

TEST TEST TEST TEST TEST TEST
TEST TEST TEST
DEA.

>>> GOOD MORNING.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY
FOR THE FOURTH IN OUR PANEL
DISCUSSION SERIES DEA WHO WE ARE
AND WHAT WE DO.

I'M LAURIE BEATTY AND I'M THE
DIRECTOR OF THE DEA MUSEUM HERE
AT HEADQUARTERS.

OUR PANEL TODAY REPRESENTS THE
DEA'S OFFICE OF DIVERSION
CONTROL.

FOR 45 YEARS THE DRUG
ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION AS A
COMPONENT OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF JUSTICE HAS BEEN THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT'S GREATEST WEAPON IN
THE FIGHT AGAINST THE DIVERSION
OF LEGAL DRUGS TO THE ILLICIT
MARKET.

TODAY WITH THE HELP OF NEARLY
700 INVESTIGATORS WE CONTINUE TO
PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND LISTED
CHEMICALS INTO THE ILLICIT
MARKET WHILE ENSURING AN
ADEQUATE UNINTERRUPTED SUPPLY OF
PHARMACEUTICAL CONTROLLED
SUBSTANCES AND LISTED CHEMICALS
TO MEET THE LEGITIMATE MEDICAL,
COMMERCIAL AND SCIENTIFIC NEEDS
OF THE MARKET.

DEA APPLIES THE VAST RANGE OF
INDIVIDUAL TALENTS, SPECIALIZED
TRAINING AND SKILLS OF OUR
DIVERSION INVESTIGATORS TO THE
WIDE RANGE OF RESPONSIBILITIES
IN OUR VITAL MISSION.

TODAY'S THREE PANELISTS COME TO
US WITH DECADES OF SERVICE,
DECADES, DECADES OF SERVICE,
ADVANCING THE DEA MISSION.

JUSTIN WOOD IS A SUPERVISORY
DIVERSION INVESTIGATOR IN THE
PHARMACEUTICAL INVESTIGATION
SECTION.

MR. WOOD PROVIDES OPERATIONAL
SUPPORT AND CASE COORDINATION
FOR DIVERSE GROUPS AND TACTICAL
DIVERSION.

TACTICAL DIVERSION SQUADS
INVOLVED IN FIGHTING THE OPIOID

EPIDEMIC.

PRIOR TO ASSIGNMENT, MR. WOOD WAS DIVERSION GROUP SUPERVISOR IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA.

HE SUPERVISED INVESTIGATORS WHO CONDUCTED CIVIL, CRIMINAL AND REGULATORY CASES.

MR. WOOD ALSO SERVED WITH DEA FOR OVER A DECADE IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.

HE GRADUATED FROM THE VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE WITH A DEGREE IN CHEMISTRY AND COMPLETED A MASTERS OF SCIENCE DEGREE FROM PENN STATE UNIVERSITY.

JOSEPH BROWN IS A STAFF COORDINATOR FOR THE HEADQUARTERS DIVERSION REGULATORY GROUP, COORDINATING INVESTIGATIONS BETWEEN MAIN JUSTICE AND FIELD OFFICES.

HE DEVELOPS AND MAINTAINS ALLIANCES WITH REGISTRANTS, OTHER KEY PLAYERS REGARDING OPIATE EDUCATION AND REGULATORY ISSUES.

HIS CAREER BEGAN AT THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION, CAMDEN RESIDENT OFFICE AS A DIVERSION INVESTIGATOR AND LATER AS A SUPERVISOR.

DURING HIS 14 YEARS THERE, HE LED OUTREACH AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS AS WELL AS INVESTIGATIONS ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL REGULATIONS.

MR. BROWN RECEIVED HIS BS IN MASS COMMUNICATIONS FROM NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY AND HIS MSA IN ADMINISTRATION FROM CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY IN ADDITION TO HIS CAREER IN THE U.S. ARMY AND ARMY RESERVE.

DONETTA SPEARS BEGAN HER EMPLOYMENT WITH DEA IN JULY 1989.

WE HAVE LOTS OF SEATS DOWN FRONT.

COME ON DOWN.

SHE CAME ON BOARD AT THE DENVER DIVERSION OFFICE PRIOR-- ON COMPLETION OF TRAINING SHE REPORTED TO THE SEATTLE DIVISION

OFFICE IN SEPTEMBER OF 1989.
SHE HAS HELD POSITIONS IN
SEATTLE, OKLAHOMA, PHILADELPHIA,
WASHINGTON, D.C. AND THE DEA
HEADQUARTERS HERE IN ARLINGTON,
VIRGINIA, WHERE SHE CURRENTLY
SERVED AS EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
FOR THE DIVERSION CONTROL DEPUTY
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.
SHE IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON HER
MS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE AT ST.
JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY.

OUR PANEL MODERATOR TODAY IS
ELIZABETH MOWER, OUR CURATOR OF
EDUCATION AT THE DEA MUSEUM.
TODAY'S PANEL WILL SPEND ABOUT
30 MINUTES OR SO DISCUSSING
DEA'S OFFICE OF DIVERSION
CONTROL INCLUDING THEIR ROLES,
TRAINING AND OTHER TOPICS.
AT THE END WE WILL OPEN THE
FLOOR TO QUESTIONS, BOTH FROM
THE IN-PERSON AUDIENCE AS WELL
AS THOSE WATCHING THE LIVE
STREAM.

IF YOU'RE WATCHING THE LIVE
STREAM, PLEASE E-MAIL YOUR
QUESTIONS TO THE E-MAIL ADDRESS
ON THE DEA MUSEUM.ORG HOME PAGE.
WE'LL REMIND YOU OF THIS ADDRESS
AT THE END OF THIS PRESENTATION.
LIZ?

>> THANK YOU.

HELLO, EVERYONE.

WE'RE SO HAPPY TO SEE AN
AUDIENCE HERE TODAY.

HELLO TO THE PEOPLE WHO ARE
WATCHING THE LIVE STREAM.

THE THEME OF THE SERIES THIS
SUMMER IS WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE
DO HERE AT DEA.

SO FAR WE HAVE TALKED TO SPECIAL
AGENTS, FORENSIC CHEMISTS,
INTELLIGENCE+ANALYSTS AND WE ARE
SO EXCITED TO FINALLY HAVE
DIVERSION UP ON STAGE WITH US.

SO I'M GOING TO ASK THE SAME
QUESTION I DO EVERY TIME, WHICH
IS, TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT
WHAT DIVERSION CONTROL IS
RESPONSIBLE FOR HERE AT DEA.

>> WELL, WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR
ENSURING DRUGS FOR MEDICAL
PURPOSES, SCIENTIFIC AND

RESEARCH PURPOSES ALONG WITH PREVENTING DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

>> SO COULD YOU DEFINE FOR US WHAT WE MEAN BY DIVERTING PHARMACEUTICALLY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

WHAT ARE THEY BEING DIVERTED FROM?

>> DEA REGULATES THE INDUSTRY IN TERMS OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ARE SCHEDULED INTO DIFFERENT CATEGORIES BASED ON THEIR ABUSE POTENTIAL, ADDICTION.

WE IN DIVERSION CONTROL ENSURE THAT THOSE DRUGS REMAIN FOR LEGITIMATE USE FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, MEDICAL USE.

BUT WHEN THEY GO OUTSIDE THE CLOSED SYSTEM OF DISTRIBUTION, THAT'S WHEN WE TRY TO IDENTIFY THOSE ISSUES AND TAKE ACTION.

>> SO YOU'RE MAKING SURE THEY STAY IN THE PIPELINE FROM THE POINT OF ORIGIN TO THE PERSON WHO'S SUPPOSED TO BE RECEIVING IT FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES?

>> THAT IS CORRECT.

>> I THINK THERE'S A LOT OF PLACES ALONG THE PIPELINE WHERE IT CAN EXIT THE SYSTEM.

I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR MORE ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING CURRENTLY WITHIN DEA.

I KNOW THERE'S A LOT OF DIFFERENT JOBS WITHIN DIVERSION CONTROL.

SO WE CAN START WITH DONETTA. TELL US WHAT YOU DO EVERY DAY.

>> EVERY DAY I DO A LOT.

I CURRENTLY AM THE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR IN DIVERSION CONTROL REGULATORY, WHICH MEANS THAT PARTICULAR POSITION SUPPORTS FOUR SECTIONS WITHIN HEADQUARTERS.

IT'S OUR REGISTRATION SECTION, OUR QUOTA SECTION, OUR REGULATORY SECTION AND I'M FORGETTING--

>> DID YOU SAY REGULATORY?

>> I DID.
I SAID REGISTRATION.
IMPORT.
I APOLOGIZE AND IMPORT EXPORT
SECTION.
SO WHEN YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE
TRACKING OF DRUGS, THERE'S OUR
IMPORT/EXPORT SECTION.
WHEN WE'RE TALKING ABOUT
ESTABLISHING HOW MUCH
PHARMACEUTICALLY CONTROLLED ARE
DISTRIBUTED OUT, THAT'S OUR
QUOTA SECTION.
AS FAR AS REGISTRATION, I'M SURE
WE'LL SPEAK ABOUT THAT FURTHER.
THEY SUPPORT ALL 1.8 MILLION
REGISTRANTS IN THE COUNTRY.
THEN OUR REGULATORY SECTION
ACTUALLY MONITORS AND SUPPORTS
THE FIELD AND REGULATORY
INVESTIGATIONS.
>> SO THAT'S A LOT.
>> THAT'S A LOT.
>> SO YOU'RE BUSY EVERY DAY.
>> EVERY DAY.
>> A LOT OF COWORKERS AND WE'RE
GOING TO FIND OUT FROM JUSTICE,
YOUR COLLEAGUE.
TELL US WHAT YOUR ASSIGNMENT IS
AT DEA.
>> I'M CURRENTLY IN WEEK THREE
OF A NEW JOB THE DIVERSION
PROGRAM MANAGER FOR THE
WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION FOR
THE STATES OF MARYLAND, VIRGINIA
AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.
FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR I'VE BEEN
SERVING AT HEADQUARTERS IN THE
PHARMACEUTICAL INVESTIGATION
SECTION.
WHAT WE DO IS WE HELP COORDINATE
NATIONAL CASES.
WE ALSO SUPPORT THE FIELD IN
TERMS OF BEING SUBJECT MATTER
EXPERTS.
WE PROVIDE THEM WITH NECESSARY
TOOLS, EQUIPMENT, FUNDING THAT
THEY NEED TO DO THEIR JOBS.
SO WE IN HEADQUARTERS, WE'RE
REALLY A SUPPORT MECHANISM FOR
THE AGENTS, INVESTIGATORS AND
ANALYSTS IN THE FIELD WHO ARE
DOING PHARMACEUTICAL
INVESTIGATIONS.

>> TELL US ABOUT YOUR CURRENT ASSIGNMENT.

>> I'M CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TO THE DIVERSION REGULATORY GROUP. WE HANDLE AROUND TEN DIFFERENT PROGRAMS, CAMPUS REGISTRATIONS. THAT INVOLVES IF A REGISTRANT WANTS TO HAVE THE SAME BUSINESS ACTIVITY IN MORE THAN ONE LOCATION ON THE CAMPUS, FOR INSTANCE MANUFACTURING, THEY HAVE TO REQUEST A CAMPUS REGISTRATION.

WE ALSO HANDLE 303 INVESTIGATIONS AND THEREFORE BOTH MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE. WHEN THEY RENEW THEIR REGISTRATION OR APPLY FOR A REGISTRATION, IT REQUIRES AN INVESTIGATION THAT'S CONDUCTED BY THE FIELD.

WE ALSO DO EMPLOYMENT WAIVERS. IF SOMEONE WANTS TO HANDLE REGISTRANTS WHO'S BEEN CONVICTED OF THE CONTROL SUBSTANCES VIOLATION ACT, WE HAVE TO DO INVESTIGATIONS AND IT WILL BE APPROVED BY THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.

WE HANDLE THE CIVIL FINES DATABASE. AND JUST MAKING SURE THAT ALL THE DIFFERENT PARAGRAPHS, INFORMATION PROVIDED.

WE ALSO HANDLE THE REGULAR HATORY INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED ON THE WORK PLAN AND JUST TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE COMPLETED IN A TIMELY MANNER. BASICALLY PROVIDE OVERSIGHT.

>> SO YOU TALKED ABOUT REGISTRATIONS.

SO REGISTRATIONS HAVE TO BE MADE BY REGISTRANTS.

I THINK IT WOULD BE REALLY INTERESTING IF ONE OF YOU COULD TALK ABOUT WHO HAS TO REGISTER AND WHY THEY HAVE TO REGISTER.

>> ANY COMPANY OR PERSON THAT HANDLES PHARMACEUTICAL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ARE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN A REGISTRATION WITH DEA.

AS MENTIONED EARLIER WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THE CLOSED SYSTEM OF DISTRIBUTION.

SO FROM THE TIME A PHARMACEUTICAL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE COMES INTO THE COUNTRY THROUGH AN IMPORTER WHO'S REGISTERED TO A MANUFACTURER WHO'S REGISTERED WHO MANUFACTURES THOSE DRUGS TO A DISTRIBUTOR WHO THEN DISTRIBUTES THOSE DRUGS TO PHARMACIES, HOSPITALS, DOCTOR'S OFFICE, DENTIST'S OFFICE, NARCOTIC TREATMENT PROGRAMS, RESEARCHERS, ANALYTICAL LABS.

