



Methamphetamine and the CMEA



Pharmacy Diversion Awareness Conference
Birmingham, Alabama – March 28-29, 2015

Ruth A. Carter, Chief
Liaison and Policy Section
U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration



CMEA

- Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act



U.S. Methamphetamine Production

- Prior to CMEA, U.S. encounters of methamphetamine labs had increased dramatically over past two decades
- Small Production Capacity Labs (SPCLs) emerge; also known as “One Pot Method” and “Shake & Bake Labs” (gram to multi-gram methamphetamine yields)
- 2004 - record number of labs encountered/seized in the U.S.
 - (2004 - 15,820 labs reported)



2005 - US Addresses Methamphetamine Production

- Congress passes Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act of 2005 (effective March 2006)
 - The CMEA restricts the sales of pseudoephedrine and ephedrine in the U.S.



CMEA - Point-of-Sale Requirements

- Daily sales limit 3.6 grams per day per customer
 - 146 x 30-mg tablets of Pseudo HCl
 - 73 x 60-mg tablets of Pseudo HCl
- Buyers cannot purchase more than 9 grams of PSE over 30 day period
- Sold in “blister” pack only – cannot be sold in bottles





Criminals Adapt to CMEA

*U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration / Operations
Division / Office of Diversion Control*



What is a Smurf?



- A smurf is someone who buys small quantities of ingredients (e.g., PSE, ice packs, lithium, matches, iodine), from several different locations, in order to manufacture, or more likely, assist in the manufacture of methamphetamine.
- Multiple IDs used to buy PSE and EPH



Methamphetamine Facts

- Schedule II controlled substance
- Methamphetamine is the most widely abused, domestically produced synthetic drug in the United States.
- Has a high rate of addiction, a low rate of sustained recovery, and is relatively inexpensive to manufacture.



Meth's Effects



Meth is highly Addictive

- When compared to Alcohol and Cocaine:
 - A group of 100 people given a drink of alcohol every day for 3 weeks, **8 of the 100** will become addicted.
 - A group of 100 people given meth or cocaine orally or as snuff every day for 3 weeks, **14 of the 100** will become addicted.
 - A group of 100 people given meth by smoking or injection just 2 times, **90 of the 100** will become addicted.
 - If a recovering meth addict, who has been clean for 11 months, has a hit of meth in placed in front of them, the desire to use it will cause the addict to use it, **100%** of the time.



Meth Abuse side effects . . .

*U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration / Operations
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“Meth Mouth”





U.S. Methamphetamine Problem

The U.S. methamphetamine threat is a two prong problem:

- Methamphetamine manufactured by Mexican Trafficking Organizations (large “Super Labs” in Mexico & liquid conversion labs the U.S.)
- Small Capacity Production Labs (SCPLs) (based in the U.S.)



Methamphetamine from foreign trafficking organizations



Domestic Methamphetamine



Domestic Meth

- The “New” Methamphetamine
 - 3 to 4 times easier to make and 3 to 4 times more potent than the old drug
 - Common chemicals purchased over the counter
 - 1 to 4 hours to cook a batch (old method took 20 hours)
 - Accounts for 98% of all reported clandestine labs.

