



HAWTHORNE POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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Suitable For Public Dissemination

Drug Enforcement Agency Prescription Drug “Take-Back” Day

The Hawthorne Police Department is announcing its participation in the Drug Enforcement Agency’s “Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day.” This initiative seeks to prevent increased pill abuse and theft. Many Americans are not aware that medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are increasing at alarming rates, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, many Americans do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medicine, often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away – both potential safety and health hazards.

“This effort symbolizes the DEA’s commitment to halting the disturbing rise in addiction caused by their misuse and abuse. Working together with our state and local partners, the medical community, anti-drug coalitions, and a concerned public, we will eliminate a major source of abused prescription drugs, and reduce the hazard they pose to our families and communities in a safe, legal, and environmentally sound way,” said Michele M. Leonhart, Acting Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Currently, there are over 4,000 confirmed collection sites. Local communities can find a collection site close to them by logging onto www.dea.gov.

Persons interested in disposing of prescription drugs may drop them off at the **Hawthorne Police Department Front Lobby** on:

Saturday, September 25, 2010 / 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

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