



Steve Pangelinan  
Chief of Police

## PRESS RELEASE

### **MILPITAS POLICE DEPARTMENT TAKING BACK UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS SATURDAY OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup> 2013– 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.**

On October 26, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Milpitas Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public its seventh opportunity in three years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your medications for disposal to the Milpitas Police Department at 1275 N. Milpitas Bl. in Milpitas. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last April, Milpitas residents turned in 80 pounds of prescription drugs. Americans turned in 371 tons (over 742,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at over 5,800 sites operated by the DEA and its thousands of state and local law enforcement partners. In its six previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners took in over 2.8 million pounds—more than 1,400 tons—of pills.

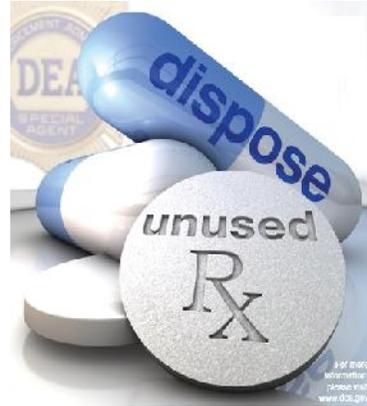
This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

Four days after the first event, Congress passed the Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010, which amends the Controlled Substances Act to allow an “ultimate user” of controlled substance medications to dispose of them by delivering them to entities authorized by the Attorney General to accept them. The Act also allows the Attorney General to authorize long term care facilities to dispose of their residents’ controlled substances in certain instances. DEA is drafting regulations to implement the Act. Until new regulations are in place, local law enforcement agencies like the Milpitas Police Department and the DEA will continue to hold prescription drug take-back events every few months.

Press Release By: Sergeant John Torrez #209

Date/Time: October 15, 2013 12:10 A.M.

# MILPITAS POLICE DEPARTMENT



## MILPITAS POLICE DEPARTMENT TAKING BACK UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

**Saturday October 26<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.**  
**Milpitas Police Department - Front Lobby**  
**1275 N. Milpitas Blvd., Milpitas, CA 95035**

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- Turn in your unused or expired prescription and/or over the counter medication for safe disposal
- The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked
- **NO SHARPS OR SYRINGES CAN BE ACCEPTED AT THE DROP OFF LOCATION**

*If you need further information please contact:*  
**Sergeant John Torrez**  
**(408)586-2400**  
**[jtorrez@ci.milpitas.ca.gov](mailto:jtorrez@ci.milpitas.ca.gov)**