



# Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office

Maury Straub, Sheriff

1201 S. Spring Street • P.O. Box 245 • Port Washington, Wisconsin 53074-0245

4/11/11

United States House of Representatives  
Subcommittee on Manufacturing, Commerce and Trade  
Washington DC, 20515

Greetings,

I was asked to provide comments on Ozaukee County's Law Enforcement initiative of taking back unused prescription medications at each law enforcement agency facility in Ozaukee County. In February of 2011 Ozaukee County Law Enforcement agencies adopted a county wide program utilizing a collection enclosure provided by MedReturn, a local manufacturing firm, which allows citizens to deposit unused medications at their local law enforcement agency.

As the commander of the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Department's Anti Drug Task Force I have found that the abuse of prescription medications has become one of the top two drug abuse problems in Ozaukee County. Prescription drug abuse is often a precursor to heroin abuse. The deadly combination of prescription medication and heroin overdoses are destroying the lives and families of too many Ozaukee County residents.

The program effectively allows families an environmental friendly option in disposing of unused medications in a timely fashion. It assures that family members, friends or other guest who may be an addict don't have an opportunity to get their hands on unused prescription medications.

From my perspective if the take back program can prevent even one tragic overdose death then it will have been worth it.

If I can be of any further assistance please feel free to contact me and thank you for the opportunity to share my comments.

Lt. Rodney Galbraith  
Ozaukee County Sheriff's Department  
Detective Bureau/Drug Unit  
262-284-8468  
262-238-8468



POLICE INVESTIGATIONS



## CITY OF MEDFORD

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MEDFORD, OR 97501

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City Web Page: [www.ci.medford.or.us](http://www.ci.medford.or.us)

PoliceE-Mail: [padmed@ci.medford.or.us](mailto:padmed@ci.medford.or.us)

April 8, 2011

**Re: Drug Collection Units/Turn-In Events**

### To Whom It May Concern:

In the spring of 2010, the Medford Oregon Police Department was approached by the Jackson County Medical Alliance (Non-Profit/Philanthropic Organization) about partnering for a prescription drug turn-in event to be held at the Rogue Valley Mall. The idea behind the program was to get unused and expired prescription drugs out of the medicine cabinet and destroyed without having them litter our landfills and/or waterways/systems. This event was a huge success with almost 500 pounds collected.

In late September, we partnered with the DEA on the national turn-back day and again collected several hundred pounds.

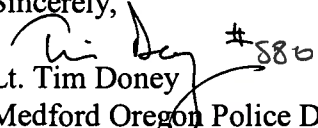
At that time, the Medford Police Department decided to research the purchase and installation of a dedicated and fixed prescription drug turn-in box/receptacle to be located in our lobby. In October 2010, department representatives attended the IACP conference in Orlando Florida and entered a drawing in which the department won a MedReturn Drug Collection Unit that has since been installed in our department lobby. This was advertised locally by the media and literally within the first 10-15 minutes after being installed, we had citizens dropping outdated/unused prescription medication in the box. It has seen a steady stream of discarded medications since that date which has necessitated that it be emptied no less than 4 days a week.

In November 2010, we participated in yet another community collection drive for unused/expired prescription medications and currently are in preparation for the upcoming April 30<sup>th</sup> National Turn-In event sponsored by the DEA.

This program is extremely popular with the community and media. In addition, we have been contacted by both local landfill and the wastewater treatment operators who have expressed their appreciation and support for this important program. We believe it lessens the chances of theft and abuse of prescription medications in addition to helping our environment by keeping the medications out of our landfills and waterways via the wastewater treatment system.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at 541-774-2205.

Sincerely,

 #580  
Lt. Tim Doney

Medford Oregon Police Department

[Tim.Doney@cityofmedford.org](mailto:Tim.Doney@cityofmedford.org)



JOHN H. LUCKING, JR.  
CHIEF OF POLICE

## SOLDOTNA POLICE DEPARTMENT

44510 Sterling Highway  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669



TEL: (907) 262-4455  
FAX: (907) 262-4421

April 10, 2011

Mr. Mike Mayer, President/COO  
MedReturn, LLC  
PO Box 902  
Grafton, WI 53024

Dear Mr. Mayer,

In response to your query, I am writing to tell you that we are very pleased with the community response to our Drug Return Program. Since installing our Medreturn box in late January, we have taken in approximately 900 tablets of controlled substance prescription medication. We are pleased to know that these drugs will now be disposed of properly and we won't have to fear them causing contamination of local groundwater or our adjacent, world renowned Kenai River King Salmon habitat.

We recognized the need for a full time disposal site when we participated in the National Drug Return day last September and were inundated by citizens seeking to rid themselves of old medications. Your Medreturn box has provided the perfect depository for accepting the drugs from the public. Because it allows people to drop off drugs anonymously, they are not deterred by fear or embarrassment. We believe the program will reduce the numbers of children who accidentally ingest drugs, as well as reduce the number of pills which are illegally sold or otherwise abused in our city.

For more information of our program I would direct you to our website where you will find 2 references: [http://www.ci.soldotna.ak.us/press\\_release\\_s.html](http://www.ci.soldotna.ak.us/press_release_s.html) and [http://www.ci.soldotna.ak.us/drug\\_drop.html](http://www.ci.soldotna.ak.us/drug_drop.html).

Respectfully,

**John H. Lucking, Jr.**  
**Soldotna Police Department**

**Chief of Police**  
44510 Sterling Hwy • Soldotna, AK 99669  
(907) 262-4455 Fax: 1-866-596-2995



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