

Memorandum



DATE September 5, 2017

TO Honorable Members of the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee:
B. Adam McGough (Chair), Philip T. Kingston (Vice Chair),
Jennifer S. Gates (Domestic Violence Task Force Chair), MPT Dwaine R. Caraway,
DMPT Adam Medrano, Sandy Greyson, Kevin Felder

SUBJECT **K2 Overview**

On Monday, September 11, 2017, you will be provided with an overview on K2 by Deputy Chief Gilberto Garza, Dallas Police Department and Assistant Chief Daniel Salazar, Dallas Fire-Rescue Department. The briefing materials are attached for your review.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.



Jon Fortune
Assistant City Manager

[Attachment]

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Larry Casto, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary (Interim)
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jo M. (Jody) Puckett, Assistant City Manager (Interim)
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Chief of Community Services
Raquel Favela, Chief of Economic Development & Neighborhood Services
Theresa O'Donnell, Chief of Resilience
Directors and Assistant Directors

K2 Overview

Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

September 11, 2017



Gilberto Garza, Deputy Chief
Dallas Police Department

Daniel Salazar, Assistant Chief
Dallas Fire-Rescue Department



Presentation Overview

- Background/History
- Identification & Concerns
- Issues
- Operations & Enforcement
- Proposed Action
- Next Steps

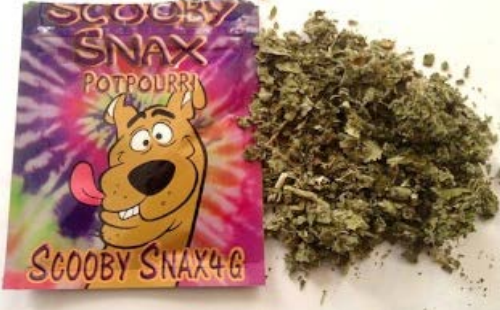


Background/History

- K2 is a synthetic cannabinoid. Also known as Spice and Kush
- Man-made mind altering chemicals sprayed on dried, shredded plant material so it can be smoked
- Not safe, can be unpredictable, severe and life threatening
- Active DPD K2 caseload since 2013
- Penalty grades comparable to Marijuana (possession) and Cocaine (delivery)

Background/History

Current Common Packaging



3g pack - \$20 /\$30
(Smoke Shops)
10g pack - \$40 /\$50
(rarely seen)



Cigarettes - \$5 avg.

Identifications & Concerns

- Identified a noticeable increase of overdose cases locally and nationwide (**Nov 2016 - Feb 2017**)
- Cheap, rapid effects, quick recovery
- Difficult to track with current methods, practices and procedures
- Concentrated in our homeless & indigent populations (Central/South Central Divisions)
- Multiple agencies/resources collaboration necessary

Issues/Operational Concerns

- No evidence of increased distribution and sales of K2 in Dallas
- Disruption of packaged supply by law enforcement (China)
- Current trend is mixing of shipped chemicals by drug dealers/distributors
- Enhanced effects on users (higher ratios)
- Dangerous chemical concentrations with changing formulas



Issues/Operational Concerns

- Dallas Fire-Rescue calls occupy limited ambulances responding to such calls (more prevalent in the CBD near homeless shelters and transit corridors)
- Designer/synthetic drug use causes multiple responses to the same patient on a single day
- Patients can present with a multitude of symptoms ranging from lethargy to violent and combative behavior
- Safety issue-First Responders have to be cognizant that patients may physically attack
- DFR's EMS Division and Medical Director are in discussions with DPD covering protocols related to handling of such calls

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K2 Enforcement Data

Narcotics Division

- 10 Major Under Cover Investigations since 2013
 - 3 in 2017
- Multiple Arrests (Federal & State) and Seizures

K2 Arrests – City Wide (*Since November 2016*) *Misdemeanor & Felony*

Division	Count
Central	161
South Central	51
Northeast	5
Southeast	6
Southwest	5
Total	228

K2 Enforcement Data

Arrest Data by type comparison

January 1, 2017 – August 29, 2017

Drug Type	Total Arrests
Cocaine	925
Heroin	323
K2	194
Marijuana	2212
MDMA	78
Methamphetamine	635

January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

Drug Type	Total Arrests
Cocaine	1294
Heroin	442
K2	210
Marijuana	2164
MDMA	52
Methamphetamine	952

