***Fentanyl: The Real Deal*Video Release Event**

**Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs**

**Grand Ballroom, Room 3101**

810 Seventh Street, NW

Washington, DC 20531

**August 30, 2018**

**Press Points of Contact and Quotes**

During the Fentanyl Safety Video Release event, the speakers and panelists will not be taking questions from the attendees or the media. The contacts below have agreed to speak to the media post-event and some have provided pre-approved quotes that may be used by the media.

**American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT)**

* Kristen Malecki, ACMT media contact, kristen.malecki@acmt.net
* Dr. Michelle Ruha, Executive Board member responsible for Public Affairs/Communication, michelle.ruha@acmt.net

ACMT President Charles McKay, M.D., said, “We know that responders are concerned — we want them to feel confident and to be safe when dealing with possible fentanyl calls; but we don’t want them to be paralyzed by fears that are unwarranted in the vast majority of situations, nor burdened by time-consuming, costly, and cumbersome equipment that could put them and others in harm’s way. That is why ACMT was happy to work with the National Security Council’s Interagency Working Group to develop a roll call training video that reinforces key messages from the *Fentanyl Safety Recommendations for First Responders*. We also look forward to working with other professional groups to identify when — if ever — more elaborate precautions are necessary.”

 —Charles McKay M.D., FACMT, FACEP

President, American College of Medical Toxicology

**American Industrial Hygiene Association**

* Sue Marchese, MS, Managing Director, Marketing and Communications, smarchese@aiha.org

**International Association of Chiefs of Police**

* Gene Voegtlin, voegtlin@theiacp.org
* Casey Shellenberger, shellenberger@theiacp.org

“This video will be a training asset for police departments nationwide, as well as for other first responders. The information it contains is clear and science-based, and the recommendations are straightforward. It’s obvious that the Federal Interagency Working Group went out of its way to use data from highly reputable sources, which resulted in a training tool that public safety agencies can rely on. The rise in fentanyl availability these past few years has created a risk — no doubt about it — but first responders should recognize that the risk can be mitigated by applying the recommendations in this new video.”

—William G. Brooks III

Chief of Police, Norwood Police Department

Member of the Board of Directors

International Association of Chiefs of Police

**International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF)**

* Mark Treglio, IAFF Director of Strategic Campaigns and Media, mtreglio@iaff.org, (202) 368-7315

“IAFF fire fighters and paramedics are responding on the frontlines, witnessing the damage Fentanyl is wreaking on families and entire communities across our country. This video is a much needed resource to help assure our members are properly trained so they can continue the great work they do every day saving lives.”

—Harold A. Schaitberger

General President

International Association of Fire Fighters

**National Volunteer Fire Council**

* Kimberly Quiros, Chief of Communications, [kimberly@nvfc.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ckunkelta%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5CBE2NOZ02%5Ckimberly%40nvfc.org)
* David Finger, Chief of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, [dfinger@nvfc.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ckunkelta%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5CBE2NOZ02%5Cdfinger%40nvfc.org)

“Volunteer emergency responders account for nearly 70% of our nation’s emergency response system. The release of the Fentanyl: The Real Deal awareness and training video will equip our volunteer emergency responders to make informed decisions on how best to combat the Fentanyl and Illicit Synthetic Opioids epidemic in their local jurisdictions. Being able to recognize the problem, collaborate amongst other agencies and educate local communities is the best solution to combat this public health crisis. The National Volunteer Fire Council recommends that volunteer fire, ems, and rescue departments evaluate their standard operating guidelines and policies to ensure responder safety.”

—Brian Foley

Lieutenant, Princeton Junction Fire Department, West Windsor Township, New Jersey

Director at Large, EMS/Rescue Section Executive Committee

National Volunteer Fire Council

**National Sheriffs’ Association**

* Pat Royal, patrickroyal@gmail.com

“The priority for America’s sheriffs is the safety of deputies, officers, and first responders, and this training will ensure that they have the training needed to keep them out of harm’s way. We appreciate the administration’s commitment to law enforcement and together we will limit these injurious incidents.”

—Jonathan Thompson

Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer

National Sheriffs’ Association

**National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians**

“NAEMT members from across the country appreciate the leadership of our federal government on this issue. EMTs and paramedics are on the front lines responding to and caring for patients suffering from opioid addiction. The new federal Fentanyl Safety Recommendations and resources provide critical guidance for all first responders," stated Dennis Rowe, EMT-P, President, National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians.”

—Dennis Rowe, EMT-P, President

National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians

**Federal Points of Contact and Approved Quotes**

**Office of National Drug Control Policy**

* James W. Carroll, Deputy Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, Mediainquiry@ondcp.eop.gov, (202) 395-6618

**Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

“First responders put themselves in harms’ way to help others, and they deserve both our gratitude and support. In the middle of a nationwide opioid crisis, it’s more important than ever to share scientific, evidence-based information to meet the challenge posed by fentanyl and other synthetic opioids. This training video will provide first responders with the knowledge they need to ensure their own safety while on the front lines in their communities.”

—Deputy Administrator Heidi King

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

**U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration**

“We have a duty to protect those who keep our communities safe,” said DEA Acting Administrator Uttam Dhillon. “As we continue to fight this opioid epidemic, it is critical that we provide every tool necessary to educate the public, law enforcement, and first responders about the dangers of fentanyl. This video is a positive step in that direction.”

—Acting Administrator Uttam Dhillon

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration