



Rescue. Defend. Shelter. Support.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY DRUG ENDANGERED CHILDREN TASK FORCE

Definition

Drug Endangered Children (DEC) are those children who suffer physical or psychological harm or neglect resulting from exposure to illegal drugs or persons under the influence of illegal drugs or exposure to dangerous environments where drugs are being manufactured or chemicals used to make drugs are accessible. These harms may include: injury from explosion, fire or exposure to toxic chemicals found at clandestine lab sites; physical abuse; sexual abuse; medical neglect and; lack of basic care including failure to provide meals, sanitary and safe living conditions or schooling. Drug endangered children are part of a very large population of children whose lives have been seriously and negatively impacted by dangerous drugs.

Introduction

The Drug Endangered Children program is intended to intervene on behalf of these children. This program will build a collaborative, effective team to provide coordinated services and support for these child victims. This team will include first responders, child protective services, law enforcement, medical and mental

health professionals, prosecutors and county attorneys, child advocates, substance abuse treatment providers, and other community leaders, as well as the general public. Upon removal from a dangerous environment, drug endangered children need the immediate attention of child welfare services and assessment by medical and mental health professionals. If parents have endangered children, their actions may necessitate prosecution, termination of parental rights or court supervision of family reunification. DEC teams seek the long-term goal of providing safe, supportive and drug-free environments which permit children to prosper.

Mission

The mission of the Drug Endangered Children Task Force is to identify and protect drug endangered children and to identify, provide, and improve services for them utilizing the criminal justice system, law enforcement, child welfare, and other community agencies with the goal of improving outcomes for these children. The program also seeks to deter methamphetamine use, sales, and production in the presence of children by arresting and prosecuting all who endanger children by exposing them to that lifestyle.

Purpose

In the interest of protecting children who are exposed to the use, sales and production of methamphetamine, the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office seeks to develop a multi-agency cooperative effort to address drug endangered children's issues. These agencies will work in a collaborative effort to facilitate a coordinated response to promote the health and safety of children found in methamphetamine laboratories or places where illicit drugs are kept or sold.

Project Goal

The goal of the DEC Task Force is to organize into a multi discipline group to investigate and provide services for families and children who are endangered by the life style of use, sales and manufacturing of controlled substances in an attempt to provide these children an opportunity to break the cycle of drug abuse and the generational effect of drug abuse.

Composition of DEC task force

DEC member agencies will include the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, Winnemucca Police Department, Nevada Division of Investigation, Nevada Parole and Probation, Nevada Division of Child and Family Services, Nevada Department of Mental Health, Humboldt County School District, Humboldt General Hospital, Humboldt Juvenile Department, and the Humboldt County District Attorney's Office.

Responsibilities of DEC member agencies

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office will be responsible for investigative, coordination, and management of the Drug Endangered Children's Program. The Sheriff's Office will be the primary investigation agency for DEC cases. The Sheriff through his representative will coordinate DEC investigations with all involved disciplines and agencies. The Sheriff will work cooperatively while conducting DEC investigations within the County of Humboldt. DEC member agencies will work closely together to improve the relationship and cooperation between organizations and to train local law enforcement agencies in the successful DEC case investigations and response. Statistical information is kept by the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office in order to establish a database for tracking these children, the services provided and case outcomes. When appropriate, the Sheriff's Office will coordinate training between all involved agencies. It will be the responsibility of each department to conduct internal training of their representatives.

The Humboldt District Attorney's Office will review, file and prosecute each of the DEC cases in the Humboldt County area that demonstrate sufficient evidence for prosecution. The District Attorney's Office will coordinate sentencing recommendations with the Sheriff's Office and DCFS DEC representatives. The District Attorney's Office along with the Sheriff's Office will convene periodic meetings of the involved DEC agencies and will assist in the preparation of a countywide prosecution protocol for DEC cases.

The Winnemucca Police Department will provide information and refer DEC involved cases to the Sheriff's Office, who will work in conjunction and cooperatively with WPD Detectives involving DEC investigations.

The Nevada Division of Investigation Trident Task Force will work jointly with the Sheriff's DEC representative. The Task Force and the Sheriff's Office will work cooperatively, share information, and work in conjunction investigating DEC. The Task Force will notify the Sheriff's Office DEC representative once DEC issues are discovered and work together during and after the investigation is complete. Mental health agrees to provide or arrange drug/alcohol counseling, parenting classes, family counseling or any other counseling services available to the child and the family.

The Humboldt County Juvenile Department will work in conjunction with DCFS and the Sheriff's Office to coordinate treatment, care, long and short term placement of the child, and assist with any family reunification efforts.

The Nevada Department of Child and Family Services will provide a Social Worker, who is trained in DEC, to be the point of contact and may be subject to

call out. DCFS will provide information concerning DEC and will coordinate investigations into DEC cases. DCFS will detain children who are taken under the DEC program upon law enforcement request and, upon detention, obtain a medical examination along with a blood or urine sample within twelve hours of detention. DCFS will place that child in an appropriate environment where a background check has been conducted and the placement family is deemed to be responsible and appropriate.



Humboldt County Drug Endangered Children Program Cooperative Agreement

A Drug Endangered Child (DEC) is a child who has been exposed to an environment with conditions of contamination or hazardous lifestyle that results in abuse, life or health endangerment, or neglect perpetrated on the child as a result of illicit drug use, sales, or manufacturing. A criminal violation threshold is met when elements of the contamination or hazardous lifestyle meet the criteria of Nevada Revised Statutes.

The mission of the Drug Endangered Children protocol is to identify and protect drug endangered children and to identify, provide, and improve services for them utilizing the criminal justice system, law enforcement, child welfare, and other community agencies with the goal of improving outcomes for these children. The program also seeks to deter methamphetamine use, sales, and production in the presence of children by arresting and prosecuting all who endanger children by exposing them to that lifestyle.

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DEC member agencies will work closely together to improve the relationship and cooperation between organizations and to train agencies in the successful DEC case investigations and response. Statistical information will be kept by the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office in order to establish a database for tracking these children, the services provided and case outcomes.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between: Humboldt County Juvenile Department, Humboldt County Sheriff Office(HCSO), Humboldt County District Attorney's Office, Winnemucca Police Department(WPD), Nevada Division of Investigation(NDI), and the Nevada Division of Child and Family Services(DCFS).

Purpose: To create a cooperative effort between the above agencies to facilitate a coordinated response to families involved in controlled substance manufacturing, sales, possession, and use when children are expected to be present.

Condition and Procedures are as follows:

1. Social workers and a supervisor at DCFS will be identified and assigned as participants in the DCFS/SO cooperative effort.
2. DCFS will provide a Social Worker, who is trained in DEC, to be the point of contact and may be subject to call out.
3. DCFS will provide information concerning DEC and will coordinate investigations into DEC cases.
4. DCFS will detain children who are taken under the DEC program upon law enforcement request. DCFS, upon detention, obtain a medical examination along with a blood or urine sample within twelve hours of detention.
5. DCFS upon detention of a child will place that child in an appropriate environment where a background check has been conducted and the placement family is deemed to be responsible and appropriate.
6. The District Attorney's Office will prosecute all DEC cases that demonstrate sufficient evidence for prosecution.
7. The District Attorney's Office will coordinate sentencing recommendations with the Sheriff's Office and DCFS DEC representatives whenever possible.
8. The Nevada Division of Investigation Trident Task Force will work jointly with the Sheriff's DEC representative.

9. The Task Force and the Sheriff's Office will work cooperatively, share information, and work in conjunction with each another investigating DEC cases.
10. The Task Force will notify the Sheriff's Office DEC representative once DEC issues are discovered and work together during and after the investigation is completed.
11. The Winnemucca Police Department will provide information and work jointly with the Sheriff's Office with DEC involved cases; the Sheriff's Office will work in conjunction and cooperatively with WPD Detectives involving DEC investigations.
12. The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office will be responsible for investigation, coordination, and management of the Drug Endangered Children's Program. The Sheriff's Office will be the primary investigative agency for DEC cases. The Sheriff, through his representative, will coordinate DEC investigations with all involved disciplines and agencies. The Sheriff will work cooperatively with those agencies while conducting DEC investigations within Humboldt County. The Sheriff will also work with Drug Court, Mental Health, DCFS and Nevada Parole and Probation during any rehabilitation services that may be provided.
13. The Humboldt County Juvenile Department will work in conjunction with DCFS and the Sheriff's Office to coordinate treatment, care, long and short term placement of the child, and assist with any family reunification efforts.

We, the undersigned, as authorized representatives of Humboldt County Juvenile Department, Humboldt County Sheriff Office, Humboldt County District Attorney's Office, Winnemucca Police Department, Nevada Division of Investigation, and the Nevada Division of Child and Family Services, do hereby approve of this document for a period of one year from this date, _____, 2008.

STANDARD OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

Investigation

The Sheriff's Office will be the primary investigative agency for DEC cases. DEC cases will be coordinated with Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) and work in conjunction with Winnemucca Police Department (WPD) and Nevada Division of Investigation (NDI).

REPORTING / CROSS-REFERRAL

The Sheriff's Office and DCFS will be notified and coordinated with on all cases involving DEC issues or the case referred to the Sheriff's Office and DCFS once DEC issues are discovered. Notification can be made either verbally or by memorandum summarizing the case details to the Sheriff's DEC representative or the DCFS representative. All involved agencies will use their department's standard forms, making note of other agency case and reference numbers. All prepared reports will be forwarded to involved agencies.

CASE ACCEPTANCE / JOINT INVESTIGATIONS

In the case where allied agencies or jurisdictions are conducting an investigation and DEC issues are discovered, the Sheriff's Office will conduct a DEC investigation that runs separately and concurrently with the other investigation. The DEC investigation will be coordinated with the other case and consideration will be given to each investigation.

CASE TRACKING AND MANAGEMENT

All DEC cases, investigations, follow up and program management will be conducted by the Sheriff's Office. A CAD file will be used for the program management and case tracking the Sheriff's DEC representative will be responsible for the management of DEC files.

RECORD CHECK / INFORMATION EXCHANGE

The Sheriff's Office will maintain all DEC information and records. All DEC information will be provided to the Sheriff's Office for maintenance and review. The Sheriff's Office will forward all appropriate information to the involved agencies and jurisdictions. The exchange of information is critical in all investigations. All information will be exchanged with involved agencies and jurisdictions. Release of information will be done on a need to know basis with personnel and agencies that are not involved with the ongoing investigation.

INTERVIEWS AND INTEROGATIONS

In all DEC cases interviews with children will be kept to the minimum time and frequency needed in an attempt to ease any unnecessary trauma. Interviews will be conducted at the discretion of the DEC investigator and can be assigned to assisting personnel. Interviews will also be coordinated with the DCFS social worker.

EVIDENCE COLLECTION AND SECURITY

Photographs will be taken of the scene before any search is conducted. Photographs will be taken of all adults and children at the scene. Measurements of the children will be taken and will consist of height and reach. A scene assessment will be conducted before any search is conducted. Photographs will be taken of any endangerment issues found upon initial scene survey. Upon search, any evidence located will be left in place and marked. The lead investigator will be shown all evidence before it is photographed, recorded, and collected. It will be the DEC

investigators discretion to allow evidence to be turned over to the Sheriff's Office, Winnemucca Police Department, Nevada Division of Investigation or other involved agencies.

RECORDING / DOCUMENTATION

All recording and documentation for DEC investigations will be maintained at the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's DEC representative will be responsible for DEC file management. All documentation will be recorded using specially prepared DEC forms and standard Sheriff's Office reporting forms. Photographs of all DEC investigations will be maintained by the DEC representative along with all other DEC files.

CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES

Once a DEC investigation has been initiated the DEC investigator will evaluate the scene, evidence, statements and any other information to determine if any child endangerment issues are present. Child endangerment will not be overlooked for any reason. The purpose of the program is to rescue the child from a dangerous living environment. Child endangerment charges and DCFS detention will not be ignored or deferred for the purpose of using the parent or guardian as an informant.

DCFS will be included with each DEC investigation. Any search warrant service associated with DEC or that has a possibility of DEC, DCFS should be included in any pre-raid briefing. Further DCFS should be allowed into the search warrant site once the scene is secure.

Upon detention of any child in a DEC case, DCFS will conduct a medical examination of the child within twelve hours of the detention. Any placement for the child will be with a licensed foster care facility. If a voluntary placement situation is available DCFS will conduct a background check to ensure the child is not placed into a similar or more dangerous situation that they have just been removed from. The safety of the child is the most important issue.

In cases where manufacturing is present, only personnel who are in compliance with OSHA hazardous materials training will be allowed in the site. Once the hazardous materials have been removed from the scene, the lead investigator will identify potential hazards to the DCFS social worker or any other personnel need at the site, and provided them with any personal safety equipment needed to provide protection from any hazards that may be present on scene.

DISPOSITION OF CASES

Disposition of cases and the tracking of those cases will be maintained by the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office and DCFS will coordinate with the District Attorney's Office throughout the criminal prosecution of the case. The Sheriff's Office and DCFS will confer with the District Attorney and with Nevada Division of Parole and Probation during sentencing and sentencing recommendations.

PERSONNEL SAFETY / HAZMAT

Personnel safety is to be observed at all times. Personal protective equipment will be used as situation dictates necessary. All OSHA regulations pertaining to personal protection and hazardous materials will be observed. In situations where a clandestine laboratory is discovered only those who are certified to process clandestine laboratories will be allowed on scene. The lead investigator will be responsible for the safety of all personnel on scene and will ensure that all safety measures are observed.

STANDARDS / REQUIRED TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

The Sheriff's Office DEC representative will be trained in investigating drug endangered children, basic narcotic investigation and clandestine laboratory investigation and processing. The DCFS social worker will be specially trained in investigating drug endangered children and the special needs of those children to provide adequate services.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any dispute that arises between agencies, supervisors from the involved agencies will be contacted to attempt to resolve the dispute. If due to situational circumstances this is not possible, the agency that would normally have jurisdiction will be responsible for the scene. If an agreement can not be reached the District Attorney may act as a arbitrator over the dispute.

DRUG ENDANGERED CHILDREN PROGRAM INCIDENT CHECK LIST

Case number _____

Arrestee _____

Arrestee _____

Issues present

- _____ Residence cluttered
- _____ Dirty clothing scattered
- _____ Garbage overflowing
- _____ Garbage scattered out of receptacle
- _____ Dirty dishes scattered on counter
- _____ Dirty dishes scattered throughout residence
- _____ Food left out
- _____ Food spoiling or molding
- _____ Lack of food in home
- _____ Pornography available to child
- _____ Paraphernalia in home
- _____ Controlled substances in home
- _____ Residue paraphernalia in home
- _____ Outdated or unprescribed prescription meds in home
- _____ Outdated or unprescribed prescription meds available to child
- _____ Paraphernalia available to child
- _____ Controlled substances available to child
- _____ Residue paraphernalia available to child
- _____ Animal feces present in home
- _____ Human feces present in home
- _____ Dirty diapers lying out of trash
- _____ Child dirty
- _____ Childs bedding dirty or soiled
- _____ Child physically abused
- _____ Child with medical condition not treated
- _____ Child with controlled substances in system
- _____ Parent under the influence
- _____ Visitors in home under the influence
- _____ Clandestine manufacturing conducted
- _____ Chemicals for manufacturing in home
- _____ Waste from manufacturing in home
- _____ Storage of manufacturing apparatus in home
- _____ Home contaminated from manufacturing
- _____ Building code violations/hazards
- _____ Heat/cooling working
- _____ Utilities, electricity, gas, telephone working

Humboldt County Sheriff Office

Drug Endangered Children

Fact Sheet

Date: _____ Location: _____ Case # _____

Operation: _____ Cross Ref. # _____

DCFS Responded Yes / No Social Worker: _____

Adults/Defendants	Relationship to Child	Arrested
1. _____	_____	Yes / No
2. _____	_____	Yes / No
3. _____	_____	Yes / No
4. _____	_____	Yes / No
5. _____	_____	Yes / No
6. _____	_____	Yes / No

Child #	Sex	Age	Detained	Medical Eval	Tox Test	Result	Placement
1.	_____	_____	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Neg / Pos	Foster / Relative
2.	_____	_____	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Neg / Pos	Foster / Relative
3.	_____	_____	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Neg / Pos	Foster / Relative
4.	_____	_____	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Neg / Pos	Foster / Relative
5.	_____	_____	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Neg / Pos	Foster / Relative
6.	_____	_____	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Neg / Pos	Foster / Relative

Type of Seizure

Meth Lab: Yes / No

Chemicals: _____

Drugs: _____

Weapons: _____

Paraphernalia: _____

**Humboldt County Sheriff Office
Drug Endangered Children
Fact Sheet**

Type of Abuse: Physical Psychological Sexual Emotional Neglect

Other: _____

Medical
Care: _____

DCFS
Synopsis: _____

Referrals / Follow up
Appointments: _____



**HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
DEC PROGRAM**

TOTAL NUMBER CHILDREN:

CHILD NUMBER NAME: _____ DOB: _____ PARENT/ GUARDIAN: _____ RESIDENCE/ ADDRESS: _____ _____	CHILD NUMBER NAME: _____ DOB: _____ PARENT/ GUARDIAN: _____ RESIDENCE/ ADDRESS: _____ _____
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PHYSICAL FEATURES

HEIGHT: _____ WEIGHT: _____ CLOTHING: _____ HYGIENE: _____ WHERE FOUND: _____ DEMEANOR: _____ PHOTO TAKEN YES / NO TOX. SCREEN YES / NO WHEN: _____ WHEN: _____	HEIGHT: _____ WEIGHT: _____ CLOTHING: _____ HYGIENE: _____ WHERE FOUND: _____ DEMEANOR: _____ PHOTO TAKEN YES / NO TOX. SCREEN YES / NO WHEN: _____ WHEN: _____
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CHILD STATEMENTS