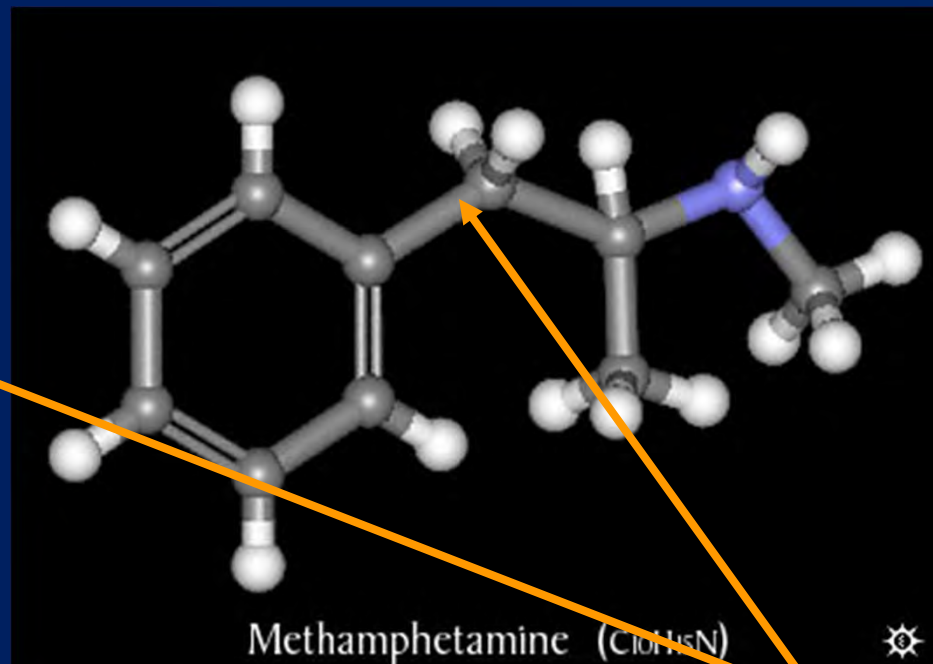
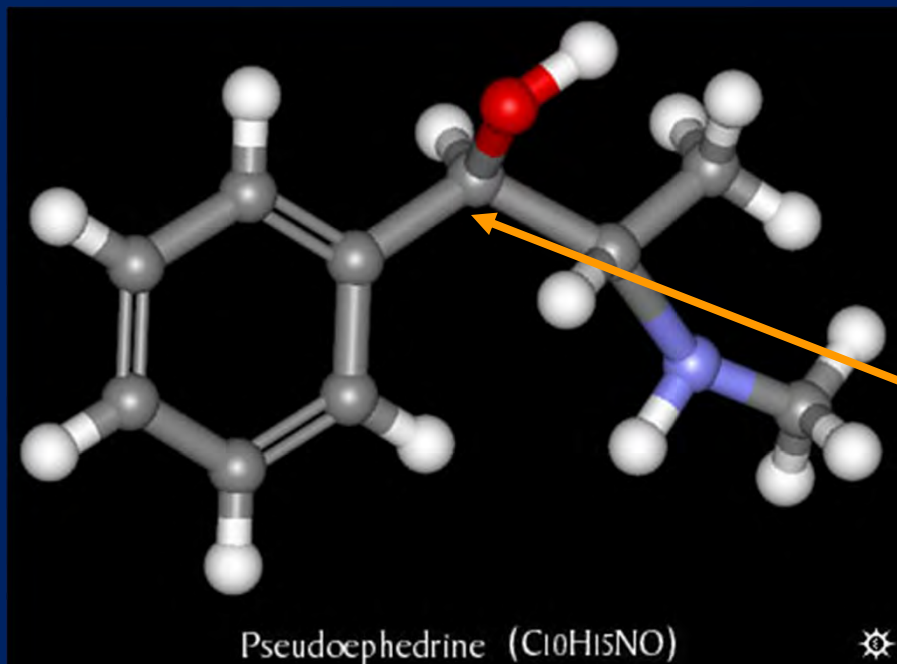




What's the Big Deal with Pseudoephedrine? Molecular Comparison

Pseudoephedrine

Methamphetamine



What's the big deal with Pseudoephedrine? The answer is basically **One Oxygen Molecule**. The molecular similarity of pseudo to meth is so close that using today's common methamphetamine manufacturing methods ("Shake & Bake" Red-Phosphorus or Anhydrous / Nazi method) simply reduce the molecular structure of pseudoephedrine/ ephedrine by one Oxygen molecule to create Methamphetamine.



One-Pot labs are EXTREMELY Dangerous

- One-Pot labs extremely Dangerous
- Clan lab stats increase in many states
- Reactive to water/moisture
- Meth labs catching fire at a higher rate
- 50% Failure (if it hasn't – it will catch fire)





“One Pot” Damage





What do “One Pot” Lab sites look like?







