

WASHINGTON//BALTIMORE



HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA



2023

ANNUAL REPORT

WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE
HIGH INTENSITY DRUG
TRAFFICKING AREA PROGRAM

WASHINGTON / BALTIMORE

HIDTA

HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA

Serving the District
of Columbia, Maryland,
Virginia, and
West Virginia



TABLE OF CONTENTS

What is HIDTA?	4
About the Washington/Baltimore Region	5
Washington/Baltimore HIDTA Leadership.....	6
Executive Board Leadership	7
Executive Board Members	8
Employee Spotlight: Tom Carr	9
Team Recognition: Investigative Support Center	11
Law Enforcement	12
Community Impact Investigation: Richmond Metropolitan Drug Initiative	14
Case Explorer	16
Crime Gun Intelligence Center	17
Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP)	18
W/B HIDTA Training	19
Treatment Services	20
Prevention	21
Treatment & Prevention Spotlight	22
Washington/Baltimore HIDTA Executive Staff	24
Our Financial Partners	25

WHAT IS HIDTA?

The U.S. Congress created the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program in the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988. Its mission is to disrupt the market for illegal drugs in the United States by assisting federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement entities participating in the HIDTA Program to dismantle and disrupt drug trafficking organizations, with particular emphasis on drug trafficking regions that have harmful effects on other parts of the United States.

In 1994, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) designated 13 jurisdictions in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Northern Virginia as a HIDTA region. Since then, the Washington/Baltimore (W/B) HIDTA's boundaries have expanded to include 29 counties and 12 cities in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Each of the 33 HIDTA Programs across the country shares two goals as part of the National HIDTA Program:



- 1. Disrupt the market for illegal drugs by dismantling or disrupting drug trafficking and/or money laundering organizations**
- 2. Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of HIDTA initiatives**



VISION

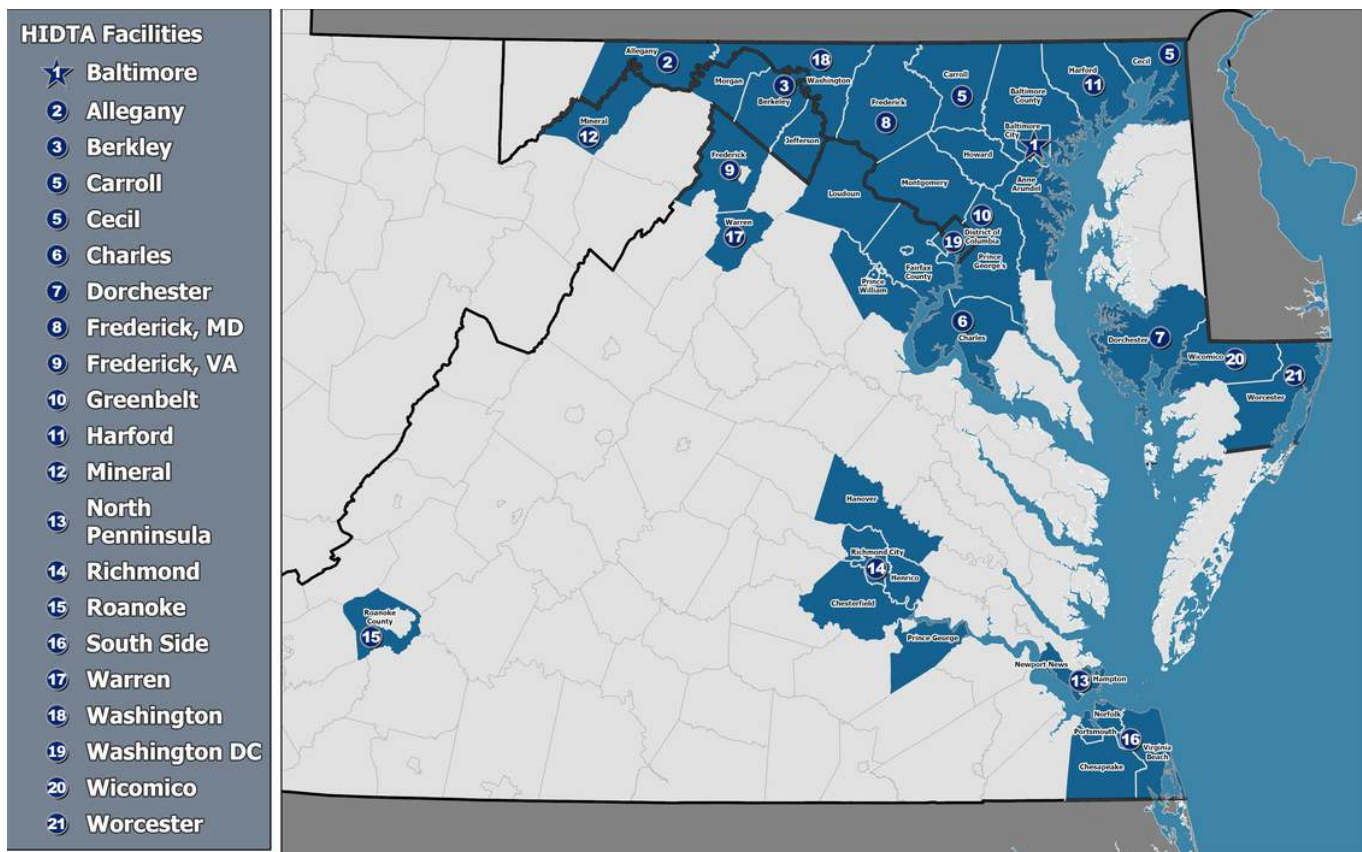
Within the next five years, our efforts to dismantle and disrupt drug trafficking and money laundering organizations, provide treatment resources, and develop drug prevention programs will save lives and strengthen communities and families in the W/B HIDTA region.

