



# The Take-Down



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## A Message from the President



KNOA President Thomas M. Loving

As we approach the end of 2007, I feel a review of the progress made by the KNOA this year is in order.

The Kentucky delegation of Dave Gilbert, Dave Keller, Jim DeVasher, Jim Rogers, Stan Salyards, Mike Sapp, Teresa Barton, Laurie Dudgeon, Van Ingram, Mike Pelonero and I arrived in Washington, DC, February 11, 2007 for the National Narcotic Officers' Association Coalition Winter Meeting. We spent two and a half days in meetings and one day on Capitol Hill. Our conference speakers included the Deputy Attorney General, Deputy Administrator of the DEA, Director of the National Guard Counter Drug Office, Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, Director of the Office of Counter Narcotics Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security and The Honorable Mark Souder of Indiana. Representative Souder is one of our strongest allies in drug enforcement.

During our visit to Capitol Hill, we met with our Senators and all six Representatives or their staff. We encouraged the Congressmen to increase funding for the Byrne/JAG Program and at minimum

maintain the HIDTA Program at current funding. We were well received and because of the educational efforts by both the KNOA and our other state partners from the NNOAC substantial increases have occurred. I believe the Congress has observed the national trend of increasing crime as one of the outcomes of previous funding cuts. This year we very tactfully said to each one "I told you so". The Senate has appropriated \$660 million and the House has appropriated \$600 million in their spending bill for Byrne/JAG. This will be negotiated and finalized in committee but the amount exceeds last year's budget by \$140 million.

Senate and House Democrat leadership have indicated that Congress may be in session until Christmas. According to the Capitol Hill staff, there is still not a clear path toward agreement with the President on final spending levels. The process is ongoing and we may face a veto as President Bush has threatened this as the spending bills exceed his budget for state and local law enforcement, which it does.

During late April the Drug Task Forces, Kentucky State Police, Lexington Metro and Louisville Metro participated in "Operation Byrne/JAG" across Kentucky. This was an effort to bring attention nationally to the importance of the Byrne/JAG program. We were one of 36 states participating across the nation. Nationally statistics show that Kentucky seizures were first in prescription drugs, second in marijuana and meth labs, third in total arrests and tenth overall for drug enforcement activities. This is an accomplishment we can be proud of thanks to your hard work in drug enforcement. It is another example of what happens when we all work together. A press conference was held in Frankfort following the conclusion of "Operation Byrne/JAG" to publicize our accomplishments and bring attention to the importance of the Byrne/JAG funding.

As the summer approached, the Ken-

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tucky Office of Drug Control Policy and Grants Management were able to pass along additional funding from last year's Congressional Appropriations to Task Forces, Lexington Metro, Louisville Metro and the Kentucky State Police, which was much appreciated and needed.

As we approach a new legislative session in both Frankfort and Washington we will begin educating both groups as to the need for additional funding for drug enforcement. We will ask the state legislature to keep the additional funding of \$2 million granted in the 2006 session. Additionally we will also ask for an increase but the priority will be maintaining the current funding level. We hope to resurrect the "concealed compartment legislation for vehicles". This legislation died in committee last year but is another much-needed tool for interdiction.

I have been told of Teresa Barton's retirement on November 30 and we will miss her. Teresa has been one of our strongest supporters in the Justice Cabinet and state government since she became the Director of the Office of Drug Control Policy and then Deputy Secretary of the Justice Cabinet. Teresa used a common sense approach, which was much needed when she came to the office. She believed in drug enforcement as the most important tool in the war on drugs and as a catalyst in many cases for drug treatment. Law enforcement and the KNOA have a real friend in Teresa. Best wishes to her in future endeavors.



In closing, I hope to see all our membership in Louisville, December 3-5 at the annual conference. It is once again at the Hyatt Regency sponsored by the KNOA, Kentucky ODCP, ROCIC and the Kentucky State Police. We have four excellent speakers and twelve vendors committed to the conference. Please thank the ODCP Staff for their funding and hard work along with the vendors who help pay for conference activities. Thank you for your support throughout the year and see you in Louisville.



## KNOA — A National Voice

The Kentucky Narcotic Officers Association (KNOA) became the 43rd state narcotics officer's association established to enhance narcotic enforcement through training, intelligence sharing, coordinating counter drug activities and to monitor narcotic enforcement legislation at the state and federal level. Each member of the KNOA has a voice in asserting the national drug enforcement strategy through the National Narcotic Officers Association Coalition (NNOAC). The KNOA is a member of the NNOAC. Our KNOA president represents us at all the national

meetings as our delegate and has one vote, the same for the other state associations. Other KNOA members attend these meetings in support of the mission of the NNOAC, especially in February of each year, when we have had a large delegation contacting members of the U. S. Senate and U. S. Congress concerning budget and legislative issues.

