



Department of Justice

**United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian
Northern District of New York**

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PLATTSBURGH TOWN HALL MEETING NEXT WEEK ON PRESCRIPTION AND SYNTHETIC DRUG ABUSE

RICHARD S. HARTUNIAN, United States Attorney, Northern District of New York announced today that a Town Hall Meeting will be held April 18, 2012 at 6:30 PM at the Plattsburgh High School, located at 1 Clifford Drive, Plattsburgh, New York. The town meeting, titled "Our Youth at Risk," will focus on the dangers of the abuse of prescription drugs and use of synthetic drugs.

This event is being sponsored in conjunction with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Plattsburgh City School District, Plattsburgh Campus and Community Partnership, New York State Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, Plattsburgh Police Department, New York State Police, Clinton County Sheriff's Department, and the Clinton County District Attorney's Office.

"It is critically important for parents to learn about the dangers of prescription drug abuse and the range of synthetic drugs that are currently becoming available to youth in our community. One and a half million school-aged children have reported that they have abused prescription drugs. Every day, more than 2,700 teens try a prescription medicine to get high for the first time" according to U.S. Attorney Hartunian. He encourages students, parents of middle school and high school children to attend this event along with other interested members of the public. At the meeting, experts from key treatment, education, and law enforcement agencies will provide insight as to how parents can protect their children from the dangers posed by these substances.

We ask for the support of the media in publicizing this important community forum. For more information, contact Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney John G. Duncan at (315) 448-0672.