MISSION

To reduce drug trafficking and misuse by improving interagency collaboration, promoting accurate and timely information and intelligence sharing, and providing specialized training and other resources to law enforcement, intelligence, prevention, and treatment initiatives.

To accomplish its mission, the W/B HIDTA will strategically apply its resources to initiatives designed to save lives, prevent the initiation and continuation of drug misuse, and apprehend drug traffickers and money launderers.

WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE HIDTA FACILITIES



The W/B HIDTA region is now widely dispersed across the region. It encompasses 12,099 square miles and serves as home to approximately 12 million people—including 100% of the population in the District of Columbia, 93% in Maryland, 62% in Virginia, and 12% in West Virginia.

Unlike many other HIDTA regions, the W/B HIDTA area has never served as a major gateway for illegal drugs into the United States. Instead, it has evolved as a distribution hub for the Mid-Atlantic states. The region has been a significant drug consumption market for over 30 years, especially for heroin and for drugs associated with street violence, such as crack cocaine and PCP. The presence of significant drug consumption and serious street violence is what led the Director of ONDCP to establish the W/B HIDTA in 1994.

Federal, state, and local law enforcement officials responding to the 2024 W/B HIDTA Threat Assessment Survey for Law Enforcement Initiative Supervisors identified fentanyl, heroin, and powder and crack cocaine as the primary drug threats in their communities. With the exception of fentanyl, these drugs have been long-standing major threats in the W/B HIDTA area. The ample drug misuse and drug-related crime that occurs in the W/B HIDTA region necessitates a continued, strategically-focused, and comprehensive approach to saving lives, preventing the initiation and continuance of drug misuse, and apprehending drug traffickers and money launderers.

WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE HIDTA LEADERSHIP

An executive board comprised of federal, state, and local representatives from law enforcement, public safety, treatment, prevention, and criminal justice agencies from across the region, and an executive director lead the W/B HIDTA. The executive board assesses the drug threats found in the region; develops a strategy to address the threats; designs initiatives to implement the strategy; and proposes funding.



