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PRESS RELEASE

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SUBJECT: Operation Medicine Cabinet

SUBMITTED BY: Chief Edward L. Kahler III

The information provided below is for informational purposes only. In order to protect the privacy of the victims and to prevent legal issues prosecuting the actor(s), we will not provide specific information related to the investigation(s).

Defendants are considered innocent until proven otherwise in a court of law.

Cranbury Township to Participate in First Statewide Medicine Disposal Day in the Nation

The Cranbury Township Police Department, will be hosting an Operation Medicine Cabinet New Jersey local collection site as part of the first statewide medicine disposal day in the nation. The event will take place at Cranbury Township Police Headquarters, 1 Logan Drive, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 14, 2009. This initiative, open to all residents, was organized to encourage local community residents to properly dispose of their unused, unwanted and expired medicine.

This statewide effort, with over 250 participating New Jersey police departments, is being spearheaded by the Drug Enforcement Administration's New Jersey Division (DEA), the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General and the Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey (PDFNJ). Cranbury Township residents looking for information on the abuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs and local collection location information should visit

www.operationmedicynecabinetnj.com.

Cranbury Police Chief Ed Kahler, stated, "Abuse of prescription drugs is not foreign to Cranbury Township. Operation medicine cabinet will allow residents to safely and anonymously dispose of medication that could have otherwise found its way to our children."

Gerard P. McAleer, the Special Agent-in-Charge of the DEA stated, "We are very excited about the wide spread support and enthusiasm Operation Medicine Cabinet New Jersey is gaining in our coordinated efforts to bring public attention to this issue that is impacting our youth, our families, and our communities. Law enforcement is concerned with the alarming trend in the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs, with potential access to these drugs coming from the medicine cabinets of family and friends."

"This operation will reduce the availability of potent drugs that lead kids down a path to addiction," New Jersey Attorney General Anne Milgram said. "We can't break a cycle of dependence if powerful prescription drugs are stashed in our own homes, tucked away in drawers and cabinets."

"With Operation Medicine Cabinet, we are calling on New Jersey residents to see their medicine cabinets through new eyes -- as an access point for potential misuse and abuse of over-the-counter and prescription medicine by young people," explained Angelo M. Valente, Executive Director of PDFNJ.

According to McAleer and Valente, the 2007 study by the National Study of Drug-Use and Health, 70% of people who abuse prescription pain relievers say they got them from friends or relatives. The National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA), reports that upwards of 9 million people use prescription medication for non-medical uses. They noted that the 2007 Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey (PDFNJ) Principals Survey found that half of the principals surveyed said that prescription drugs are abused more than twice that of ecstasy and cocaine by New Jersey Middle School students.

"What is equally disturbing, is that 47% of New Jersey parents of Middle School Students said they know a little or just about nothing about prescription drug abuse, according to the 2009 PDFNJ Parents Tracking Survey," explained Valente.