K2 Enforcement Data

- **Top Enforcement Locations**

- West End Dart Station Vicinity
- Lamar & Commerce
- 500 Park
- Denley & Morrel
- Beckley Saner Park
- Kiest & Lancaster Train Station

- **Current Case Status**

- 31 Subjects arrested on Felony cases currently in jail
- 11 active warrants on felony cases
- 9 warrants to be executed
- 3 cases going federal

Issues/Operational Concerns

- Tracking K2 related calls
 - DFR usually responding agency
 - DPD K2 related calls often titled differently
 - *(suicide, injured person, major disturbance)*
- Evidence Collection Issues
- Chemical Analysis/Releases
- New synthetic on street – July 2017 analysis

Disposition	2016	2017	Difference	% Difference
Left Prior to Transport	17	33	16	94%
No Transport	61	170	109	179%
Transported to Hospital	20	68	48	240%
Grand Total	98	271	173	177%

Issues/Operational Concerns

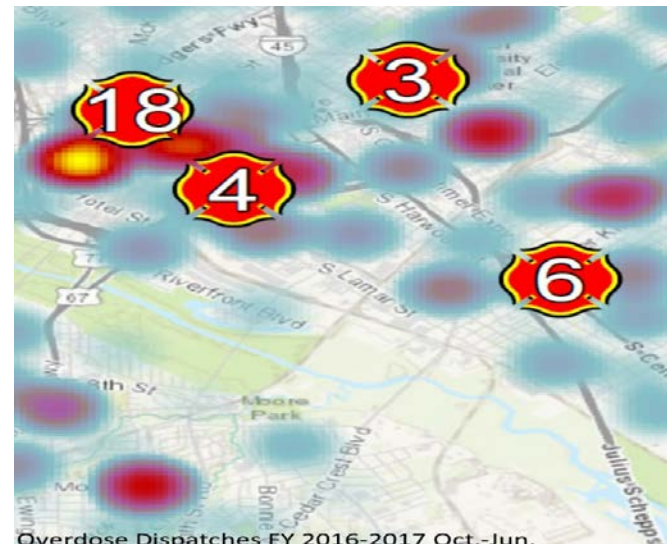
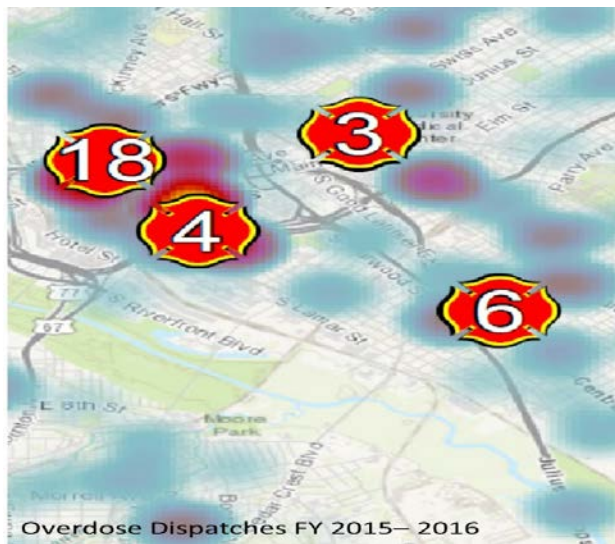
Dallas Fire-Rescue is also tracking overdose related incidents but there are challenges:

- 911 callers report medical problems such as seizures, psychotic behavior, and unconsciousness
- DFR patient assessment concludes that drug use is involved (bystander/witness information, possession, etc.)
- Appropriate medical coding for these types of calls is important for compiling and sharing information with DPD

Issues/Operational Concerns

Dallas Fire-Rescue and DPD are sharing information to reconcile data to address these types of incidents.

- Helps with decision making for resource deployment and needed surveillance



Proposed Action

Multi-Agency Collaboration

- DEA – Chemical Analysis/Task Force
- Medical Examiner – Sample Collection
- Dallas DA – Case Prosecution
- DOJ – Case Prosecution (Suppliers)
- DART & DSO – Investigation Collaboration
- DFR – Communication & Tracking
- Crisis Intervention – Drug abuse education
- Dallas PD – Notification/Roll Call Training

Next Steps

- Research use of Field Testing Device/Kit
- Consider strengthening penalties for possession through legislation
- Monitor progress of collaboration
- Refine our Tracking System
- Continue drug abuse education campaign with Dallas Fire-Rescue (Homeless Shelters)
- Best Practices (handle/control/contain)
- Follow-up

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