THEY ALL REQUIRE A REGISTRATION WITH US IN ORDER FOR US TO TRACK THE FLOW OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

>> AM I RIGHT THAT REGISTRATION IS TIED TO THE DRUG SCHEDULES AS WELL?

>> YES.

>> SO FOR EVERYONE'S EDIFICATION, ESPECIALLY THE PEOPLE WHO ARE WATCHING THE LIVE STREAM, CAN YOU TELL US WHAT THE DRUG SCHEDULES ARE AND HOW REGISTRATION AND THE DRUG SCHEDULES INTERACT?

>> SCHEDULE I DRUGS ARE DRUGS THAT CURRENTLY HAVE NO MEDICAL USE AND THEY HAVE A HIGH POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE.

THOSE ARE DRUGS LIKE HEROIN AND EVEN MARIJUANA, BECAUSE FEDERALLY IT'S ILLEGAL.

SCHEDULE II DRUGS ARE ALSO DRUGS THAT HAVE A HIGH POSSIBILITY OF ABUSE AND YOU CAN FORM PHYSICAL ADDICTION OR MENTAL ADDICTION. THESE ARE DRUGS LIKE OXYCODONE AND HYDROCODONE, MORPHINE.

SCHEDULE III DRUGS HAVE A MODERATE TO LOW POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE AND THEY'RE DRUGS LIKE XANAX AND VALIUM.

SCHEDULE IV DRUGS HAVE A LOW POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE.

I MADE A MISTAKE.

SCHEDULE III DRUGS ARE DRUGS LIKE TESTOSTERONE AND ANABOLIC STEROIDS.

SCHEDULE V DRUGS ARE LOW
POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE,
ANTI-DIARRHEA MEDICATION AND
COUGH RELIEF MEDICATION.

>> SO DOES A PERSON WHO
REGISTERS, ARE THEY REGISTERING
FOR CERTAIN PARTS OF THE
SCHEDULE?

TELL ME ABOUT THAT.

>> SO DIFFERENT TYPES OF
REGISTRANTS MAY HAVE DIFFERENT
AUTHORITIES.

MOST PRACTITIONERS WOULD HAVE
SCHEDULE II THROUGH V AUTHORITY
SO THEY COULD HANDLE ALL
DIFFERENT TYPES OF MEDICAL NEEDS
WHETHER IT'S PAIN RELIEF OR
DIFFERENT SITUATIONS THAT MIGHT
ARISE.

FOR EXAMPLE, MANUFACTURERS AND
DISTRIBUTORS, THEY WOULD
INDICATE WHAT SCHEDULES THEY
WANT AUTHORITY FOR.

AND BASED ON THE SCHEDULING,
THERE'S DIFFERENT SECURITY
REQUIREMENTS, DIFFERENT
RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS,
BASED ON THE DIFFERENT
SCHEDULES.

SO FOR EXAMPLE, A SCHEDULE II
DRUG HAS ADDITIONAL SECURITY
REQUIREMENTS FROM A III THROUGH
V DRUG BECAUSE OF ITS HIGH
POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION AND
ABUSE.

>> SO IT SEEMS TO ME THAT WITH
1.8 MILLION REGISTRANTS AND A
LOT OF DIFFERENT PLACES WITHIN
THE CLOSED CYCLE+--

>> CLOSED SYSTEM OF
DISTRIBUTION.

>> THANK YOU.

>> AND PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT
POINTS, THAT THERE'S A LOT OF
DATA THAT YOU'RE WORKING WITH.
AND SO I AM WONDERING ABOUT HOW
DEA'S DIVERSION CONTROL, HOW
YOU'RE USING DATA TO DO YOUR
JOBS.

>> WITH REGULATING 1.8 MILLION
REGISTRANTS, IT'S A VERY TALL
TASK.

WE HAVE APPROXIMATELY 700
DIVERSION INVESTIGATORS.

SO WITH THAT MANY REGISTRANTS AND THAT MANY DISTRIBUTIONS AND TRANSACTIONS, THERE'S A LOT OF DOSAGES AND PILLS MOVING EVERY DAY, LOTS OF PRESCRIPTIONS.

>> A PHARMACY WHEREAS WE CAN TAKE THE DEA REGISTRANT, TAKE THE REGISTRATION, THEY CAN ALSO JUST TAKE THE PHARMACY'S LICENSE.

SO IT'S A NICE RELATIONSHIP TO HAVE SO THAT WE CAN JUST INCREASE OUR CAPABILITIES.

>> AND TO ADD TO WHAT JOE WAS SAYING, WHAT WE DO ON A DAILY BASIS IN EVERY FIELD OFFICE INVOLVES PARTNERSHIPS.

WE WORK WITH THE FBI, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION.

BUT MORE OFTEN THAN THOSE, WE WORK WITH OUR STATE AND LOCAL COUNTERPARTS, THE LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS, THE STATE POLICE, BECAUSE WITH A SMALL NUMBER OF DIVERSION INVESTIGATORS NATIONWIDE, WE HAVE TO PARTNER WITH OUR STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES IN ORDER TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE AT OUR JOBS.

BECAUSE THERE'S DIVERSION GOING ON IN SMALL TOWNS, BIG CITIES. SO IT'S IMPORTANT FOR US TO IDENTIFY PROBLEM AREAS THROUGH OUR PARTNERSHIPS WITH STATE AND LOCAL AND FEDERAL AGENCIES.

>> RIGHT.

THEN WE ALSO ARE GLOBAL.

SO WE DO TRAVEL INTERNATIONALLY AND WE DO MEET WITH INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENTS REGARDING PARTICULAR SCHEDULING OF DRUGS, REGARDING THE TRENDS IN OUR COUNTRY AS OPPOSED TO THE TRENDS IN THEIR COUNTRY AND WHAT THEY'RE SEEING AS FAR AS COMING THROUGH THEIR COUNTRY AND THEN COMING INTO THE UNITED STATES THAT'S ILLEGAL.

SO WE'RE ALL OVER THE GLOBE.

>> THERE'S AN OLD AFRICAN PROVERB THAT SAYS IF YOU WANT TO GO FAST, YOU GO ALONE, BUT IF

YOU WANT TO GO FAR, YOU GO TOGETHER.

THAT'S WHY PARTNERSHIPS ARE SO IMPORTANT BECAUSE IF WE GO TOGETHER, WE CAN ACCOMPLISH MORE.

>> WITHIN DEA YOU'RE WORKING NOT IN A SILO, BUT YOU'RE WORKING WITH OTHER FOLKS AT DEA. ANY EXAMPLES OF HOW THAT CAN WORK TOO?