JEFF BEESON

Executive Director

Director Jeff Beeson was chosen to serve as the W/B HIDTA executive director in January 2024. He previously served as deputy director of the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA for eight years. During that time, he oversaw the development and expansion of significant HIDTA programs including ODMAP and Case Explorer. He worked on national legislation and supported efforts to grow and expand the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA program.

His efforts to support the Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) and formalize the HIDTA Information Technology Committee have broadened the scope of HIDTA and our abilities to support drug investigations. Prior to joining the W/B HIDTA, Director Beeson served as assistant vice president for applied research at Towson University, overseeing a portfolio of state and federal grants and contracts supporting workforce and public safety initiatives.

He was appointed to several positions within Maryland state government, including the Maryland Department of Public Safety. Director Beeson began his career as a staff member in the Office of U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski of Maryland.

EXECUTIVE BOARD LEADERSHIP



WILLIAM IHLENFELD, II.

*U.S. Attorney for Northern West Virginia;
Chair, Executive Board*

William J. Ihlenfeld, II was sworn in as the United States Attorney for the Northern District of West Virginia on October 12, 2021. He was nominated by President Biden on August 10, 2021 and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on October 5, 2021.

Mr. Ihlenfeld has previously served as the United States Attorney in the Northern District of West Virginia, from 2010 until 2016. Prior to that, he was a state prosecutor for 13 years in Ohio and Brooke counties, including three years as a domestic violence prosecutor. Most recently, he was a member of the West Virginia Legislature.

Mr. Ihlenfeld has been honored by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, and the FBI Citizens Academy for his efforts to address substance abuse.

IVAN BATES

*Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office;
Vice-Chair, Executive Board*

Ivan J. Bates was sworn in as the 26th State's Attorney for Baltimore City on January 3, 2023. He is a successful attorney, strong leader, respected community advocate, and dedicated family man with more than 25 years of experience as both a prosecutor and defense attorney.

Mr. Bates began his law career working as an assistant state's attorney for Baltimore City. He was privileged to serve as a law clerk for the Honorable Judge David B. Mitchell, who inspired and mentored him. In 2006, Mr. Bates established his own mid-sized firm where he built a successful practice, mentored rising attorneys, and built a reputable team of legal experts. Mr. Bates also appeared in every Court in the State of Maryland and had the opportunity to represent clients in federal court in Maryland, San Francisco, and Northern Virginia.

As Baltimore City State's Attorney, Mr. Bates is prioritizing holding violent offenders accountable, and focusing on restoring safety, justice, truth, and equality to his beloved City of Baltimore. He is working tirelessly to build bridges for a better Baltimore and create the city he envisions for his young daughter London, his entire family, and every family in Baltimore.



WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE HIDTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERSHIP

CHAIR

U.S. Attorney William Ihlenfeld II
U.S. Attorney's Office
Northern District of West Virginia

VICE CHAIR

Ivan Bates
State's Attorney's Office
Baltimore City

FEDERAL MEMBERS

U.S. Attorney Jessica D. Aber U.S. Attorney's Office Eastern District of Virginia	U.S. Attorney Erek Barron U.S. Attorney's Office District of Maryland	Special Agent in Charge Toni Crosby Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives	U.S. Marshal Robert Dixon U.S. Marshals Service District of Columbia
Special Agent in Charge Jarod Forget Drug Enforcement Administration	Special Agent in Charge Derek Gordon ICE-Homeland Security Investigations Washington, D.C. Division	U.S. Attorney Matthew Graves U.S. Attorney's Office District of Columbia	Special Agent in Charge James Harris ICE-Homeland Security Investigations Maryland
Special Agent in Charge Wayne Jacobs Federal Bureau of Investigation	Special Agent in Charge Craig Kailimai Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives	U.S. Attorney Christopher Kavanaugh U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Virginia	U.S. Marshal Shannon Saylor U.S. Marshals Service Eastern District of Virginia
Acting U.S. Marshal Mathew Silverman U.S. Marshals Service District of Maryland	Special Agent in Charge Tom Sobocinski Federal Bureau of Investigation Baltimore Field Division	U.S. Postal Inspector in Charge Damon Wood U.S. Postal Inspection Service Washington Division	

