

GUIDELINES ON FENTANYL FOR DETECTOR DOG TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

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Disclaimer

**THIS PRESENTATION
IS NOT A TRAINING
COURSE ON
FENTANYL.**



PURPOSE

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PRESENTATION IS TO SERVE AS A GUIDELINE FOR THE SAFE HANDLING, STORAGE, AND UTILIZATION OF FENTANYL WHEN TRAINING AND CERTIFYING N.N.D.D.A. DETECTOR DOG TEAMS IN THE FIELD.





WHAT IS FENTANYL?

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- FENTANYL IS A POTENT SYNTHETIC OPIOID DRUG APPROVED BY THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION FOR USE AS AN ANALGESIC (PAIN RELIEF) AND ANESTHETIC. IT IS APPROXIMATELY 100 TIMES MORE POTENT THAN MORPHINE AND 50 TIMES MORE POTENT THAN HEROIN AS AN ANALGESIC.

- DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE / DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION DRUG FACT SHEET [DEA.GOV](https://www.dea.gov)





- Fentanyl is a Schedule II controlled substance.
- Under the supervision of a licensed medical professional, fentanyl has a legitimate medical use.
- Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid typically used to treat patients with chronic severe pain or severe pain following surgery.



Facts about Fentanyl
([dea.gov](https://www.dea.gov))



WHAT IS ILLICIT FENTANYL





ILLICIT FENTANYL



- **ILLICIT FENTANYL IS ILLEGALLY MANUFACTURED FENTANYL.**
- **IT IS TYPICALLY PRODUCED BY ILLEGAL DRUG ORGANIZATIONS AND IS SMUGGLED FOR SALE ON THE DRUG MARKET FOR ITS HEROIN LIKE EFFECTS.**
- **OVER 110,000 PEOPLE DIED OF OVERDOSE IN 2022.**
- **SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS SUCH AS FENTANYL ACCOUNTED UP TO 70% OF THOSE DEATHS.**



BACKGROUND



- **IN RECENT YEARS, THE N.N.D.D.A. RECEIVED SEVERAL QUESTIONS IN REFERENCE TO CREATING A FENTANYL NARCOTIC STANDARD.**
- **IN 2023, THE N.N.D.D.A. EXECUTIVE BOARD MET AT THE ANNUAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN MURFREESBORO TENNESSEE TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF ADDING A FENTANYL STANDARD TO THE NARCOTIC CERTIFICATION.**
- **A UNILATERAL CONSENSUS WAS NOT ACHIEVED DUE TO THE LACK OF LEGAL PRECEDENT AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AMONGST THE U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT CANINE INDUSTRY ON THE TOPIC OF FENTANYL AND DETECTOR DOGS.**
- **THE UTILIZATION OF A FENTANYL INERT TRAINING AID WAS DISCUSSED BUT NOT APPROVED FOR CERTIFICATION.**
- **THE N.N.D.D.A. HAS NEVER ENDORSED OR APPROVED THE UTILIZATION OF ANY INERT TRAINING AIDS FOR THE PURPOSES OF CERTIFICATION.**
- **THE TOPIC WAS TABLED UNTIL FURTHER RESEARCH AND LEGAL COUNSEL WERE MADE AVAILABLE.**



**IN 2024 THE N.N.D.D.A.
EXECUTIVE BOARD MET AGAIN
IN WARNER ROBINS, GEORGIA.**

**THE TOPIC OF FENTANYL WAS
REVISITED.**

**THE FOLLOWING WAS A RESULT
OF THE DISCUSSION:**



- **THERE IS A NEED TO TRAIN AND CERTIFY N.N.D.D.A. DETECTOR DOG TEAMS ON THE DETECTION OF ILLICIT FENTANYL.**
- **N.N.D.D.A. WILL PROVIDE FENTANYL FOR BOTH A TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION SITE AT THE 2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE.**
- **A GUIDELINE FOR THE UTILIZATION OF FENTANYL DURING TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR ALL FUTURE USAGE OF FENTANYL WITHIN THE N.N.D.D.A.**
- **THE GUIDELINE WAS CREATED TO ENCOMPASS THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:**
 - 1. END USER TRAINING**
 - 2. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**
 - 3. SAFETY**
 - 4. FENTANYL WITHIN THE N.N.D.D.A. NARCOTIC STANDARD**