CHILD NUMBER:

STATEMENT:

CHILD NUMBER:

STATEMENT:

DIETARY HABITS

ATE WHEN:

WHAT:

WHO FEEDS:

DIETARY HABITS

ATE WHEN:

WHAT:

WHO FEEDS:

HYGIENE HABITS

BATHE LAST:

BRUSH TEETH:

HYGIENE HABITS

BATHE LAST:

BRUSH TEETH:

SLEEP HABITS

WHEN:

HOW OFTEN:

SLEEP HABITS

WHEN:

HOW OFTEN:

AT TIME OF ARREST

CONDITION OF HOME:

WEAPONS: YES / NO TYPE:

LOADED: YES / NO LOCATION:

DANGEROUS CONDITIONS

LOCATION OF NARCOTICS / CHEMICALS:

ROOM LOCKED: YES / NO CONTAINERS OPEN: YES / NO

CONTAINERS WITHIN REACH OF CHILD: YES / NO

WICH CHILD:

HOW:

WERE SAFETY ATTEMPTS MADE ON:

NARCOTICS: YES / NO WHAT:

CHEMICALS: YES / NO WHAT:

WEAPONS: YES / NO WHAT:

EVIDENCE GATHERING

SOIL SAMPLE TAKEN: YES / NO FROM WHERE:

CARPET SAMPLE TAKEN: YES / NO FROM WHERE:

CONTAMINATED SAMPLE:

WHAT:

FROM WHERE:

CONDITION:

NUMBER OF PRIOR CALLS TO HOUSE: WHEN:

WHY:

DCFS ON SCENE: YES / NO WHO:



HCSO

Humboldt County Sheriff Operation Plan

Date _____ **Time** _____

Operation _____

Personnel _____

Name	Call Number	Cell Number	Assignment

Signals _____

Hostage: Reverse Names

Location

Vehicles

Mission

Rally Point

Primary:

Secondary:

Equipment

Duty Weapon

Hand Cuffs

Radio

Flash Light

Identifying Clothing

IF SHOTS ARE FIRED-ANNOUNCE LOUDLY WHAT WAS SHOT (IE: ACCIDENTAL, DOG, SUSPECT)

SHOTS FIRED PRIOR TO ENTRY

REACT TO THREAT
ESTABLISH PERIMETER OR MOVE TO RALLY POINT
ACCOUNT FOR PERSONNEL
ESTABLISH COMMAND POST WITH RESPONDING UNITS

SHOTS FIRED AFTER ENTRY OR BARRICADED SUSPECT

REACT TO THREAT
HOLD EXISTING POSITIONS OR MOVE TO RALLY POINT
IF NECESSARY, WITHDRAW AND ESTABLISH EXTERIOR PERIMETER
ACCOUNT FOR PERSONNEL
ESTABLISH COMMAND POST WITH RESPONDING UNITS

DEPUTY DOWN-INTERIOR OR EXTERIOR

REACT TO THREAT
EVACUATE INJURED PERSONNEL
HOLD EXISTING POSITIONS OR MOVE TO RALLY POINT
IF NECESSARY, WITHDRAW AND ESTABLISH EXTERIOR PERIMETER
ACCOUNT FOR PERSONNEL
ESTABLISH COMMAND POST WITH RESPONDING UNITS

TACTICAL ENTRY

REACT TO TREAT
WORK IN PAIRS
ANNOUNCE CLEARED ROOMS
DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THROUGH REAR DOORS UNLESS PLANNED

HOSTAGE SITUATION

REACT TO THREAT
CONTAIN/SECURE IMMEDIATE AREA
COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS

HOSTAGE RESCUE

HOSTAGE WILL GIVE "HOSTAGE SIGNAL"
RESCUE TEAM LEADER WILL GIVE SAME SIGNAL BACK TO HOSTAGE
ADVISING THAT TEAM IS READY.
WHEN HOSTAGE IS READY, HOSTAGE WILL DROP TO GROUND
ALLOWING A CLEAR TARGET OF THE SUBJECT.



Humboldt County Drug Endangered Children Program Cooperative Agreement

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

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Humboldt County Sheriff

Humboldt Juvenile Department

Humboldt County District Attorney

Winnemucca Police Department

Nevada Division of Investigations

Nevada Division of Child and Family Services