



City of Red Bluff

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Kyle Sanders
Chief of Police

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To: All Local Media

Re: Media Release

Date: November 29, 2018

Spike in Apparent Drug Overdoses Alarms Red Bluff Police

Red Bluff Police Officers recently received training on the administration of Naloxone (also referred to as Narcan), a medication administered through the nasal passage, which can save lives when given to an individual who has overdosed on opiate-based drugs. In the last two weeks, this training and life-saving medication has been put to the test several times.

Since November 14, 2018, Red Bluff Police Officers have responded to four separate incidents involving individuals who were unconscious and believed to have overdosed on opiate-related narcotics. Naloxone was utilized on three of the four individuals and two of the three who received the medication survived. Two individuals in these incidents died as a result of their suspected drug overdoses.

“Four overdoses in a two-week period is an alarming rate,” said Chief Sanders. He added, “Our officers have done an outstanding job getting to these scenes quickly and putting their training into practice. It has resulted in two lives saved already.”

The Red Bluff Police Department wants to remind our community that opiate drug abuse is extremely dangerous and can result in death. We have received reports that in some cases heroin is being infiltrated with Fentanyl, an extremely powerful synthetic opioid medication that is said to be 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine. We also know that some opiate addicts will chew on Fentanyl patches to receive their high.

When asked about the Police Department acquiring Naloxone for officers to administer, Chief Sanders stated, “Originally we wanted to have this medication on hand as a life-saving measure in the event an officer or other employee was accidentally exposed while handling certain opiate related drugs. Thankfully we haven’t had that need, but we have been able to save others.”

If you know someone who suffers from opioid addiction, please encourage them to contact Tehama County Substance Use Recovery Services at 527-7893.

The Red Bluff Police Department would like to acknowledge and thank Tehama County Public Health for providing the Naloxone doses at no cost to the Police Department.

The City of Red Bluff is an Equal Opportunity Provider

We, the members of the Red Bluff Police Department, are committed to being responsive to our community in the delivery of quality services. Recognizing our responsibility to maintain order, while affording dignity and respect to every individual, our objective is to improve the quality of life through a community partnership which promotes safe, secure neighborhoods throughout the city.