UNIT 1. END USER TRAINING





1. END USER TRAINING



- **THE N.N.D.D.A. HIGHLY RECOMMENDS ANY MEMBER OR PERSON UTILIZING FENTANYL FOR THE TRAINING OR CERTIFICATION OF DETECTOR DOGS TO UNDERGO A PROFESSIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON THE TOPIC OF FENTANYL TO INCLUDE ITS USAGE, IDENTIFICATION, SAFE HANDLING, AND OVERDOSE PRECAUTIONS.**
- **THE N.N.D.D.A. HIGHLY RECOMMENDS ANY MEMBER OR PERSON UTILIZING FENTANYL FOR THE TRAINING OR CERTIFICATION OF DETECTOR DOGS TO BE TRAINED ON THE PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF NALOXONE (NARCAN) IN BOTH HUMAN BEINGS AND CANINES.**



UNIT 2. LEGAL
CONSIDERATIONS





2. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS



CURRENT LEGAL ISSUES

- CURRENTLY THERE IS NO 4TH AMENDMENT PRECEDENT REGARDING THE USAGE OF DETECTOR DOGS TO LOCATE FENTANYL.
- LAWS VARY FROM STATE TO STATE REGARDING THE CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF FENTANYL. CURRENTLY MEDICAL FENTANYL IS STILL UTILIZED FOR LEGITIMATE MEDICAL PURPOSES.
- **THE N.N.D.D.A. HIGHLY RECOMMENDS MEMBERS TO SEEK LEGAL COUNSEL FROM THEIR AGENCY LEGAL DEPARTMENT AND LOCAL PROSECUTORS PRIOR TO TRAINING OR CERTIFYING WITH FENTANYL.**
- THE N.N.D.D.A. ENCOURAGES ALL MEMBERS TO OBEY ALL LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL LAWS PERTAINING TO THE POSSESSION OF FENTANYL.



TRAINING AIDS

- **THE N.N.D.D.A. DOES NOT ENDORSE THE USAGE OF ANY SYNTHETIC, PSEUDO, OR INERT TRAINING AIDS FOR CERTIFICATION.**
- **MEMBERS SEEKING FENTANYL CERTIFICATION SHALL BE REQUIRED TO CERTIFY ON ACTUAL FENTANYL.**
- **THE N.N.D.D.A. HIGHLY RECOMMENDS FENTANYL TRAINING AIDS BE TESTED BY A CERTIFIED LABORATORY FOR THE PURITY OF FENTANYL, AND THAT SUCH TEST RESULTS BE DOCUMENTED AND KEPT ON FILE IN TRAINING RECORDS.**
- **THE TEST RESULTS OF SAID TRAINING AIDS MAY BE REQUIRED UPON REQUEST BY THE CERTIFYING OFFICIAL.**
- **TEST RESULTS OF SAID TRAINING AIDS SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**
 1. **NAME AND LOCATION OF THE LABORATORY CONDUCTING THE TESTING**
 2. **DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBSTANCE TESTED (PILLS, POWDER, LIQUID, ETC.)**
 3. **DOCUMENTATION OF A POSITIVE RESULT FOR THE PRESENCE OF FENTANYL.**



UNIT 3. SAFETY



SAFETY

HANDLING FENTANYL

THE N.N.D.D.A. HIGHLY RECOMMENDS MEMBERS FOLLOW THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (NIOSH) RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE HANDLING OF ILLICIT DRUGS INCLUDING FENTANYL. [FENTANYL: EMERGENCY RESPONDERS AT RISK | NIOSH | CDC](#)

- ALWAYS WEAR NITRILE GLOVES WHEN HANDLING FENTANYL AND CHANGE THEM OFTEN WHEN THEY BECOME CONTAMINATED.
- WEAR RESPIRATORY PROTECTION SUCH AS N-95 MASKS WHENEVER HANDLING FENTANYL.
- WEAR APPROPRIATE EYE PROTECTION.
- AVOID PERFORMING TASKS WHICH MAY CAUSE FENTANYL TO BECOME AIRBORNE.
- DO NOT TOUCH THE EYES, NOSE OR MOUTH AFTER TOUCHING ANY SURFACE OR CONTAINER WHICH MAY BE CONTAMINATED DESPITE WEARING GLOVES.
- WASH HANDS WITH SOAP AND WATER AFTER TOUCHING ANY SURFACES OR CONTAINERS WHICH MAY CONTAIN FENTANYL.