STATE AND LOCAL MEMBERS

Chief Malik Aziz Prince George's County Police Department	Colonel Roland Butler Maryland State Police	Colonel Jan Cahill West Virginia State Police	Sheriff Michael Chapman Loudoun County Sheriff's Office
Chief Rick Edwards Richmond Police Department	Sheriff Jeffery Gahler Harford County Sheriff's Office	Chief Erin Gibbons Martinsburg Police Department	Executive Director Dorothy Lennig Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Prevention & Policy
Chief Charles Penn Arlington County Police Department	Chief Michael Poindexter Roanoke County Police Department	Colonel Garry Settle Virginia State Police	Chief Pamela Smith Metropolitan Police Department
Bureau Chief Suzanne Somerville Arlington County Behavioral Healthcare Division	Chief Jimmie Wideman Hampton Police Division	Police Commissioner Richard Worley Baltimore Police Department	

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Mr. Tom Carr, Executive Director (retired)



Tom Carr served as executive director of the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA from its inception in 1994 to January 2024. Upon his retirement in this position, Mr. Carr will continue to serve as manager of the dynamic Performance Management Process initiative he created for the National HIDTA Program, under the W/B HIDTA umbrella.

Over the course of his successful career, Mr. Carr has been a visionary leader, manager, grant writer, budget master, trainer, mentor, and friend to many within and outside of the HIDTA Program. He has written and managed

hundreds of millions of dollars in grants to support the W/B HIDTA's work, and with the assistance of the extraordinary W/B HIDTA team, has created technologies that have saved lives and reduced duplication of effort. These include the Case Explorer program, which facilitates effective case information sharing among participating law enforcement agencies, and increases officer safety; the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP), which saves lives and improves the efficiency and effectiveness of interdisciplinary and interagency collaboration, and facilitates the development of strategic partnerships among public health and public safety agencies across the country; and the Performance Management Process (PMP), a robust database which quantifies both outputs and outcomes for each regional HIDTA program. National PMP data is used to inform The White House, Congress, and other governmental organizations on the successes of the National HIDTA program and individual HIDTAs.



“TOM CARR’S LEGACY HAS NOT ONLY ESTABLISHED A SIGNIFICANT FOUNDATION FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE HIDTA, BUT ALSO FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE WAY WE SUPPORT DRUG INVESTIGATIONS NATIONALLY. HIS COMMITMENT TO INNOVATION HAS REVOLUTIONIZED THIS PROGRAM AND WILL CONTINUE TO DRIVE OUR EFFORTS FOR YEARS TO COME. OUR REGION, AND THE NATIONAL HIDTA PROGRAM HAVE BENEFITTED FROM HIS THREE DECADES OF SERVICE TO THE HIDTA AND OVER FIFTY YEARS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT.”

-W/B HIDTA Executive Director Jeff Beeson

Mr. Carr has steadfastly advocated for the advancement of the HIDTA Program for decades. In 2006, he led the effort to protect the National HIDTA Program from a potentially devastating budgetary reduction and move to the Department of Justice. As a leader of the National HIDTA Director’s Association, Mr. Carr co-hosted a press conference on the success of the HIDTA Program on Capitol Hill with Congressman Steny Hoyer (D-MD) and Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT), and visited congressional offices to obtain signatures for “Dear Colleague” letters from Members of Congress for multiple days in a row.



In recognition of his many years of extraordinary public service, Mr. Carr has received numerous awards. These include The ONDCP Director’s Award in 2004, 2012 HIDTA of the Year--which he shared with the staff, the Mid-Atlantic Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network’s Distinguished Service Certificate, and the W/B HIDTA Chairman’s Award.

All the W/B HIDTA staff members know that we are richer for knowing him and are grateful for having the opportunity to learn from his wisdom, compassion, and experience.