>> SO IN THE FIELD WHEN WE'RE WORKING WITH A CASE, WE'RE OBVIOUSLY WORKING WITH THE SPECIAL AGENTS, WE'RE WORKING WITH OUR INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS TO HELP BUILD THE CASE. WE ALSO HAVE TO WORK WITH OUR CHEMISTS CLOSELY, BECAUSE AS WE OBTAIN EVIDENCE AND EXHIBITS, THOSE DRUG EXHIBITS HAVE TO BE ANALYZED SO THE FORENSIC CHEMISTS HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE. EVEN OUR ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF IS CRITICAL TO WHAT WE DO ON A DAILY BASIS BECAUSE THEY HELP US PROVIDE THE BASIC ESSENTIALS FROM FUNDING, SUPPORT STAFF, OUR CARS THAT WE USE, EVERYTHING. EVERYBODY HAS A ROLE TO PLAY IN THIS FIGHT AGAINST DRUG DIVERSION.

>> SO IT'S A TEAM, RIGHT?

>> IT'S A TEAM IN THE FIELD AND IT'S A TEAM IN HEADQUARTERS, YES.

>> SO I'M ALWAYS INTERESTED TO KNOW HOW SOMEONE DECIDED THAT THEY WANTED TO BE PART OF THE TEAM AT DEA.

SO I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR YOUR PERSONAL STORY ABOUT HOW YOU DECIDED THAT THIS IS WHAT YOU WANTED TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP.

>> THIS HAS BEEN A JOKE HERE WITH US.

I REALLY DON'T HAVE A STORY THAT SAYS, WOW, THIS IS IT, THIS WAS GREAT FOR HER.

I ACTUALLY WHEN I GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE, I WANTED TO GO INTO COURT ADMINISTRATION.

SO SITTING IN THE COURTROOM

ASSISTING A JUDGE AND RUNNING TO THE FILE ROOM AND LOOKING AT CASE FILES, I REALIZED, YOU KNOW, I DON'T REALLY THINK THIS IS ENOUGH FOR ME.

I NEED A LITTLE BIT MORE.

SO I HAPPENED TO GO TO A JOB FAIR AND SAW DEA'S BOOTH.

OF COURSE, ALL WE KNOW ABOUT IS DEA SPECIAL AGENTS.

THE RECRUITER THERE TALKED TO ME ABOUT DIVERSION INVESTIGATORS.

AND THAT'S MY STORY AND I NEVER LOOKED BACK.

>> AREN'T YOU IN PART RESPONSIBLE FOR HIRING DIVERSION INVESTIGATORS NOW?

>> I AM, YES.

>> SO HAVING LOOKED AT A LOT OF DIFFERENT APPLICATIONS, DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR PEOPLE WHO MIGHT WANT TO FOLLOW IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS?

>> I DO.

FIRST OF ALL, CREDIT IS VERY IMPORTANT, A CLEAN CRIMINAL RECORD.

BE CAREFUL WITH YOUR EMPLOYMENT HISTORY.

QUESTIONABLE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY IS A CONCERN OF OURS.

AND OF COURSE YOUR DRUG USE.

THOSE FOUR THINGS I JUST LISTED IS EITHER A GO OR A NO FOR YOU IN THIS AGENCY.

>> GOING TO GIVE A SHOUT OUT TO PEOPLE WHO GO TO EMPLOYMENT FAIRS TO REPRESENT DEA TO BE RECRUITERS.

YOU'RE DOING A GREAT JOB BECAUSE LOOK AT WHO YOU RECRUITED IN THE PAST.

>> YES, YOU GUYS ARE DOING A GREAT JOB.

TY I WORKED A RECRUITING EFFORT LAST SUMMER.

IT'S A LOT OF WORK, BECAUSE YOU'RE SELLING OUR AGENCY AND YOU'RE EXPLAINING IN DETAIL WHAT WE DO TO GET THEM EXCITED.

THAT WAS THE BRIGHT STAR FOR ME WHEN I WAS OUT THERE AT THAT BOOTH THAT AS I CONTINUED TO EXPLAIN OUR JOB, I COULD SEE HOW

PEOPLE BECAME VERY EXCITED BY IT.

AND FROM THAT WE DID END UP HAVING PEOPLE APPLY, SO THAT WAS GREAT.

I ENJOYED THAT.

>> JUSTIN, YOU TOOK A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT, NOT TOTALLY DIFFERENT BUT SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT PATHWAY TO DEA.

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

>> SO I WAS A CHEMIST AND I COMPLETED MY MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE.

I WAS IN A JOINT PROGRAM DOING BOTH ENGINEERING AND BASIC CHEMISTRY.

SO I'D COMPLETED ALL THE COURSE WORK FOR A PHD FROM PENN STATE UNIVERSITY.

EVERY DAY GOING TO WORK, I DIDN'T FEEL SATISFACTION.

AFTER 9/11 HAPPENED, I STARTED JUST THINKING ABOUT WAYS THAT I COULD SERVE MY COUNTRY.

SO I STARTED LOOKING AT DIFFERENT JOBS WITH FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS, FEDERAL AGENCIES. AND I STUMBLED ACROSS THE DIVERSION INVESTIGATOR POSITION ON DEA'S WEBSITE.

LIKE DONETTA SAID, A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT DIVERSION INVESTIGATORS. BUT WHEN I READ THE JOB DESCRIPTION AND I LOOKED AT THE BACKGROUND THAT THE AGENCY WAS LOOKING FOR AND PHARMACEUTICALS AND CHEMISTRY AND SCIENCE, I FELT LIKE I WOULD BE COMPETITIVE.

IT'S BEEN A GREAT CAREER.

I THINK THE SCIENCE BACKGROUND HAS HELPED ME BECAUSE ONE OF THE THINGS WE DO IS WE HAVE EVERYDAY INVOLVEMENT WITH RESEARCHERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

I WORKED IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, AND VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY IS AN ACADEMIC MEDICAL CENTER.

SO WE DEAL WITH THE RESEARCHERS WHO ARE OBTAINING DEA NUMBERS TO BE ABLE TO DEVELOP CURES FOR

CANCER AND PAIN MANAGEMENT AND OTHER AREAS.

AND I'VE ALWAYS FELT LIKE WITH MY SCIENCE BACKGROUND, IT WAS EASIER TO TALK WITH THEM AT TIMES WITH JUST SOME BASIC SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE.

SO IT'S BEEN HELPFUL.

>> IT'S GOOD FOR DEA THAT YOU CAME WITH THAT BACKGROUND.

THE MORE PEOPLE I TALK TO, PEOPLE ARE COMING FROM A WIDE VARIETY OF BACKGROUNDS BUT OFTEN WITH THE SAME END GOAL IN MIND WHICH IS DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY REASONS.