The NNOAC focuses on domestic and international drug-related crime issues by developing and maintaining relationships with the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS), the National Guard Counter Drug Program and all other relevant agencies and programs. The coalition allows state and local narcotic officers' associations to work through their congressional delegations allowing for a unified voice in the nation's capital. The coalition actively researches, monitors, and supports legislature initiatives designed to increase the effectiveness of narcotic enforcement and law enforcement in general.

Submitted by Dave Keller, 2nd Vice President, KNOA

## Continuing The Fight

As recently as 2005, narcotic enforcement was facing devastation because of the Administration's budget proposal that would have eliminated Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) and the National Drug Intelligence Center (NDIC) and reductions in funding of many other programs, such as the National Guard's Counter drug efforts. The proposed budget was to reduce funding for the HIDTA program and to move it from the neutrality of the Office of National Drug Control Policy to the Department of Justice. These budget cuts would have been critical to protecting our nation from the peril of illicit drugs.

In response to this proposal the NNOAC hosted a meeting in Washington, DC, and invited many national associations that share NNOAC's belief that the elimination of Byrne JAG grants would negatively impact the safety of our nation. [F]ifteen national associations representing more than 450,000 members formed an alliance to...restore funding to the Byrne JAG program. Through the work of each of the alliance members, Byrne JAG was saved from elimination and appropriated at \$316 million in 2006. In FY 2007, the NNOAC was instrumental into getting Congress to appropriate \$525 million. During the same three-year period, the NNOAC worked with the National HIDTA Directors Association to educate the Congress on the demonstrated success of the HIDTA program. They convinced Congress to leave the program with ONDCP allowing a continued partnership of federal, state and local law enforcement rather than have it become just another federal program under the Department of Justice.

Drug enforcement continues to face many challenges in the ever-changing world of politics and public policy. We must redouble our efforts to maintain the momentum we have achieved in advocating for adequate Federal assistance for state, local and tribal drug law enforcement. The NNOAC must continue to lead the fight if we are to achieve our goal of increasing the appropriation for Byrne JAG to the \$1.1 billion authorized level.



Kentucky National Guard soldiers and Kentucky State Police troopers preparing to fly a marijuana eradication mission in the Appalachian HIDTA region.

While we have had demonstrable success in restoring funding and maintaining the HIDTA program, we continue to battle the growing and insidious legalization movement. These self-serving organizations threaten the safety of every American with their soft-on-drugs philosophy. If we don't fight back against the likes of the Drug Policy Alliance, the Marijuana Policy Project and NORML, we will be, in effect, allowing them to misinform our nation's policy makers and, in doing so, threatening the security and very lives of our children.

We must also continue to fight, as we have done successfully this year, the Hinchey-Rohrabacher Amendment that would have prevented federal law enforcement officers from enforcing marijuana laws in states that have medical marijuana provisions.

I am also concerned by a national movement to regulate law enforcement's use of informants. I recently testified in a hearing, held by the House Committee on the Judiciary's Subcommittees on Crime and the Constitution, at which the practice of using confidential informants by law enforcement was discussed. This move to regulate the use of confidential informants would make it extremely difficult for America's law enforcement officers to perform their duties. The NNOAC must lead the efforts to ensure that law enforcement agencies have the adequate training and resources available to them but that we do not impose undue regulation that would hamper our efforts to eradicate drugs and reduce gang violence.

I offer my thanks to each of you for the efforts that you have made as we all strive to protect narcotic enforcement from damaging public policy changes and from insufficient funding.

The preceding message is an excerpt from the Fall 2007 National Narcotic Officers Association Coalition's *President's Report* presented by Ronald Brooks, President, NNOAC

## KENTUCKY Rx Abuse

The recently released National Survey on Drug Use and Health (conducted by the Office of Applied Science at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration) reports that:

- 8.5% of Kentuckians have used prescription drugs for non-medical purposes in the past year. This is an average of years 2002, 2003 and 2004. Kentucky leads the nation in this area.
- Nearly 20% of persons aged 18-25 have used prescription drugs for non-medical purposes.
- 7.0% of Kentuckians have used pain relievers such as Darvon and Percodan for non-medical use. Kentucky leads the nation in this area as well. The majority of these persons are age 12-25
- 4.6% of citizens in Kentucky have used tranquilizers such as Xanax and Valium for non-medical purposes. Again Kentucky leading the nation
- 9.5 % of Kentucky 12 graders report using prescription narcotics in the previous 30 days according to the statewide 2006 KIP survey.

According to the Kentucky Medical Examiners 2006 report there were 484 cases of overdose deaths submitted for autopsy in the commonwealth.

- Methadone was detected in 197 cases
- Hydrocodone was detected in 112 cases
- Diazepam detected in 100 cases
- Oxycodone detected in 78 cases

## OPERATION Byrne 2

In comparing Kentucky's performance in Operation Byrne 2 there is much to be proud of...