TEAM RECOGNITION

Investigative Support Center (ISC)



In 2023, the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA Investigative Support Center (ISC) identified critical investigative gaps and provided cutting-edge technology to HIDTA initiatives related to blockchain analysis, and monitoring “patterns of life” through open-source intelligence. Through expert analysis, the ISC continues to present actionable products that significantly contribute to inter-agency data sharing.

Deconfliction and analysis remains the primary mission of the ISC, with analytical support provided through a myriad of services, including financial, communication, geospatial, and link analysis. Unique to the ISC is the analysts’ ability to exploit millions of records through network analysis by combining disparate data sets.

In 2023, the ISC expanded PenLink PLX data sharing with other HIDTA ISCs and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. Additionally, it successfully obtained a second-state ORI from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and finalized a project with the Baltimore Police Department for automated deconfliction and analysis to identify criminal groups.

ISC analysts opened 1,961 cases, linked 57 overdose to a source of supply, and provided detailed analytical support for 116 cases. They also produced eight detailed quarterly threat reports for the region that provided strategic intelligence on all drug-related threats, to include overdoses and violence.

The Office of National Drug Control Policy recently recognized the W/B HIDTA ISC’s outstanding work when they selected it as the 2024 National HIDTA Program’s Intelligence and Information Sharing Award.

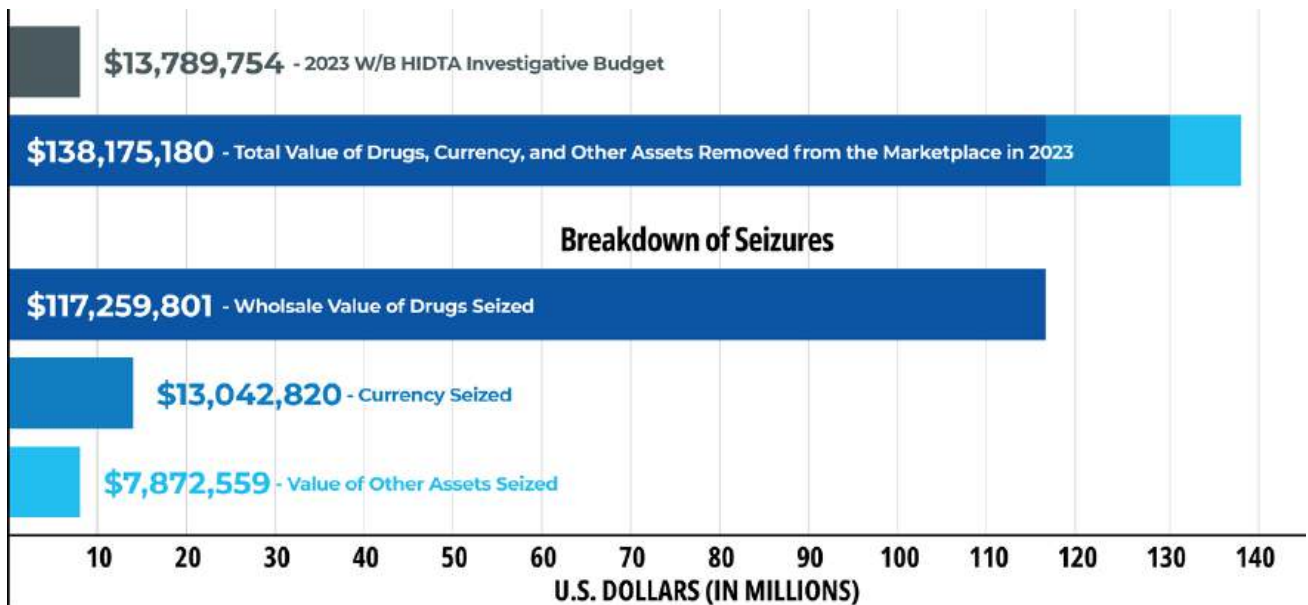
2023 ISC Team Members

- John Cook
- Corey Comen
- Mike Parker
- Natasha Butler
- Alex Lebel
- Melodie Repass
- Valerie Ferguson
- Gabbi Bongiovanni
- Jessica Wood
- Daria Hockenberry
- Jessica Newcamp
- William Porter
- Casey Dillard
- Tara Maccorone
- Tanea Westmoreland