I KNOW THAT JOE, THIS WAS NOT YOUR FIRST CAREER.

>> NO.

>> BUT I THINK YOU HAD THAT SAME MINDSET FROM WHAT YOU'VE TOLD ME IN THE PAST THROUGHOUT BOTH OF YOUR CAREERS.

>> YES.

AFTER GRADUATING COLLEGE, I WAS AN ROTC CADET, SO I WENT INTO THE ARMY AS A SECOND LIEUTENANT. AFTER 12 YEARS I TRANSITIONED TO THE ARMY RESERVED.

I GREW UP IN NORTH JERSEY IN A NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE WE HAD A LOT OF PEOPLE OVERDOSE AND DIE OF AIDS FROM INTRAVENOUS DRUG USE SHARING NEEDLES.

SO I WANTED TO DO MY PART IN THE WAR AGAINST DRUGS.

THAT'S WHY I CAME ON BOARD.

>> BEFORE DEA YOU WERE ACTIVE DUTY.

>> I WAS 12 YEARS ACTIVE DUTY IN THE ARMY.

AFTER THE RESERVES I CONTINUED MY MILITARY CAREER, DID A COUPLE OF TOURS IN AFGHANISTAN.

DEA ALLOWED ME TO MAINTAIN MILITARY CAREER AND A DEA CAREER.

>> SO YOU'VE SEEN AROUND THE WORLD AND FROM A COUPLE DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES?

>> YES.

I'VE BEEN DEPLOYED FIVE TIMES AFTER 9/11 WITH THE ARMY.

BUT I STILL WAS EMPLOYED BY THE
DEA.

>> IF YOU WERE GOING TO OFFER
ADVICE TO SOMEBODY ABOUT WHY
THIS IS A GREAT CAREER, WHAT
WOULD YOU TELL THEM?

>> IF YOU LIKE, YOU CAN SEE THE
WORLD, HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO
TRAVEL.

DEA HAS PROGRAMS TO PAY FOR YOUR
EDUCATION IF YOU WANT TO
CONTINUE YOUR EDUCATION.

>> I THINK IT REALLY OFFERS YOU
A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO DO
SOMETHING DIFFERENT EVERY DAY.
YOU MAY BE IN THE BOARD ROOM OF
A MAJOR PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY
ON MONDAY AND YOU MAY BE ON
TUESDAY IN A POLICE DEPARTMENT
AND WEDNESDAY YOU COULD BE
TESTIFYING IN COURT.

SO IT'S REALLY UNIQUE IN THAT
YOU CAN DO SO MANY DIFFERENT
THINGS, BOTH CRIMINALLY AND
REGULATORY TO DO SO MANY
DIFFERENT THINGS.

>> I GUESS FOR ME IT'S
PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY.
I'M PRIDEFUL OF THAT, THAT EACH
DAY I WALK THROUGH THESE DOORS,
I KNOW THAT WE'RE HERE TO
PROTECT OUR COUNTRY AND TO SAVE
LIVES.

THAT'S IMPORTANT.

>> IT'S VERY IMPORTANT.
I'M GLAD YOU BROUGHT THAT UP
BECAUSE I WANTED TO READ ALOUD
TO EVERYONE THE MISSION OF THE
OFFICE OF DIVERSION CONTROL
WHICH IS, TO PREVENT, DETECT AND
INVESTIGATE THE DIVERSION OF
CONTROLLED PHARMACEUTICALS AND
LISTED CHEMICALS FROM LEGITIMATE
SOURCES WHILE ENSURING AN
ADEQUATE AND UNINTERRUPTED
SUPPLY FOR LEGITIMATE MEDICAL,
COMMERCIAL AND SCIENTIFIC NEEDS.
SO I HAVE A BIG QUESTION.
WHY IS THAT IMPORTANT TO OUR
SOCIETY AND TO OUR COUNTRY?

>> WELL, I GAVE MY ANSWER.
IT'S SAVING LIVES.
IT'S PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY.
IT'S PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN.

IT'S PROTECTING OUR PARENTS.
YOU KNOW, IT'S A PRIDEFUL JOB
THAT IS PROTECTING AMERICAN
CITIZENS.

>> IT'S ALSO EDUCATION, YOU
KNOW, EDUCATING KIDS AND THE
PUBLIC ABOUT DRUG USE.
YOU KNOW, THAT'S WHY WE HAVE OUR
360 PROGRAM ALSO, YOU KNOW, THAT
HAS ENFORCEMENT, DIVERSION
CONTROL AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH.
THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH PORTION
IS WHEN WE EDUCATE THE
COMMUNITY, KIDS IN HIGH SCHOOL,
REALLY MIDDLE SCHOOL IS WHAT WE
CONCENTRATE ON AND ALSO
EDUCATING REGISTRANTS, DOCTORS
ON HOW TO PRESCRIBE CONTROLLED
SUBSTANCE.

>> I THINK WHEN PEOPLE IN THE
PUBLIC TEND TO THINK ABOUT
DIVERTED PHARMACEUTICALS, THAT
WHAT COMES TO MIND FIRST AND
FOREMOST IS OPIOIDS BECAUSE IT'S
IN THE NEWS A LOT.
ARE OPIOIDS THE ONLY THING THAT
YOU'RE LOOKING AT, OR DO YOU SEE
OTHER THREATS THAT ARE ON THE
HORIZON FOR DIVERTED
PHARMACEUTICALS?

>> WE'RE GOING TO LOOK AT ALL
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.
THERE ARE OTHER DRUGS BESIDES
YOUR OPIOIDS THAT ARE A THREAT.
WE'RE SEEING MORE AND MORE ABUSE
OF AMPHETAMINES.
WE'RE SEEING IT WITH HIGH SCHOOL
AND COLLEGE AGE KIDS.
THEY'RE BEING PRESCRIBED THAT TO
BE ABLE TO FOCUS MORE AND STUDY
MORE.

BUT IN MANY INSTANCES, THEY'RE
BEING USED INAPPROPRIATELY AND
SOLD ON THE STREETS.
WE ALSO SEE A LOT OF ABUSE
POTENTIAL WITH BENZODIAZAPINES
LIKE VALIUM AND XANAX.
THOSE ARE HIGHLY ABUSED AS WELL.
>> I PERSONALLY KNOW PARENTS WHO
HAVE TAKEN THEIR KIDS TO THE
DOCTOR SO THEY CAN BE PRESCRIBED
AMPHETAMINES TO HELP THEM STUDY,
TO MAKE THEM MORE COMPETITIVE.
>> SO IT SEEM THAT IS THE

EDUCATION COMPONENT IS REALLY
IMPORTANT TO HELP PEOPLE
UNDERSTAND THERE'S A REASON WHY
THINGS ARE PRESCRIBED AND THAT
THE PROBLEM IS ONGOING BUT IT IS
IMPORTANT THAT YOU ARE HERE TO
ADDRESS IT ON A DAILY BASIS.
AND I SEE THAT WE HAVE GOTTEN TO
THE END OF OUR TIME.