Out of 36 participating states, Kentucky was

- 3rd in total arrests
- 7th in total search warrants
- 9th in guns seized
- 2nd in meth labs seized
- 3rd in total # of grams of cocaine seized
- 4th in total # of grams of meth seized
- 1st in total # of prescription drugs seized
- 2nd in total pounds of marijuana seized
- 7th in total number of marijuana plants seized
- 4th in vehicles seized
- 8th in cash seized

As you can see from the rankings Kentucky's Byrne funded enforcement programs are among the leaders in the nation at providing quality drug enforcement for our state.



## 2007 Kentucky Narcotic Officer's Conference

December 3-5, 2007

Hyatt Regency, Louisville, KY

### Monday, December 3rd

- 11:00-12:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 12:30-1:15 Opening Ceremonies
- Presentation of Colors – KSP Honor Guard
- Invocation – Dave Gilbert  
*Past President, KNOA*
- Welcome – General Norman E. Arflack  
*Secretary, Justice & Public Safety Cabinet*
- Bill W. Patrick  
*Director, Office of Drug Control Policy*
- Richard A. Badaracco  
*Assistant Agent-in-Charge, DEA (Louisville)*
- Jack Adams  
*Commissioner, Kentucky State Police*
- James Rogers  
*Director, Regional Organized Crime Information Center*
- Tommy Loving  
*President, KNOA*
- 1:15-1:30 Award Presentations
- 1:30-5:00 Michael E. Grimes, DEA (Retired)  
*Informant Handling & Asset Forfeiture  
"Keeping the Cash"*
- 5:00-6:00 KNOA Membership Meeting
- 6:00-8:00 Welcome Reception – *The Spire*  
*Sponsor: KNOA*

### Tuesday, December 4th

- 7:30-8:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast  
*Breakfast Sponsor: Pennyriple Narcotics Task Force*
- 8:30-12:00 Robert Almonte  
Narcotics Training Specialists  
*Drug Traffickers and the Spiritual World*
- 12:30-1:30 Lunch Break (*On Your Own*)
- 1:30-5:00 Manny Marquez  
Narcotics Training Specialists  
*Highway Interdiction/Hidden Compartment*
- 5:00 KNOA Membership Meeting & Election  
*Afternoon Break Sponsored by KASPER*

### Wednesday, December 5th

- 7:30-8:30 Continental Breakfast  
*Breakfast Sponsor: Pennyriple Narcotics Task Force*
- 8:30-12:00 Joe David, Desert Snow  
*Courtroom Testimony*
- 12:00 Adjourn

The 2007 Narcotic Officer's Conference is sponsored by  
*The Office of Drug Control Policy*  
*Kentucky State Police*  
*Kentucky Narcotic Officer's Association*  
*Regional Organized Crime Information Center*



KNOA

## Apply Now for 2008 Membership

### Kentucky Narcotics Officers' Association

*Pursuing safety and professionalism for drug enforcement officers.*

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Please check on of the following:

- Active Membership  
 Professional Membership

Please print and mail with a check or money order for \$25 made payable to KNOA, Inc. and send to KNOA, David Smith (Treasurer), P.O. Box 202, Ashland, KY 41105

### 2007 Officers

**Thomas M. Loving, President**

*Bowling Green/Warren Co. Drug Task Force*

**Dave Gilbert, Immediate Past President**

*Lake Cumberland Drug Task Force*

**Cheyenne Albro, First Vice President**

*Pennyriple Narcotics Task Force*

**Dave Keller, Second Vice President**

*Appalachia HIDTA*

**Michael Brackett, Secretary**

*Jefferson County Sheriff's Office*

**David Smith, Treasurer**

*FIVCO Area Drug Enforcement Task Force*

**Jeff Scruggs, Sergeant at Arms**

*Barren/Edmonson County Drug Task Force*

### Board Members at Large

**Jim DeVasher**

*South Central KY Drug Task Force*

**James T. Rogers**

*Regional Organized Crime Information Center*

**Kevin Payne**

*Kentucky State Police*

**Jennifer Shearer**

*Kentucky Bureau of Investigation*

**Byron W. Smoot**

*Lexington Division of Police*

**Dan Smoot**

*Operation Unite*



**Kentucky Group attending National Narcotic Officers' Association Coalition Winter Conference in Washington, DC, February 13, 2007 in the Cannon House of Representative's Office Building Hearing Room during a Congressional Reception.**



(left to right) DEA Deputy Chief Inspector Gary Oetjen, KNOA Past-President Dave Gilbert, KSP Major Mike Sapp, ODCP Director Laurie Dudgeon, KNOA President Tommy Loving, Deputy Secretary of Justice Teresa Barton, ABC Administrator John Barton, KNOA Vice-President Dave Keller