SPCL “One Pot” - waste

- Generate toxic waste
 - *1 lb of Meth Produced*
 - *Yields 5- 6 Pounds of Toxic Waste*





***WHERE CAN YOU GET METH
MANUFACTURING MATERIALS?***

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10⁹⁹

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Where can you find Meth Labs?

*U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration / Operations
Division / Office of Diversion Control*



Houses



Barns

We have encountered labs in . . .



Storage Units



"Vacant" Buildings



We have encountered labs in . . .





Methamphetamine Laboratories are Endangering our Communities - Florida & Alabama

“Meth lab explodes inside South Jacksonville apartment”



August 17, 2011 The Florida Times Union

“Janitor finds meth lab in Walmart bathroom”



WHNT April 11, 2012
Boaz, Alabama



Methamphetamine Laboratories are Endangering our Communities Washington, D.C & Nation

“Meth Lab Explosion Rocks Luxury
Apartment in Dupont Circle
Apartment”



February 2, 2012
Inthecapital.com

“ AP Exclusive: National Meth Labs
Busts up in 2011”



February 22, 2012
Associated Press



Methamphetamine Laboratories are Being Found Near & At Schools in Georgia

“Police bust meth lab next to elementary school”



WTOC.com March 29, 2012
Kingsland, Georgia

“Meth lab found in truck at South Effingham Middle School”

“Lawrence Lanier, 34, had two small children in his truck within arm’s reach of a meth lab when he was arrested at South Effingham Middle School, Effingham County Sheriff’s Office spokesman David Ehsanipoor said.”

Savannahnow.com April 10, 2012



Methamphetamine Laboratories are Harming Our Environment Tennessee & Kentucky

**“Man Dumped Meth Waste
Into Trout Stream.”**



“My concern is this is a trout stream, there are kids that fish this area,” said Sheriff Hensley”

April 25, 2012 WCYB.com

“Dumping meth labs – Materials pose threat to environment, including water supply, fish and wildlife”



“The bad news is for the public Loving said, because the chemicals left behind are now in the river where people fish and swim.”

BG DailyNews.com August 19, 2011



Meth labs are Dangerous





Back to the CMEA . . .



CMEA Resource



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Call: 1-800-882-9539 (8:30 am-6:00 pm EST)

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[Renewal Applications](#)

[Registration Changes \(Address, Drug Code, Name, Schedule\)](#)

[CMEA \(Combat Meth Epidemic Act\)](#)

[Customer Service Plan for Registrants](#)

[Duplicate Certificate Request](#)

[Duplicate Receipt of Registration](#)

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[Order Forms \(DEA 222\)](#)

[Registration Validation](#)

What's New

[S & B Pharma, Inc.](#) (July 8, 2014)

[Placement of Tramadol Into Schedule IV](#) (July 2, 2014)

[Proposed Aggregate Production Quotas for Schedule I and II Controlled Substances and Assessment of Annual Needs for the List I Chemicals Ephedrine, Pseudoephedrine, and Phenylpropanolamine for 2015](#) (July 2, 2014)

[30-Day Notice - eComments Requested: Submission for OMB Approval](#) (June 23, 2014)

[30-Day Notice - eComments Requested: Submission for OMB Approval; ARCOS Transaction Reporting](#) (June 23, 2014)

In The News

[Las Vegas Doctor Pleads Guilty to Drug Conspiracy Charges for Writing Unlawful Oxycodone Prescription](#) (July 1, 2014)



DEA Forms & Applications



Publications & Manuals



Questions & Answers



Meetings & Events

Quick Links

[ARCOS \(Automation of Reports & Consolidated Orders System\)](#)

[Cases Against Doctors](#)

[Chemical Control Program](#)

[CSOS \(Controlled Substances Ordering System\)](#)

