding loss in the Byrne/JAG Grant for existing Drug Task Forces. Several of the KNOA officers made personal visits with key legislators in Frankfort to explain the need of this funding. The State Senate placed \$1 million in the state budget for each of the next 2 years following meetings with Senators Richie Sanders, Bob Stivers and Brett Guthrie. This budget then went to the conference committee with the House of Representatives and the full amount remained in the budget with support from Speaker of the House Jody Richards. The Governor has signed the budget and ODCP will now have the funding to supplement the Byrne/JAG programs for Drug Task Forces. This is a significant victory for drug enforcement in Kentucky. The KNOA and ODCP partnered to work together for this state funding. Many of you contacted your Senators and Representatives which helped the final process. We hope that you are pleased with what can happen when we all work together for an important law enforcement issue.

As the 2007 Legislative session approaches, we will be looking at upcoming issues such as the Unauthorized Substance Tax Proposal, Methamphetamine Environmental Cleanup, Hidden Compartments in Vehicles and enhancements to the State Asset Forfeiture Statute. We look forward to obtaining your input on these proposals at the upcoming KNOA conference and look forward to seeing you on December 4th and the Hyatt in Louisville.

## 2006 Kentucky Narcotic Officer's Conference

Monday, December 4, 2006	
<b>TIME</b>	Event Location: Ballroom (2nd Floor)
12:00 - 1:00	Registration (2nd Floor)
1:00 - 2:00	Opening
	Presentation of Colors by Kentucky State Police Honor Guard
	Governor Ernie Fletcher ( <i>Invited</i> )
	Chief Robert White, Louisville Metro Police
	Brigadier General Norman E. Arflack, Secretary Justice and Public Safety Cabinet
	Amul R. Thapar, US Attorney, Eastern District
	David L. Huber, US Attorney, Western District
	Frank Rapier, Appalachia HIDTA
	Jack Adams, Commissioner, Kentucky State Police
	James Rogers, Director, Regional Organized Crime Information Center
	Dave Gilbert, President, Kentucky Narcotics Officers' Association
	Tommy Loving, Vice President, Kentucky Narcotics Officers' Association
2:00 - 3:15	KASPER Overview and Trend Reports, Dave Sallengs, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
3:15 - 3:30	Break
3:30 - 5:00	Statewide Issues/Fusion Center Overview, Kentucky State Police
5:00 - 6:00	Kentucky Narcotics Officers' Association Meeting
6:00 - 8:00	Welcome Reception
Tuesday, December 5, 2006	
<b>TIME</b>	Event Location: Ballroom (2nd Floor)
7:30 - 8:30	Registration (2nd Floor)
8:00 - 8:30	Continental Breakfast - Ballroom
8:30 - 9:30	Kentucky Rx Laws, Sergeant William Stivers, Louisville Metro Police
9:30 - 9:45	Break
9:45 - 10:45	The Scope of the Rx Problem, Charlie Cichon, Executive Director, National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators
10:45 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:00	Case Study "Scammers, Liars & Thieves - The Johnny Middleton Story", Sergeant William Stivers, Louisville Metro Police
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch & Guest Speaker - Ballroom
1:15 - 3:15	Internet Drug Investigations, Detective Jon Marshall, Kentucky State Police
3:15 - 3:30	Break (Refreshments available near vendor area)
3:30 - 5:00	Package Interdiction, Deputy Mike Brackett, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
Wednesday, December 6, 2006	
<b>TIME</b>	Event Location: Ballroom (2nd Floor)
7:30 - 8:00	Continental Breakfast - Ballroom
8:00 - 9:00	Asset Forfeiture
9:00 - 12:00	Mexican Drug Cartels, Special Agent Gilberto Gonzales, Drug Enforcement Administration
12:00	Have a safe trip home!
	<b>Visit our vendors . . . located inside the foyer entrance of the ballroom</b>

Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy  
Kentucky State Police  
Kentucky Narcotic Officers' Association  
And  
Regional Organized Crime Information Center  
Presents

## ***2006 Kentucky Narcotic Officers' Conference***

*December 4-6, 2006*

Hyatt Regency

320 West Jefferson

Louisville, KY 40202

**Register for this conference by completing this form and returning it by  
E-mail to [Debbie.Spaulding@ky.gov](mailto:Debbie.Spaulding@ky.gov), by FAX to (502) 564-6104 or mail to:**

Office of Drug Control Policy  
Justice and Public Safety Cabinet  
Attn: Debbie Spaulding  
125 Holmes Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601-2108

## **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM**

**Please complete one registration form per person – everyone must register!**

Name:
Agency:
Address:
City, State, Zip:
Daytime Phone #:
Email Address:

### **LODGING INFORMATION**

**For room reservations, contact the Hyatt Regency at their toll free reservation number of 1-800-233-1234 or call them direct at (502) 581-1234 before November 6, 2006 to receive the guaranteed government rate of \$80.00. You must identify yourself as attending the Narcotic Officer's Conference with the "Office of Drug Control Policy".**

# Kentucky Narcotics



## Officers' Association

### Executive Board Members

Dave Gilbert, President  
Tommy Loving, 1st Vice President  
Cheyenne Albro, 2nd Vice President  
David Smith, Treasurer  
Mike Brackett, Secretary  
Jeff Scruggs, Sgt. At Arms  
Gary Oetjen, At Large (DEA)  
James Rogers, At Large (ROCIC)  
Ronnie Long, At Large (Pennyrile DTF)  
Jim DeVasher, At Large (S. Central KY. DTF)  
Jennifer Shearer, At Large (KBI)

Kentucky Narcotics Officer's Association  
43rd Member of the Narcotics Officer's  
Associations' Coalition  
429 1/2 East 10th Avenue  
Bowling Green, KY 42101  
Phone: (270) 843-5343  
Fax: (270) 843-5347

**FIGHTING FOR A BETTER QUALITY  
OF LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

## APPLY NOW FOR 2007 MEMBERSHIP

KENTUCKY NARCOTICS  
OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Pursuing safety and professionalism for  
Drug Enforcement Officers*

Please print and mail with \$25 check or  
money order payable to KNOA, Inc. to:

KNOA

David Smith, Treasurer

P.O. Box 202, Ashland, Kentucky 41105

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Any Questions? Call:

Tommy Loving, KNOA, 2007 President

(270) 843-5343