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The W/B HIDTA invested \$13,789,754 to support 42 multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional law enforcement initiatives and two prosecutor initiatives in 2023. These initiatives focused on identifying and disrupting/dismantling drug trafficking organizations and money laundering organizations. The return on investment for these activities, calculated as the ratio of the W/B HIDTA's investigative budget to the wholesale value of drugs, money and other assets seized from traffickers was \$10.02 for every HIDTA dollar spent.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT: **\$10.02**



In 2023, federal, state, and local law enforcement officers from over 141 agencies worked in HIDTA-funded initiatives, which were collocated in 20 sites across the region using Case Explorer software developed by the W/B HIDTA.

Through the use of Case Explorer, W/B HIDTA initiatives deconflicted shared contacts involving 772 drug trafficking and/or money laundering organizations; and over 2,018 events.



ELIMINATING DRUG TRAFFICKING AND MONEY LAUNDERING ORGANIZATIONS IN THE REGION

W/B HIDTA-sponsored law enforcement initiatives disrupted or dismantled 108 drug trafficking/money laundering organizations, to include:

8

INTERNATIONAL DRUG
TRAFFICKING
ORGANIZATIONS

51

MULTI-STATE DRUG
TRAFFICKING
ORGANIZATIONS

49

LOCAL DRUG
TRAFFICKING
ORGANIZATIONS

DRUGS REMOVED FROM THE MARKETPLACE



FENTANYL
122 KG; 1,188,697 D.U.



PRESCRIPTION NARCOTICS
3.15 KG; 55,098 D.U.



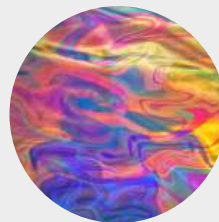
COCAINE HCL/CRACK
2,712 KG; 1,217 D.U.



**PRESCRIPTION CNS
DEPRESSANTS**
0.7 KG; 39,419 D.U.



HEROIN
8 KG; 12,337 D.U.



SYNTHETIC HALLUCINOGENS
4,381 KG; 11,335 D.U.



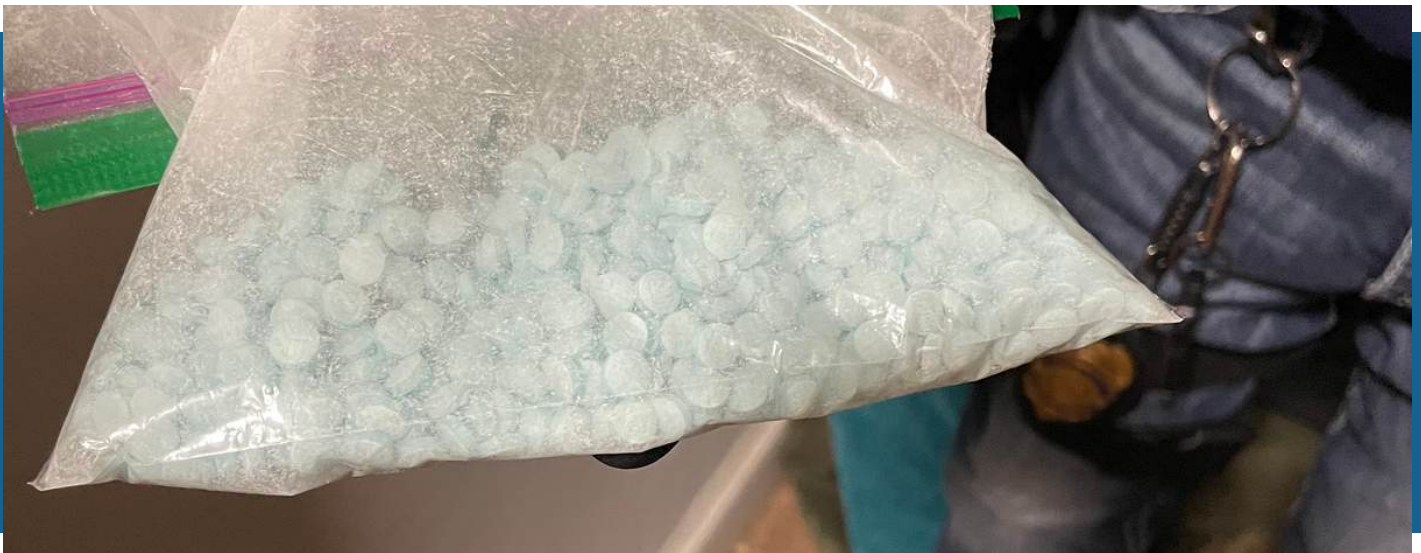
METHAMPHETAMINE
253 KG; 43,997 D.U.