[EPCS \(Electronic Prescriptions for Controlled Substances\)](#)

[DEA Form 106: Report Theft or Loss of Controlled Substances](#)



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[RESOURCES](#) > [CMEA \(Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act of 2005\)](#)

CMEA (Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act of 2005)

Title VII of Public Law 109-177

[The Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act of 2005](#)

[Sales of Scheduled Listed Chemical Products](#)

[Required Training and Self-Certification](#)

[Law Enforcement Queries Regarding Self-Certification](#)

[Import and Production Quotas for the List I Chemicals Ephedrine, Pseudoephedrine, and Phenylpropanolamine](#)

[Importation, Exportation, and International Transactions Involving all Listed Chemicals](#)

The Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act of 2005

[USA Patriot Improvement and Reauthorization Act 2005 \(Public Law 109-177\) \(PDF\)](#)

[General Information Regarding the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act of 2005](#) or [PDF Version](#)

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Sales of Scheduled Listed Chemical Products

[Implementation of the Methamphetamine Production Prevention Act of 2008](#) (December 1, 2011)

[Interim Final Rule - Self-Certification and Employee Training of Mail-Order Distributors of Scheduled Listed Chemical Products](#) (April 26, 2011)

[Cases Against Doctors](#)
[Chemical Control Program](#)
[CMEA \(Combat Meth Epidemic Act\)](#)
[Controlled Substance Schedules](#)
[DATA Waived Physicians](#)
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[Drug and Chemical Information](#)
[E-commerce Initiatives](#)
[Federal Agencies & Related Links](#)
[Federal Register Notices](#)
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[Publications & Manuals](#)
[Questions & Answers](#)
[Significant Guidance Documents](#)
[Title 21 Code of Federal Regulations](#)
[Title 21 USC Codified CSA](#)



How do I store these drug products?

- You must store drug products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine either behind the counter or in a locked cabinet.
- You must give the drug product directly to the customer who signed the logbook or who provides identification.



Identification and Verification

- Your customer must show you a photo identification issued by a State or the federal government.
- You cannot sell Scheduled Listed Chemical Products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine to customers unless they present appropriate identification.
- You must verify that your customer's name on the photo identification matches the name your customer wrote in the logbook.
- You must verify that the date and time of the sale that your customer wrote in the logbook are correct.



Self-Certification Requirement

CMEA Required Training & Self-Certification

For questions contact Help Desk - 1-800-882-9539

Self-Certification (Training Required Prior to Self-Certification)

\$21 self-certification fee established for regulated sellers of scheduled listed chemical products (SLCPs) that are not DEA pharmacy registrants

Training Required to Sell Drug Products Containing Ephedrine, Pseudoephedrine, and Phenylpropanolamine

Retail Vendors (Only one certificate per Retail Store is required)

Mobile Retail Vendor (Self-certification required for each location)

Mail-Order Vendors

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Tracking vs. Scheduling



2012 New Anti-Meth Laws - Alabama

- PSE/ephedrine product can only be sold at pharmacies
- Product required to be behind the counter.
- Stronger ID requirements—unsuspended, valid and current. ID must be presented or pharmacy is blocked for the sale.



2012 New Anti-Meth Laws

- Smurfing is a felony
- State which require a prescription for Pse/ephedrine (Mississippi, Oregon) the customer is required to show their prescription that their state requires.
- Forgery statutes apply to PSE/ephedrine required prescriptions



2012 New Anti-Meth Laws

- Restitution for law enforcement and prosecution for cost of the investigation and prosecution.
- Restitution for landowner (innocent) for cost of clean-up after discovery of meth lab.

