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## Quincy Police Department 1 Sea Street Quincy, Massachusetts 02169



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## Opportunity is knocking, please answer the door!

Opportunity appears in many forms, today the citizens of Quincy are fortunate these agencies; *Mayor Thomas Koch's Drug Task Force, Impact Quincy, Bay State Community Services, Department Public Health, Quincy Drug Court and the Quincy Police Department*, have formed a partnership and are the new problem solvers of the city. The goal of the partnership is to reduce opiate overdoses and control the narcotics issues that affect our community.

Let us remember life is about choices, the choice to call for help is in the hands of the person afflicted with a substance disorder. Today, we now provide a valuable option, the chance to live and turn your life around. The effort fostered by the partnership empowers the person to choose a path and assist them in a journey to a drug free life.

The monster lives within your medicine cabinet. It's not the officer in the police cruiser. They represent your future. In 2010, a pilot program was launched in Quincy; as a result the partners literally put nasal narcan in the hands of the first responding officer. Quincy police officers are trained and have access to nasal narcan 24/7. Narcan has been deployed on the streets of Quincy, waterways and within the booking area, of the police station. Nasal narcan is truly a lifesaver. It is designed to reverse the effects of an opiate overdose.

It is evident; the collaborative partnership demonstrates there is more to the Quincy Police Department than enforcement alone. While it is true when one hears the police are involved or responding a sense of fear and apprehensiveness may over shadow the situation. Our response is a multi-discipline approach. We provide emergency medical assistance, restore order, provide referrals, listen to both sides and yes at times, arrest individuals.

One must remember, our mission is to serve the needs of the community and attain the highest quality of life for the citizens of Quincy. As we continue to see young adults overdose, they or their friends must not fear calling 911 for assistance. Granted, addiction is extremely difficult to overcome, provide yourself, your friend or family member that valuable chance at life. In these situations you literally control your future.

Our objective is seen through the acronym; (P-E-T-E-R), Prevention, Education, Treatment, Enforcement and Recovery. Clearly, "arrests alone will not resolve the problem of addiction". It requires the multi-discipline approach, as mentioned. I firmly believe, the unwritten motto of police officers is "to have compassion for those less fortunate than ourselves".

In closing,

Quincy Police like our partners adapt to the current situations in society today. In the words of --- Ralph Waldo Emerson--- "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail".

Spread the word, call 911, life is about choices; help is in your hands, make the right choice and just trust us.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant Det. Patrick Glynn Commander Narcotics / Special Investigations Unit Quincy Police Department

(Opiate reversals to date: 280).