



U.S. Department of Justice ★ Drug Enforcement Administration

## Diversion Control Division

Diversion Control Division News (November/December 2025)

# DEA Launches Fentanyl Free America Campaign to Fight the Synthetic Drug Crisis

The Drug Enforcement Administration is intensifying its fight against the deadly threat of synthetic opioids with the launch of [Fentanyl Free America](#), a comprehensive enforcement initiative and public awareness campaign aimed at reducing both the supply and demand for fentanyl.



Through intensified enforcement operations and heightened intelligence, DEA is applying unprecedented pressure on the global fentanyl supply chain, forcing narco-terrorists to change their business practices. As of December 1, 2025, DEA has seized more than 45 million fentanyl pills, and more than 9,000 pounds of fentanyl powder, removing an estimated 347 million potentially deadly doses of fentanyl from our communities.

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*"Fentanyl Free America represents DEA's unwavering commitment to save American lives and end the fentanyl crisis," said DEA Administrator Terrance Cole. "DEA is striking harder and evolving faster to dismantle the foreign terrorists fueling this crisis, while empowering all our partners to join the fight to prevent fentanyl-related tragedies. Together, we can achieve a fentanyl free America and create a safer future for generations to come."*

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The *Fentanyl Free America* campaign emphasizes the importance of public engagement. DEA encourages everyone from community leaders, clergy, educators, parents, physicians, pharmacists, and law enforcement to take an active role in raising awareness.

Free resources including posters, radio advertising, billboards, and social media resources are available at [www.dea.gov/fentanylfree](http://www.dea.gov/fentanylfree).

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## Proposed Drug Quota for 2026 Released

Annually, the Drug Enforcement Administration proposes drug and chemical production quotas to meet the medical, scientific, research, and industrial needs of the United States. This includes export requirements, and establishment and maintenance of reserve stocks.

Released last month, the proposed 2026 aggregate production quotas include schedule I and II controlled substances and the assessment of annual needs for the list I chemicals ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine as required by the Controlled Substances Act. The proposed quotas represent the production limits of these controlled substances and chemicals

Read the complete [proposal](#).



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## DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Brings in 571,000 Pounds of Unwanted Medications



On Oct. 25, 2025, DEA joined more than 4,200 law enforcement agencies across the country for the 29<sup>th</sup> National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. At 4,317 collection sites nationwide, Take Back events removed 571,054 pounds of unneeded and expired medications from home medicine cabinets to prevent drug misuse before it starts. Complete results are available on DEA's [Take Back Day](#) page.

If you were unable to participate in this National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, there are nearly 16,500 pharmacies, hospitals, and businesses, in addition to many police departments, that offer safe medication disposal year-round. For information on permanent drop boxes, please visit DEA's [Every Day is Take Back Day](#) page.

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## DEA Investigations Uncover Emojis Used in Drug Deals

It is important that parents learn to recognize emojis used in text messages to represent counterfeit prescription drugs, dealer signals, and other drug images. These pills, commonly laced with deadly fentanyl and methamphetamine, are often sold on social media and e-commerce platforms – making them available to anyone with a smartphone. Learn more about [commonly used emojis](#) and the meaning behind them.

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## Diversion Control Division Enforcement

DEA's Diversion Control Division strives to prevent, detect, and investigate the diversion of controlled pharmaceuticals and listed chemicals from legitimate sources.

When the safety and health of the American people is in jeopardy, DEA takes action against those who violate the law.



### **Former Ellensburg Doctor Indicted on 26 Felony Counts for Falsifying and Issuing Commercial Driver's Licenses and Prescriptions for Controlled Substances**

December 1, 2025

### **Digital Health Company Cofounder/CEO and Clinical President Convicted in \$100M Adderall Distribution and Health Care Fraud Scheme**

November 20, 2025

### **Pensacola Women Plead Guilty to Illegal Drug Diversion**

November 17, 2025

### **Owner of Kansas City, Kansas Pharmacy Agrees to Pay \$200,000 to Resolve Allegations of Violating the Controlled Substances Act**

September 24, 2025



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