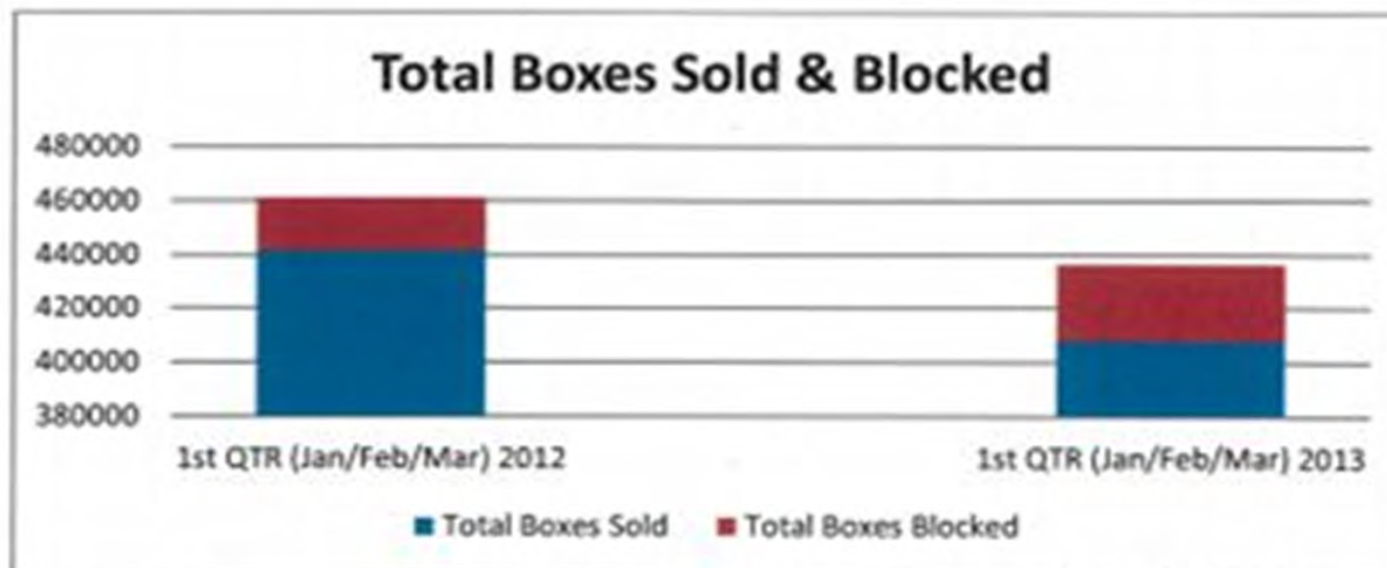


2012's Anti-Meth Law Snapshot

The total number of individual boxes of PSE/ephedrine product sold in Alabama during the reporting period is reflected below. Alabama experienced an increase of 8,942 boxes of PSE/ephedrine blocked at the point-of-sale from the reporting period of 2012 to 2013.

Quarter	Total Boxes Sold	Total Boxes Blocked
1st QTR (Jan/Feb/Mar) 2012	441523	19566
1st QTR (Jan/Feb/Mar) 2013	407866	28508

Source: ACJIC / NPLeX



Source: ACJIC / NPLeX



Schedule III Prescription Only

- PSE and EPH can only be obtained pursuant to prescription from a physician or practitioner
- Cannot freely purchase from retail outlets - ends unrestricted availability and smurfing
- If a CS, PDMP may be utilized for tracking purposes (if authorized by state law or regulation)
- In place in Oregon – 96% lab seizure reduction
- In place in Mississippi – 67% reduction
- Decrease in labs leads to a decrease in resources expended – LE and local/city/state funds (OT, lab cleanups, environmental issues, children/defs/citizens/cops health care, foster care etc)
- LE can restructure resources to handle other LE issues instead of providing cleanup service and chasing smurfers
- Prevents labs – is not a reactive tool, but a preventative measure



DISCLOSURE –

- NEITHER Tracking or Prescription only will have ANY impact on Methamphetamine Availability in the United States!
- But, Prescription only PSE will impact the number of domestic meth labs



(Associated Press) “Analysis Finds Meth Flourishes Despite Tracking Laws”

“Electronic systems that track sales of the cold medicine used to make methamphetamine have failed to curb the drug trade and instead created a vast, highly lucrative market for profiteers to buy over-the-counter pills and sell them to meth producers at a huge markup.”