SAFETY

PACKAGING

THE N.N.D.D.A. HIGHLY RECOMMENDS TRAINING AIDS BE PACKAGED BY INDIVIDUALS TRAINED ON THE HANDLING OF ILLICIT SUBSTANCES WHILE WEARING FULL PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT (PPE).

THE N.N.D.D.A. HIGHLY RECOMMENDS A DUAL LAYER PACKAGING SYSTEM FOR FENTANYL. (EXAMPLE: DOUBLE SEALED EVIDENCE BAGS).

THE N.N.D.D.A. HIGHLY RECOMMENDS THAT A THIRD LAYER OF PROTECTION BE ADDED BY UTILIZING A SECURED CONTAINER DESIGNED TO EMIT ODOR.

THE CONTAINERS UTILIZED SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO PROHIBIT THE CANINE'S PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH THE PACKAGED FENTANYL.





- THERE ARE A WIDE VARIETY OF SCENT CONTAINER PRODUCTS ON THE MARKET WHICH CAN ADD A THIRD LAYER OF PACKAGING PROTECTION.

- END USERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO RESEARCH THE INDIVIDUAL PRODUCTS AND MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ON WHICH TO UTILIZE.





THE N.N.D.A. REQUIRES THAT NALOXONE (NARCAN) BE PRESENT AND READILY AVAILABLE AT ANY SITE WHERE FENTANYL IS BEING UTILIZED FOR CERTIFICATION

ALL INDIVIDUALS UTILIZING FENTANYL FOR TRAINING OR CERTIFICATION SHOULD BE TRAINED ON THE PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF NALOXONE FOR BOTH HUMAN BEINGS AND CANINES 

CERTIFYING OFFICIAL REQUIREMENTS

- ANY CERTIFYING OFFICIAL WHO CONDUCTS FENTANYL CERTIFICATIONS SHALL BE REQUIRED BY THE N.N.D.D.A. TO COMPLETE THE ONLINE FEMA COURSE ON FENTANYL TITLED:
 - *A DEADLY DOSE: FENTANYL, OPIOIDS, AND THE FIRST RESPONDER*
 - *FEMA COURSE ID# OLS-V1AWR-933-V1*
 - *OR A COURSE EQUIVALENT APPROVED BY THE N.N.D.D.A.*
- A COPY OF THE COURSE CERTIFICATE MUST BE SENT TO THE N.N.D.D.A. AT RDEES@GVEC.NET TO BE KEPT ON FILE.





UNIT 4. FENTANYL WITHIN THE N.N.D.D.A. NARCOTIC STANDARD



ACCEPTED COURSE PROVIDERS

- FEMA
- DEA.GOV
- DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
- CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC)
- AMERICAN RED CROSS
- TEXAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT
- FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
- STATE POST



- 1. FENTANYL WILL BE AN OPTIONAL CERTIFICATION. (WRITE IN)**
- 2. NALOXONE (NARCAN) MUST BE PRESENT ON SITE AND READILY AVAILABLE WHILE THE CERTIFICATION IS TAKING PLACE.**
- 3. ONE ADDITIONAL PERSON ASIDE FROM THE HANDLER AND CERTIFYING OFFICIAL MUST BE PRESENT TO SERVE AS A SAFETY OFFICER WHILE THE CERTIFICATION IS TAKING PLACE.**
- 4. TRAINING AID TESTING DOCUMENTATION MAY BE REQUESTED BY THE CERTIFYING OFFICIAL.**
- 5. PPE PRECAUTIONS SHALL BE WORN AND NIOSH HANDLING GUIDELINES WILL BE FOLLOWED WHILE HANDLING AND PLACING ALL FENTANYL TRAINING AIDS.**



6. THE PLACEMENT OF FENTANYL TRAINING AIDS SHALL BE IN AREAS WHICH ARE INACCESSIBLE TO DIRECT PHYSICAL CONTACT BY THE CANINES.

7. THE EXISTING PARAMETERS OF ALL OTHER NARCOTIC STANDARD CERTIFICATIONS SHALL REMAIN IN PLACE.

8. CERTIFYING OFFICIALS SHALL HAVE FINAL DISCRETION WHEN IT COMES TO CERTIFYING CANINE TEAMS ON FENTANYL .



END

QUESTIONS?

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