I WOULD LOVE TO OPEN UP THE
FLOOR NOW TO QUESTIONS.
IF ANYONE ON THE LIVE STREAM HAS
A QUESTION, IF YOU COULD
NAVIGATE TO DEAMUSEUM.ORG'S HOME
PAGE WHERE YOU WILL FIND AN
E-MAIL ADDRESS TO WHICH YOU CAN
SEND A QUESTION.

WE'LL RECEIVE THAT HERE IN THE
AUDIENCE AND ASK IT.
FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE IN THE
AUDIENCE, WE HAVE FOLKS ON
EITHER SIDE WITH MICROPHONES.
IF YOU COULD RAISE YOUR HAND,
THEY'LL GIVE YOU A MICROPHONE.
PLEASE USE THE MICROPHONE SO
PEOPLE WATCHING THE LIFE STREAM
CAN HEAR YOUR QUESTION.

>> JUST A QUICK QUESTION.
I WANTED TO KNOW IF VETERINARY
DRUGS ARE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF
YOUR ACTIVITIES.

>> YES, SIR.
THAT IS A PROFESSION THAT
HANDLES CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.
WE DEAL WITH VETERINARIANS ON A
DAILY BASIS.
DEPENDING ON WHAT OFFICE YOU'RE
IN, YOU MAY DEAL WITH THEM MORE
OFTEN.

WHEN I WORKED IN TENNESSEE,
THERE WAS A BIG EQUINE
POPULATION, HORSES.
SO WE DEALT WITH VETERINARIANS
THAT SPECIFICALLY DEALT WITH THE
TENNESSEE WALKING HORSES.
IF YOU'RE IN FARM COUNTRY, YOU
DEAL WITH A LOT OF VETERINARIANS
AS WELL.

>> ANOTHER QUESTION?
>> WE HAVE AN ONLINE QUESTION.
THEY SAY THAT CAMPUS
REGISTRATIONS WERE MENTIONED.
DOES THAT MEAN A UNIVERSITY
COULD MAINTAIN A SINGLE

REGISTRATION SUCH THAT RESEARCHERS WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY THAT STUDY THE DRUGS OF ABUSE WOULD NOT NEED TO OBTAIN THEIR OWN PERSONAL REGISTRATION?

>> CAMPUS REGISTRATION MEANS THAT FOR ANY BUSINESS ACTIVITY, LIKE RESEARCHERS, IF IT'S ON CAMPUS, THEY COULD HAVE ONE REGISTRATION TO COVER ALL THE BUILDINGS, YES.

BUT IT HAS TO BE FOR THAT BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

IT CANNOT BE RESEARCHING PLUS MANUFACTURING.

IT WOULD ONLY BE FOR RESEARCHERS.

>> SO IN THIS CASE, I THINK OUR PERSON WITH THE QUESTION ASSUMED CAMPUS MEANT UNIVERSITY.

IT COULD MEAN UNIVERSITY BUT IT MORE BROADLY MEANS+--

>> IT MEAN THAT IS THE COMPANY HAS A CAMPUS, THEIR CAMPUS, NOT A COLLEGE CAMPUS.

IT CAN BE A COLLEGE CAMPUS OR IT'S JUST A CAMPUS FOR A REGISTRANT.

>> IN THE UNIVERSITY SETTING, IN MY EXPERIENCE, MOST OF THE INDIVIDUAL PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS OR RESEARCHERS MAINTAIN THEIR OWN DEA NUMBER THAT IS AFFILIATED WITH AN FDA APPROVED RESEARCH PROJECT. THEY'RE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR STORING AND MAINTAINING THE SECURITY OF THOSE DRUGS FOR THAT SPECIFIC PROJECT.

FOR EXAMPLE, AT A UNIVERSITY YOU MAY HAVE HUNDREDS OF DIFFERENT RESEARCHERS WHO HAVE SPECIFIC PROJECTS TIED TO SPECIFIC CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

SO IT'S A COMPLEX QUESTION TO ANSWER IN THIS SETTING, BUT I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE PERSON WITH THE QUESTION CONTACT THEIR LOCAL DEA FIELD OFFICE, ASK TO SPEAK TO A DIVERSION INVESTIGATOR WHERE WE COULD SPEND MORE TIME APPROPRIATELY ANSWERING THAT QUESTION.

>> ALSO BEFORE WE APPROVE A CAMPUS REGISTRATION, WE CONTACT THE LOCAL FIELD OFFICE AND THEY HAVE TO GO OUT AND DO AN INVESTIGATION.

>> SO THERE'S A PROCESS?

>> YES.

>> IT'S ALWAYS BETTER TO CALL AND ASK FOR ADVICE FROM A DIVERSION INVESTIGATOR.

>> THAT WAS A GOOD QUESTION. IT OPENED UP A LOT OF INTERESTING PATHWAYS.

>> HI.

THANK YOU FOR HAVING THIS EVENT HERE.

IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT A LOT OF THE OPIOID OVERDOSES THAT WE'RE SEEING, YOU'RE NOT RUNNING DOWN TO CVS AND PICKING UP THAT PRESCRIPTION.

IT'S DUE TO THE FENTANYL THEY'RE LACING THE DRUGS WITH.

WE'VE SEEN BIG PHARMA DO THINGS TO GET PEOPLE ADDICTED TO CERTAIN DRUGS.

YOU CAN GET A PRESCRIPTION FOR VICODIN FOR LIKE 10 BUCKS A MONTH.

DO YOU FEEL THERE'S A CHANCE THAT BIG PHARMA MAY BE PUSHING THIS CRISIS KNOWING THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO COME OUT WITH A NEW DRUG WHICH WILL NOW MAKE IT MUCH MORE EXPENSIVE FOR PATIENTS AND INSURANCE COMPANIES TO ACTUALLY COVER LEGITIMATE PAIN AFTER SURGERIES AND BROKEN BONES AND THINGS OF THAT NATURE?

>> TO ANSWER THE FIRST PART OF THAT QUESTION, IT'S CLEAR TO US THAT FENTANYL IS A HUGE PROBLEM AS WE'RE SEEING HEROIN AND OTHER DRUGS LACED WITH FENTANYL.

BUT WE ALSO HAVE TO RECOGNIZE THAT PHARMACEUTICAL OPIOIDS ARE A PROBLEM AND DO CAUSE OVERDOSES AS WELL.

BUT IT'S CLEAR THAT FENTANYL HAS CAUSED AN INCREASE IN THOSE OVERDOSE DEATHS.

SO IT'S SORT OF A TWO-PRONGED APPROACH.