“The pharmaceutical industry has spent several million dollars to fund the tracking systems. For drug makers, that is far cheaper than one alternative -- making the medication available only by prescription. If more states do the same, it could be devastating for makers of cold and sinus pills. The pseudoephedrine market is estimated at more than \$550 million annually. “

Associated Press – January 11, 2011



Mississippi: 6-Month-Old Law to Combat Meth Production Lauded Jan. 4, 2011

After just six month, a new law requiring a prescription for cold and sinus medicines containing pseudoephedrine **has proved to be an effective deterrent to methamphetamine production in Mississippi.**

“Early results show a nearly 70 percent reduction in meth-related cases statewide. Now when we find pseudoephedrine at meth labs, it was purchased in surrounding states,” explained Director Fisher.

Figures from the MBN indicate officers worked **124** meth labs from July to December 2010, a **68 percent reduction** from the **389** meth labs they worked from July to December 2009.

Officials removed **19** children from meth lab sites July to December 2010, a **76 percent reduction** from the **80** children removed from meth labs sites July to December 2009.

“Other states are looking to follow Mississippi’s lead and pass the same law. This works; I hope they do,” Director Fisher said.



Meth Labs and Child Welfare

*U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration / Operations
Division / Office of Diversion Control*



**35% of children removed from lab scenes
test positive for meth**





Methamphetamine Laboratories are Harming Our Children Oklahoma

“OKLAHOMA CITY - A judge was told Friday that Del City fire investigators found evidence that methamphetamine was made inside the burned motorhome where three young children died Jan. 4.” July 23, 2011 newsOK.com



[Tulsa World & Newson6.com](http://TulsaWorld.com) January 5, 2011



Methamphetamine Laboratories are Endangering our Children Indiana & Florida

“ Police believe a Muncie couple put the lives of hundreds of children – including three of their own – in danger by maintaining a meth lab in their southeast Muncie home near a school and a day care center.”

Muncie Star Press December 32, 2011

“Police seek person who made meth at SW IND school”

Wish TV 8 December 13, 2011

“4 children escape meth lab fire”



FoxTV.com Florida
October 27, 2011



Methamphetamine Laboratories are Endangering Our Children Indiana & Georgia

“Two arrested and children taken into protective custody in Elkhart meth bust.”



July 22, 2011 WSBT-TV

“Report: Chattooga Co. woman hides meth lab under children's play house”



The Summerville News April
16, 2012



Methamphetamine Laboratories are Endangering our Children & Families West Virginia & Michigan

“The number of meth labs is on the rise in West Virginia, and more than half are happening in homes with children.”



WSZ3 November 22, 2011

“Meth lab explosion forces five families out of their apartments”



Hillsdale.net April 6, 2012
Cambria, Michigan



Methamphetamine Laboratories are Harming Our Children Ohio

**“Death of Akron toddler
called suspicious; police say
meth lab found in home.”**

**“Ohio toddler died from
ingesting meth”**

Akron Beacon Journal Online
February 27, 2012 & March 27, 2012





Methamphetamine Laboratories are Harming Our Children Georgia

“3 Children Killed, Evidence Of Meth Found In Fire”

“GWINNETT COUNTY, Ga. -- Gwinnett County police charged a man with murder after firefighters said they found chemicals related to methamphetamine production in a house fire that killed three children.”



Gadailynews.com February 18, 2011



Methamphetamine Laboratories are Harming Our Children Tennessee

“Burned toddler found in Chattanooga meth lab”

“A Chattanooga woman has been arrested after police say her 2-year-old was severely burned at the family's residence -- where they also found a collection of meth labs.”

Chattanooga Times Free Press February 13, 2012





Methamphetamine Laboratories are Harming Our Children North Carolina



“Sheriff Hubert Peterkin said Thursday his deputies raided a suspected meth operation near the Hoke/Cumberland County line where a 6-month-old child was burned. .”

