

Drug Enforcement in Vermont

Vermont Drug Enforcement Agencies

- Federal Law Enforcement
 - Drug Enforcement Administration
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - Homeland Security Investigations
- Vermont State Police
- Municipal/City Police
- Sheriffs' Offices
- Federal and State Prosecutors

Drug Task Forces

- DEA Resident Agency – Burlington
 - Part of Boston Field Office
 - DEA Task Force
 - HIDTA
- Vermont State Police
 - Four regional task forces

Vermont Heroin Traffickers/Dealers

- Tier 3
 - Addicts selling small amounts to support their own habit
 - Goal: end distribution activities; obtain intelligence; court-assisted treatment.
- Tier 2
 - Vermont-based mid-level dealers
 - Provide infrastructure for local distribution of heroin
 - May be supporting own habit and sell or facilitate sales above addictive needs
 - Supply other Tier 2 and Tier 3 dealers
 - Goal: eliminate dealer and infrastructure; obtain intelligence; advance investigation; prosecution
- Tier 1
 - Top targets
 - Responsible for 80% of opioids seized by DTF
 - Well establish out-of-state sources of supply
 - Goal: eliminate dealer and infrastructure; obtain intelligence; prosecution

Anatomy of a Drug Investigation

- CI or Intelligence Identifying Trafficker/Dealer
- Covert investigation of trafficker/dealer
- Controlled purchase(s) by CI
- Introduction of undercover agent
- Identification of source(s) of supply
- Work up the supply chain
- Take down/arrests
- Prosecution

Statistics

- **Seizure Data -- 2016**

- 31,722 bags of heroin
- 1,932 grams of bulk heroin
- The street value is approximately **\$1,395,830**

- **Interdiction Efforts**

- Vermont State Police drug investigations increased 70% in 2016
- Expansion of the drug task force

- **VSP Arrest Data 2017**

- Windsor County Sweep -- 18
- Windham County Sweep -- 9
- Washington County Sweep -- 7
- Orleans County Sweep -- 38
- Rutland County Sweep -- 39
- Bennington County Sweep -- 10

Cooperation

- Importance
- Vermont Experience
- Going Forward

Issues for Discussion

- Prescription Drug Monitoring
 - Reducing the prescribing of opioids
- Real Time OD Tracking
 - Fatal OD
 - Non-Fatal OD