



BURBANK POLICE DEPARTMENT

200 North Third Street, Burbank, CA 91502

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

MICHAEL ALBANESE
CHIEF OF POLICE

FENTANYL AWARENESS

October 27, 2022

The Burbank Police Department is committed to educating our community on the dangers of fentanyl.

Fentanyl is a highly lethal synthetic opioid, that is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine. The drug is intended and approved for prescription use in the U.S. to treat severe pain, especially after surgery or for advanced stages of cancer. Law enforcement, paramedics, and medical professionals across the country have seen an uptick in fentanyl-related overdoses and death because of misuse, abuse, and illegally possessed forms of the drug. Just two milligrams, or the amount that could fit on the tip of a pencil, can be deadly.

Fentanyl has been seen in a variety of bright colors, shapes, and sizes, as well as made to look like prescription pills such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, and alprazolam. These fake pills are pressed with markings that replicate real prescription opioid medication. They have also been found in packaging made to look like candy wrappers; however, this is typically done for the purpose of concealing the drug and a tactic used to prevent detection by law enforcement and United States Customs officials.

In July of this year, Burbank police officers stopped two men in the early morning hours as they drove through town. A search of their vehicle resulted in [the recovery of over 100,000 fake oxycodone pills](#), which later tested positive for fentanyl. This arrest, just three months ago, brings the realization that fentanyl exists in our community, and we need to be aware of the dangers.

The Burbank Police Department is partnering with the Burbank Unified School District to educate staff and students on the dangers of fentanyl and the use of naloxone, a prescription medication meant to rapidly reverse an opioid overdose. [Click here for more information on naloxone, provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.](#)

Please remember the only safe medications are ones that come from licensed and accredited medical professionals. The Burbank Police Department reminds the community that pills purchased outside of a licensed pharmacy are illegal, dangerous, and potentially deadly.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS STATEMENT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:
SERGEANT BRENT FEKETY | 818-238-3240 | BFEKETY@BURBANKCA.GOV

24-HOUR: 818-238-3000

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE: 818-238-3240

DETECTIVE BUREAU: 818-238-3210

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