

 <b>Newington Police Department</b> <b>General Order</b>	 <b>Number</b> <b>41.14</b>
<b>Heroin Opioid Prevention &amp; Education (H.O.P.E.) Program</b>	
Chapter 41 – Patrol Operations	
<b>Date: January 3, 2019</b>	<b>Revised:</b>
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**1. Purpose**

- A. To establish procedures for the intake of persons who request help with their addictions. The program is primarily designed for Opioid related drugs, but in extenuating circumstances other types of addictions can be processed through the program. This program is strictly voluntary, at no time will a person be coerced or forced to accept treatment.

**2. Policy**

- A. Any person who enters the police station and requests help with their addiction to opiates will be directed into the volunteer H.O.P.E. program. If a person, who has requested help with their addiction is in possession of small amounts of opiates or drug paraphernalia (needles, pipes, etc.), they will not be charged with the according criminal offense. Any officers having contact with such requesting individual will be professional, compassionate and understanding at all times. The officer will notify the Shift Commander that a potential H.O.P.E. intake is requesting help with their addiction.
- B. Newington Police Officers who contact persons in the field, who are in possession of small amounts of opiates and/or drug related paraphernalia, may use the H.O.P.E. program in lieu of or in conjunction with an arrest, e.g., shoplifting at a business requires an arrest for the larceny, and the suspect can also be referred as a H.O.P.E candidate. Officers shall consult with their supervisor prior to electing avoidance of a criminal arrest. If an arrest is not made, any drugs and/or drug paraphernalia shall be seized and submitted to property/evidence storage for destruction. A JD-CR-18 Seized without a Warrant Form will be completed and designated “PD Use Only”

**3. Procedures**

**A. Walk-in Contacts**

1. When a person arrives at police headquarters requesting to participate in the H.O.P.E. program, the Dispatcher will create a call for service and assign an officer.
2. If any drugs or drug paraphernalia are relinquished by the requesting party at the time of intake, it shall be documented in accordance with police department procedures. If necessary and if the person is experiencing a drug related overdose, the officer shall summon EMS personnel and administer the appropriate care as trained.

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**B. Street Contacts**

1. If the initial contact is made on the street during the course of an officer's duties, officers will use their discretion to determine if the individual is an appropriate candidate for the H.O.P.E. Program. Consideration for eligibility in the program will not preclude an officer from making a lawful arrest of the person if deemed appropriate.
2. If any drugs or drug paraphernalia are discovered and seized at the time of contact with the program candidate, officers will seize the contraband and adhere to the established procedures outlined above.

**C. Officer Responsibilities**

1. A case report shall be generated and if required, include language specific to a request for the destruction of any seized drugs and/or drug paraphernalia.
2. The person shall be checked for any warrants and if required, outstanding warrants shall be served.
3. The officer shall contact either the Hospital of Central CT or Midstate Medical Center and inform them that a H.O.P.E. Program participant is requesting help and will need to be evaluated.
4. The program participant shall be searched prior to transport to a medical facility. The transporting officer shall follow applicable transportation guidelines set forth in General Order 71.1. Using the MVR, officers shall audio and video record the transport following procedures set forth in General Order 41.10.
5. If during the intake process information regarding possible abuse or neglect of a child is discovered, a referral will be made to DCF.
6. Prior to a final determination being made as to the individual's eligibility for the H.O.P.E. Program, the officer will consult with the Shift Commander. The Shift Commander shall be made aware of any issues or concerns.

**D. Responsibilities of Evidence and Property Officer**

1. The contents of the H.O.P.E. Program seizure of drugs and/or drug paraphernalia shall be disposed of in accordance with established police department procedures.

**E. Exceptions for Eligibility to the Program**

1. The subject is under 18 years of age and does not have the consent of a parent or guardian.

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2. The subject has an outstanding arrest warrant.
3. The subject is involved in serious felony offenses.

By Order of: \_\_\_\_\_

Stephen M. Clark  
Chief of Police

\_\_\_\_\_

Date