**Fentanyl: Safety Training for 1st Responders**

Fentanyl is making headlines almost daily. I killed Prince. It’s what former surgical technician, Rocky Allen, stole from Colorado hospitals. Fentanyl also sent 11 Connecticut cops to the hospital. Airborne particles made officers sick during a drug bust. It’s why first responders across the county are being warned about the dangerous drug.

When students leave they will be familiar with the safe handling of all suspected laced fentanyl narcotics. The students will be able to recognize the hazards associated with the product out there. Students will get a firsthand look of the opioid effects and the reversing of the overdose. Students will be taught and certified on the proper use of nyloxin. Students will have been given packages to go back to the departments and be able to help start a nyloxin program. Students will be shown the testing methods utilizing Rama technology to minimize exposure to fentanyl related products and to minimize the exposer to fentanyl.

During this 4-hour block of training the following additional topics will be covered and discussed:

* Education on the different types of nyloxin that is available to the public and law enforcement. Shown the differences between the doses that are available and why they make 1mg – 10mg doses. Shown the delivery method administering the nyloxin.
* Explain what nyloxin is and why it’s an important tool to have as a first responder. It can save your life or your partner’s life as well as the general public.
* Go over the policies used to administer the nyloxin, nyloxin exchange after use, and go over the climate issues related to the storage.
* Explain the effects of opioids and how they affect the receptors in the body.
* Explain how nyloxin will block the effects of opioid overdose reaction.
* Explain the blocking of the receptors using nyloxin to a person who is suspected of using fentanyl and how that person will react. The constant observation by first responders and medical providers that is needed to make sure the person does not begin to overdose again when the nyloxin has lost its ability to block.
* Explain the life’s and half-life’s of fentanyl and why multiple doses may need to be given.
* Go over opioids and how synthetic opioids have emerged.
* Discuss the analogs and the other version of synthetic opioids that are around (example: carfentynal, ohmfentunal, 47700, and 32 others) and the potencies compared to morphine.
* Discuss case history of heroin and fentanyl for law enforcement.
* Fentanyl safety for first responders, contamination, how your body can become exposed.
* Discuss ambulance, hospital and patrol car contamination
* Learn about evidence gathering, when to back out, safe handling of substances, and field testing with case studies.
* Discuss the level of response for cleanup and evidence gathering.
* Discuss field test devises.
* Go over the different equipment available to test drugs without being exposed.
* Students will be shown the equipment and learn how to use the equipment.

The instructor for the training will be Matt Gutwill, President of the New England Narcotic Enforcement Officers’ Association.