February 4, 2011

WTVD Raleigh , N.C.

“In Morgantown, a meth lab was discovered at a day-care center.”

www.charlotteobserver.com April 3, 2011



DEA Web-based Resources

www.DEA.gov

A screenshot of the DEA website homepage. The browser address bar shows "http://www.justice.gov/dea/index.shtml". The page features a large "DEA" logo in gold, followed by "UNITED STATES Drug Enforcement Administration" and the tagline "TOUGH WORK, VITAL MISSION". A navigation bar includes links for HOME, ABOUT, CAREERS, OPERATIONS, DRUG INFO, PREVENTION, and PRESS ROOM. The main content area has a large graphic with the text "Tough Work, Vital Mission The Facts About DEA" and a DEA seal. To the right are three boxes: "Drug Facts for Today's Teens" (JustThinkTwice.com), "A DEA Resource for Parents" (GetSmartAboutDrugs.com), and "Wall of Honor" (DEA Remembers). Below these are three columns: "TOP STORY" with a headline about a couple's sentences for cocaine trafficking, "TOPICS OF INTEREST" with links to fact sheets and guides, and "RESOURCE CENTER" with links to various DEA programs and acts.





DEA Web-based Resources



UNITED STATES

Drug Enforcement Administration

TOUGH WORK, VITAL MISSION

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The Truth About
Marijuana and Legalization

Drug Facts for Today's Teens
[JustThinkTwice.com](#)

A DEA Resource for Parents
[GetSmartAboutDrugs.com](#)

**THE DEA POSITION ON
MARIJUANA**

TOP STORY

DEA Statement Regarding the Release of Rafael Caro-Quintero

AUGUST 9 (WASHINGTON)

Today, the Drug Enforcement Administration was deeply troubled to learn of the decision by a Mexican court to release infamous drug trafficker Rafael Caro-Quintero from a Mexican prison. Caro-Quintero had

TOPICS OF INTEREST

[DEA Museum Galleries Re-Open](#)

[DEA Fact Sheet](#)

[Drugs of Abuse: A DEA Resource Guide](#)

[Extension of Temporary Placement of Five Synthetic Cannabinoids](#)

RESOURCE CENTER

[Controlled Substances Act](#)

[DEA Museum and Visitors Center](#)

[Doing Business with DEA](#)

[Drug Disposal](#)

[Employee Assistance Program](#)

[Extortion Scam Alert](#)



DEA Web-based Resources

www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com

The screenshot shows the homepage of the GetSmartAboutDrugs.com website. The browser address bar displays the URL. The website header includes the DEA logo and the site title. A navigation menu is located below the header. The main content area features a 'COMMUNITIES of PRACTICE' section with a description and a 'Learn more' link. To the right, there are two promotional boxes: 'DEA Publications' and 'Watch the Videos'. Below these, there are three columns: 'Latest News' with two articles, 'Voices' with a story, and 'Inside DEA' with a general statement.

GetSmartAboutDrugs
A DEA Resource for Parents

Home | Identify | Prevent | Help | Hot Topics | DEA in the Community | Communities of Practice

The new Communities of Practice section includes three PowerPoint presentations about drug abuse and awareness and an online Train the Trainer module that provides presenters with techniques to effectively deliver the presentations.

[Learn more](#)

BACK STOP NEXT

COMMUNITIES of PRACTICE

DEA Publications
Download or request
Drugs of Abuse and
Prescription for Disaster
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to keep your family safe,
including ways to avoid
prescription drug abuse.
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Drug Court Offers Hope for the Future
Jan 22, 2013 The Columbia River Partnerships for Change, a nonprofit in Oregon, is seeing tremendous success with its three drug court programs: adult treatment, juvenile treatment, and families restored.

ER Visits Tied to Energy Drinks Double Since 2007
Jan 16, 2013 Hospitals around the country have seen a gradual uptick in the number of emergency room visits involving energy drinks.