WE NEED OUR ENFORCEMENT AGENTS

TO INVESTIGATE THE ILLICIT
CLANDESTINE DRUGS AND WE AS
DIVERSION INVESTIGATORS COVER
THE PHARMACEUTICAL DRUGS.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO LOOK AT BOTH
SIDE OF THAT.

BECAUSE IN MY EXPERIENCE, WE
HAVE SEEN MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE
DIED FROM PHARMACEUTICAL
OPIOIDS.

>> BECAUSE THEY'RE TAKING TOO
MANY OF THEM OR WHAT IS+-- IT'S
REACTING BADLY WITH THEIR+--

>> WELL, THERE'S MANY DIFFERENT
SCENARIOS WE COULD DISCUSS.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT
THESE SCHEDULE DRUGS DO HAVE A
LEGITIMATE MEDICAL PURPOSE.

WE'VE ALL BEEN PATIENTS.

WE'RE GOING TO BE PATIENTS IN
THE FUTURE.

OUR FAMILY MEMBERS WILL BE
PATIENTS.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THESE
DRUGS HAVE A LEGITIMATE MEDICAL
USE.

BUT IT'S IMPORTANT TO USE THEM
AS PRESCRIBED FOR A LEGITIMATE
MEDICAL NEED.

ONE OF THE THINGS THAT HAS BEEN
A CONCERN FOR YEARS IS THAT WHEN
SOMEONE RECEIVES A PRESCRIPTION,
IT REMAINS IN OUR DRAWERS, OUR
MEDICINE CABINET FOR TOO LONG.
THEN PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE A
NEED FOR THOSE DRUGS CAN OBTAIN
THEM.

THAT'S WHY DEA DOES AN EVENT
CALLED THE NATIONAL DRUG TAKE
BACK INITIATIVE.

IT'S TWICE A YEAR, FALL AND
SPRING, WHERE WE ENCOURAGE
CITIZENS TO LOOK IN THEIR HOMES
AND FIND THOSE PHARMACEUTICAL
DRUGS THAT THEY DON'T NEED
ANYMORE, GET THEM OUT OF THE
POTENTIAL HANDS OF OUR CHILDREN
AND LOVED ONES WHERE THEY COULD
BE MISUSED.

>> SO CLEAN OUT THE MEDICINE
CABINET ON A REGULAR BASIS.

>> YES.

>> THE SECOND PART, BIG PHARMA
BEING INVESTIGATED AND LOOKING

INTO POSSIBLY-- I KNOW WE'VE HAD A COUPLE LAWSUITS ON THIS RECENTLY THAT THEY WERE HELD ACCOUNTABLE.

IS IT SOMETHING YOU'RE ACTIVELY PURSUING?

>> I THINK OUR AGENCY IS ACTIVELY PURSUING DRUG DIVERSION INVESTIGATIONS EVERY DAY.

IT COULD BE THE PHARMACY DOWN THE STREET THAT DRUGS ARE BEING DIVERTED OUT THE BACK DOOR.

IT COULD BE A PRACTITIONER INAPPROPRIATELY PRESCRIBING OR IT COULD BE A DRUG DISTRIBUTOR OR MANUFACTURER.

WE LOOK AT ALL THE POTENTIAL SIGNS OF DIVERSION, BECAUSE THERE'S MANY.

AND SO WHERE THE DIVERSION OCCURS, WE'RE GOING TO INVESTIGATOR IT, WHETHER IT'S BIG PHARMA OR SMALL TOWN DOCTOR PHARMACIST.

WE'RE GOING TO LOOK AT IT ALL.

>> WE'RE LOOKING AT IT ALL.

WE'RE NOT ATTACKING ONE SPECIFIC CATEGORY OF REGISTRANT.

>> TWO-PART QUESTION.

THE FIRST PART FOLLOWS UP ON A PREVIOUS QUESTION THAT THE TOPIC OF FENTANYL CAME UP AND WE HEAR IN THE NEWS FENTANYL A LOT LATELY.

IN FACT, WE'VE HEARD THAT DEA DID SOMETHING CALLED EMERGENCY SCHEDULING OF FENTANYL AND MAYBE IT'S ANALOG.

FIRST PART OF THE QUESTION IS COULD YOU TALK ABOUT WHAT IS EMERGENCY SCHEDULING, WHAT DOES THAT MEAN AND WHAT DID DEA DO WITH FENTANYL.

THE SECOND PART OF THE QUESTION IS MUCH MORE BROAD.

WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THE OFFICE OF DIVERSION CONTROL IN THE YEARS SINCE THE PRESIDENT DECLARED THE OPIOID PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS?

THANK YOU.

>> SO EMERGENCY SCHEDULING, WHAT WE DO IS WE CONDUCT STUDIES AND RESEARCH TO DETERMINE IF A

PARTICULAR DRUG THAT IS NOT CONTROLLED IS CAUSING DEATHS OR SEVERE INJURIES TO HUMAN BEINGS. AND BASED ON THE INFORMATION THAT WE RECEIVE, WE DETERMINE IF WE SHOULD SCHEDULE THE DRUG. WE ALSO COLLABORATE WITH FDA TO DO THAT.

AND BASED ON THE INFORMATION AND THE RESULTS THAT WE RECEIVE AND THE INFORMATION THAT FDA RECEIVES, THE DETERMINATION IS THEN DECIDED THAT, YES, WE WILL SCHEDULE IT, AND BECAUSE OF THE NUMBER OF DEATHS THAT ARE OCCURRING, IT IS IMPORTANT TO SCHEDULE IT IMMEDIATELY.

>> THE SECOND PART OF THE QUESTION WAS ABOUT FENTANYL.

>> WELL, I THINK THE QUESTION WAS MORE WHAT ARE WE DOING AS FAR AS DIVERSION.

I WILL SAY BASED ON THE PRESIDENT'S DETERMINATION THERE WAS AN OPIOID EPIDEMIC.

IN PHARMACEUTICAL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, THE PRESCRIPTIONS FOR OPIOIDS HAVE DECREASED. SO OUR OUTREACH PROGRAMS, I BELIEVE, HAVE REALLY BEEN BENEFICIAL ALONG WITH THE WORK OF OUR DIVERSION INVESTIGATORS AND OTHER DEA PERSONNEL.

>> ANY MORE QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE OR FROM THE†--

>> HELLO.

YOU MENTIONED THE MEDICATION CABINET CLEAN OUT THAT YOU GUYS HOLD TWICE A YEAR.

I WORKED THAT AND I GET A FEW QUESTIONS WHENEVER PEOPLE COME IN.

ONE OF THEM IS WHAT DO YOU GUYS DO WITH THE MEDICATIONS.

