



# Greenhills Police Department

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**Neil R. Ferdelman**  
CHIEF OF POLICE



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*Members of the Greenhills Police Department, in partnership with our citizens, will excel in providing dependable and professional service to ensure the safety of our community.*

**Our Values:** Integrity - Honor - Respect - Excellence - Accountability

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Greenhills Police Drug Seminar on June 21 Discusses Heroin and Other Addictive Drugs**

The Greenhills Police Department is sponsoring a seminar on drugs that will be held on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 7pm at the Village Troubadour at 46 Eswin Street in the shopping center. The presentations will be aimed at anyone who wants to learn more about the drug problem and the addictions it causes. It will include specific information about heroin along with other addictive drugs. Speakers will point to warning signs of drug usage that families should recognize.

Greenhills Police Chief Neil Ferdelman said, *"We are often asked what the department is doing about drugs. It is the number one evil in our society today. It drives crime. It destroys families and relationships. It robs us – of loved ones, of our possessions, our safety, and eventually, a life. So, what are we doing about it? This seminar will explain our actions and will include many of our partners who work with us in dealing with this menace, including the Drug Abuse Reduction Task Force, the Hamilton County Heroin Task Force, a local psychologist, and our own investigators,"* Chief Ferdelman said.

The team of presenters will include:

- Steve Stuhldreier, Licensed Professional Clinical and Chemical Dependency Counselor
- Chief Tom Synan, Commander, the Hamilton County Heroin Task Force
- Lieutenant Dave Schaefer, Commander, Drug Abuse Task Force
- Corporal Bryan Johnston, Greenhills Police Narcotics Investigator.

A recent report from the Hamilton County Heroin Task Force showed 177 heroin-related deaths and 98 fentanyl-related deaths in 2014, as compared to 198 heroin-related deaths and 238 fentanyl-related deaths in 2015. This epidemic continues in our community, county, and across the country.

Northeast Hamilton County's Drug Abuse Reduction Task Force (DART) is comprised of the Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren County prosecutors' offices; sixteen police departments in the county, including Greenhills; the Cincinnati Police Department Pharmaceutical Diversion Unit; and works in conjunction with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, and the Ohio Pharmacy Board. The Greenhills Police Department works with DART to address drug trafficking in and around our community. These investigations focus on developing intelligence and information aimed at the arrest and prosecution of drug dealers.



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As the abuse of heroin and fentanyl spirals upward, Greenhills officers have an additional partnership with the Hamilton County Heroin Task Force, which ferrets out evidence against heroin dealers aimed at their arrest, prosecution, and incarceration. The Heroin Task Force seeks to reduce the supply of heroin and opiates in Hamilton County through a unique partnership of law enforcement entities, which includes the Greenhills Police Department. Although traditional law enforcement must be part of an overall solution, heroin and opiate abuse requires strategies that not only reduce supply but also address the demand.

Investigation is the top priority of the Heroin Task Force. Their investigators are deputized by the Hamilton County Sheriff, giving them the authority to investigate overdoses and related crimes anywhere in the county. If an overdose occurs, no matter where the drug is sold or used, the Task Force investigates to identify the dealer, as well as anyone else involved.

The Task Force has established relationships with all local, state and federal law enforcement agencies sharing intelligence and resources in Hamilton County and the region. Those who are found to have sold or supplied heroin and opiates to someone who overdoses face serious charges. The Task Force personnel are highly trained, dedicated and experienced investigators with access to the latest in investigative tools.

Steve Stuhldreier is a Licensed Professional Clinical and Chemical Dependency Counselor in nearby Finneytown. He grew up in Greenhills, and is working with the Greenhills Police Department in setting up customized training for its police officers in dealing with persons with mental health and chemical dependency issues. During the presentation, he will outline the warning signs of addiction, revealing what family members should watch for if they suspect a loved one is developing or hiding an addiction.

Corporal Bryan Johnston, a veteran Greenhills police officer and supervisor, handles narcotics investigations for the department and has a series of successful arrests involving drug trafficking. He will present information on the department's enforcement efforts, and in more complex investigations, coordination with either DART or the Heroin Task Force.

Dinner will be available at the Troubadour any time prior to the presentation at 7pm.

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