Voices

Irma Perez's Story

Irma was a 14 year old girl from Belmont, California who took an Ecstasy pill on April 23, 2004. She became sick immediately—vomiting and writhing in pain—yet her friends did not seek medical help for her. Instead, they gave

Inside DEA

The men and women of DEA aren't just drug enforcement agents—we're parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters. We've seen how drugs rob young people of their promise and dreams, and how entire families are affected by a child's drug abuse...



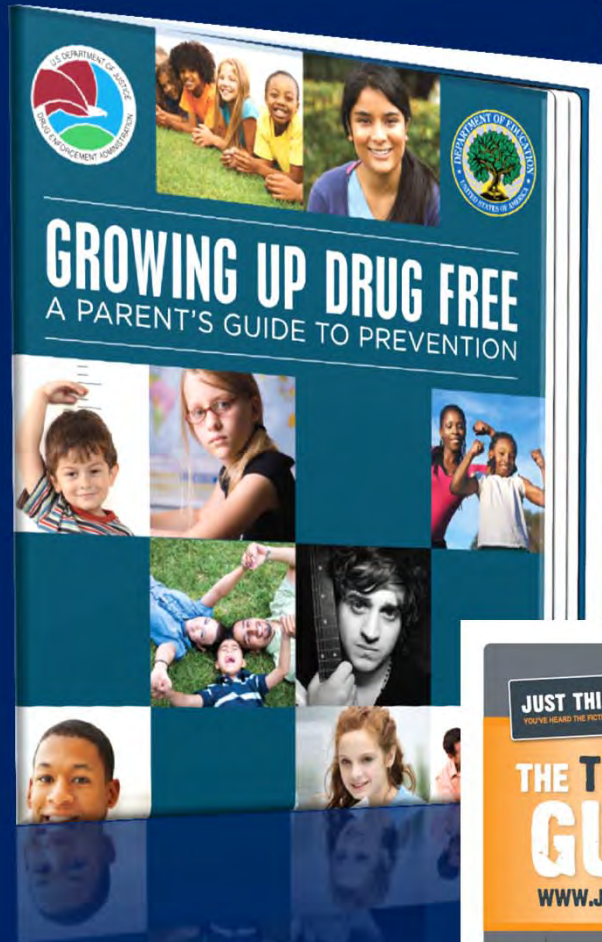
DEA Web-based Resources

www.JustThinkTwice.com

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Just Think Twice website. The browser address bar displays <http://www.justthinktwice.com/>. The website has a yellow and black color scheme. At the top, a banner reads "JUST THINK TWICE" with the tagline "YOU'VE HEARD THE FICTION. NOW LEARN THE FACTS." Below this is a navigation bar with links: HOME (return home), DRUG FACTS (learn the truth), FACTS & FICTION (know the difference), CONSEQUENCES (life changing events), TEENS TO TEENS (sharing our experience), and INSIDE DEA (find out more). A search bar is located on the right. The main content area features a large section titled "THINK YOU KNOW WHAT METHAMPHETAMINE IS MADE OF" with a question mark. It includes a paragraph: "Maybe you've heard it's made of the same stuff as cold medicine. Well, that's not all. Some of the ingredients used to make meth include battery acid, gasoline, and drain cleaner." and a link "GET THE FACTS ABOUT METHAMPHETAMINE »". Below this are three icons representing MARIJUANA, COCAINE, and METH. To the right, there are two smaller sections: "IT'S TIME TO SHATTER THE MYTHS ABOUT DRUGS AND DRUG ABUSE" with a "Learn More" link and a "DRUG FACTS WEEK" graphic, and "FACTS & FICTION Get the Facts". At the bottom right, there is a "TEENS TO TEENS" section with the text "Advice from teens on the D.A.R.E. Youth Advisory Board" and a "READ MORE" link. A "Did You Know?" fact is at the bottom: "Combine toxic chemicals with neglected hygiene, and you get a condition called 'meth mouth'—rotten and decaying teeth."



Publications





Thank you