AND THEN THE OTHER QUESTION IS WHY YOU GUYS DON'T COLLECT NEEDLES BECAUSE WE HAVE TONS OF PEOPLE BRINGING IN NEEDLES. SO THOSE ARE THE TWO QUESTIONS.

>> SO WHAT HAPPENS TO THE COLLECTED MEDICATIONS AND WHY ARE WE NOT COLLECTING NEEDLES?

>> WE DESTROY THE COLLECTED MEDICATION.

THE NEEDLES, WE'RE THE DEA, DRUG ENFORCEMENT.

SO WE'RE CONCERNED WITH CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE.

I KNOW NEEDLES ARE A TOOL UTILIZED IN TAKING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S SOMETHING WE COLLECT FOR THAT REASON, NOT BEING A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE.

>> PLUS, WE HAVE TO BE CONCERNED WITH THE SAFETY OF OUR PERSONNEL WHEN THEY'RE COLLECTING THESE DRUGS.

OF COURSE THE CONCERN WOULD BE A NEEDLE PUNCTURING SKIN.

>> USUALLY IT'S AN EPI PEN THAT THEY ASK ABOUT THAT HAS THE MEDICATION BUT IT HAS THE NEEDLE IN IT.

>> THE OTHER THING IS LAST HE SAID WE INCINERATE.

I WILL SAY THAT WE COLLECT IN A PROCESS.

WE DON'T, OF COURSE, LOOK WHAT IS IN THE BOXES THAT WE COLLECT, BUT WE MAKE SURE THERE'S A PROCESS OF RECEIPT OF THOSE DRUGS.

WE SECURE THOSE DRUGS UNTIL WE INCINERATE.

A LOT OF OUR INCINERATING COMPANIES BASED ON OUR NEED, THEIR BURN CYCLE IS NOT ACCEPTING A LOT OF THOSE TYPE OF NEEDLES AND EPI PENS.

>> AND I'VE SEEN PEOPLE BRING EPI PENS IN.

IT'S A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT SITUATION THAN JUST A PURE NEEDLE.

EPI PENS ARE OFTEN IN THOSE PLASTIC CONTAINERS.

THEY DO EXPIRE FREQUENTLY BUT THEY'RE IN A SAFER VERY HARD PLASTIC CONTAINER.

WHEN WE PARTICIPATE IN THE DRUG TAKE BACK, WE DON'T ASK QUESTIONS.

THERE'S A LOT OF CONCERN IN THE PUBLIC ABOUT PRIVACY, ARE YOU GOING TO LOOK AT THESE LABELS, SO MANY PEOPLE BRING A PLASTIC BAG AND JUST DROP IT IN.

THERE'S A VERY GOOD CHANCE
THERE'S EPI PENS IN THOSE
CONTAINERS.

I THINK THOSE ARE SAFE TO
DISPOSE VERSUS US COLLECTING
NEEDLES FOR INJECTION.

>> SO WE HAVE A QUESTION FROM
THE STREAMING AUDIENCE.

>> THE QUESTION IS, DOES DEA DO
INSPECTIONS ON COMPOUNDING
PHARMACIES AND IN PARENTHESSES
THEY SAY BIOIDENTICAL HORMONES
ET CETERA, OR IS THAT IN THE
JURISDICTION OF THE FDA?

>> IF IT'S A SCHEDULED DRUG,
YES, WE DO INSPECT THEM, BUT IT
ISN'T ROUTINE.

OUR INSPECTIONS OF ANY
REGISTRANT, PARTICULARLY A
PHARMACY WOULD BE IF THERE IS A
NEED BASED ON A COMPLAINT.
BUT IF IT IS A NONCONTROLLED
SUBSTANCE, WE DON'T CONDUCT ANY
INSPECTION OF THAT PARTICULAR
DRUG.

>> JUST TO ADD TO THAT, AS
MENTIONED EARLIER, PARTNERSHIPS
ARE VERY IMPORTANT.

SO MANY TIMES OUR STATE BOARDS
OF PHARMACY DO CONDUCT
INSPECTIONS OF COMPOUNDING
PHARMACIES THAT THEY REGULATE.
SO IF THEY ASK US TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES INVOLVED,
WE WOULD ABSOLUTELY HELP OUR
COUNTERPARTS IN THE BOARD OF
PHARMACY.

LIKE DONETTA SAID, IF IT'S A
NONCONTROLLED SUBSTANCE AND THEY
DON'T HAVE A DEA NUMBER, WE
WOULDN'T NECESSARILY HAVE
AUTHORITY TO GO IN THERE AND
INSPECT THEM AS A NONREGISTRANT.

>> WE HAVE TIME FOR ONE MORE
QUESTION.

>> SO THIS QUESTION IS FROM A
FORENSIC SCIENTIST IN A POLICE
DEPARTMENT.

THEIR QUESTION IS, WE HAVE SEEN
KRATOM PRETTY REGULARLY IN CASE
WORK HERE.

I WAS WONDERING IF THERE HAVE
BEEN ANY RECENT TRENDS

REGARDING†-- OH MY GOSH, I CAN'T
SAY THIS WORD.
WE'LL SKIP THAT.
OR PLANS TO SCHEDULE THE DRUG.
>> MITROGONY.
>> SCHEDULE KRATOM?
>> YES.
>> WE ARE LOOKING AT POSSIBLY
SCHEDULING KRATOM.
THERE WAS A NOTICE PUBLICIZED
REGARDING OUR INTENT.
WE DID PULL THAT BACK IN ORDER
TO PERFORM ADDITIONAL RESEARCH
AND ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO COMMENT.
SO WE ARE NOW WORKING IN
COLLABORATION WITH FDA TO MAKE A
FINAL DETERMINATION AS TO WHAT
WE'RE GOING TO DO WITH KRATOM.
>> WE HAD SOME GOOD QUESTIONS
FROM THE AUDIENCE TODAY.
YOU ALL ARE VERY IMPRESSIVE
AUDIENCE MEMBERS.
I WANT TO THANK DONETTA AND
JUSTIN AND JOE FOR JOINING US
TODAY AND SHARING YOUR EXPERTISE
ABOUT DIVERSION CONTROL.
I THOUGHT IT WAS WONDERFUL AND
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO WATCHING
IT AGAIN AFTERWARDS.
IT WILL BE ON DEAMUSEUM.ORG'S
WEBSITE FOREVER.
SO IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO COME
AND WATCH IT AGAIN, THAT'S OPEN
TO YOU.
LIKE I SAID, THIS IS THE FOURTH
THAT WE'VE HAD THIS YEAR.
WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO
SOMETIME IN SEPTEMBER FEATURING
DEA'S PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL
STAFF MEMBERS.
SO PLEASE COME BACK AND JOIN US
AGAIN.
THANK YOU TO EVEN FOR JOINING US
TODAY.
[APPLAUSE]