



DEA Tactical Diversion Task
Force

DEA TACTICAL DIVERSION TASK FORCE Phoenix, Arizona



- The DEA Phoenix Tactical Diversion Squad (TDS) was established in March 2009.
- The TDS' are based in Phoenix and Tucson--Criminal and Regulatory Groups made up of DEA Special Agents, DEA Diversion Investigators, DEA Analysts and other Federal, State and Local Task Force Officers.
- Mission of the TDS
 1. Investigate violations of the Controlled Substance Act and other Federal or State Statutes pertaining to the diversion of licit pharmaceuticals and chemicals impacting Arizona.
 2. Combine the resources of DEA with State, Local and Tribal agencies in an innovative effort to investigate, disrupt and dismantle those individuals and organizations involved in diversion schemes.
 3. The TDS incorporates Federal and State Criminal and Civil Prosecutions; as well as financial forfeiture, against those individuals or Corporations responsible for the diversion of pharmaceutical drugs. Those will include:
 - Doctors
 - Prescription forgers
 - Pharmacies
 - Pharmacists
 - Drug Manufacturers
 - Internet Pharmacies (Domestic and International)
 - Armed Robberies and Burglaries of Pharmacies
 - Organizations responsible for the Importation of Pharmaceuticals for street sales
 - Steroid/Human Growth Hormone abuse by professional sports figures, college and high school athletes.
 - Diversion of precursor/illicit chemicals
 - Private Health Care/Indian Health Care
- The TDS will be working closely with other Federal Agencies to include: FDA, HHS, FBI, IRS, U.S. Postal Service as well as other state, local and tribal agencies. Additionally, the TDS will liaison with State of Arizona's various Medical Boards, Drug Manufacturers, Private Health Care Industry, Government Health Care Industry, and Medical Insurance Companies.

Other efforts include establishment of the DEA's international, toll-free 24-hour tip line number, 1-877-RXAbuse, the new teen website www.justthinktwice.com, and a much anticipated release of DEA's parent's webpage, "**Get Smart About Drugs**" which will provide critical information for identifying drugs, including pharmaceuticals, warning signs and the effects of commonly abused drugs. For local leads, please contact the DEA Phoenix Tactical Diversion Squad at (602) 664-5600.

The Phoenix Field Division Special Agent in Charge is Elizabeth W. Kempshall. Public Information Officer point of contact is Special Agent Ramona F. Sanchez (602) 664-5725.

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