MARIJUANA/CANNABIS
3,948 KG; 3,582 D.U.

COMMUNITY IMPACT INVESTIGATION: RICHMOND METROPOLITAN DRUG INITIATIVE

The W/B HIDTA Richmond District Office Group 22, in conjunction with the Chesterfield County (VA) Police Department, initiated an investigation into the Cleveland Lamont PARSON and Aaron HEATH Transnational Criminal Organization (TCO). Intelligence gained from interviews and debriefs indicated that the TCO was responsible for the distribution of multi-hundred-kilogram quantities of cocaine and fentanyl, and were suspected of receiving over 100 kilograms of cocaine each month directly from Mexican sources of supply.



Initially, investigators conducted multiple controlled purchases of fentanyl from PARSON and his associates. During the investigation, law enforcement determined that PARSON and HEATH communicated directly with Mexico-based sources of supply, linked to both Jalisco New Generation Cartel (CJNG) and Sinaloa Cartels. The PARSON and HEATH TCO operated in Chesterfield County and Richmond, VA (Richmond Metropolitan area), as well as Hopewell, Petersburg, Colonial Heights, and Prince George County in Virginia, and several locations throughout North Carolina.



COMMUNITY IMPACT INVESTIGATION: RICHMOND METROPOLITAN DRUG INITIATIVE

Investigators employed numerous techniques to identify the scope of operations of the PARSON and HEATH TCO. They received authorization for 14 Federal Title-III wiretaps on cellular telephones, and an additional 14 Federal Title-III wiretaps on texting devices used by PARSON, HEATH, and their criminal associates. Investigators also employed over 25 pen registers on cellular telephones, numerous WhatsApp pen registers on Mexico-based cellular telephones, and GPS tracking warrants on multiple cellular telephones and vehicles used by members of the TCO, which helped to identify stash locations, residences of associates, and targets' locations. This assisted with the seizure of drugs and currency. Investigators also employed GPS tracking units in other unique circumstances, and additional techniques to follow the flow of bulk currency to further identify associates, and the scope of operations of the TCO.

The strong working relationships among the multiple federal, state, and local agencies collaborating on this investigation, effective intelligence sharing, and extensive coordination led to multiple successful investigative operations throughout its course.

These successes included the seizure of approximately 100 kilograms of cocaine, three kilograms of fentanyl, over \$1 million in U.S. currency, five vehicles, and 20 firearms.

The investigation's success stemmed from the cooperation among the various federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies participating in it. By way of example, over 40 state and local officers were deputized by the DEA for the investigation. Intelligence sharing was critical among the various agencies, as investigators coordinated multiple successful enforcement operations in Virginia and North Carolina which led to the seizure of drugs, firearms, and currency.

The investigation into the PARSON and HEATH TCO had a significant impact on the Richmond Metropolitan area, Tri-Cities area, and the surrounding cities and counties. Specifically the TCO's dismantlement stopped the distribution of approximately 100 kgs. of cocaine per month to multiple cities and counties in Virginia.

SUCCESSFUL INVESTIGATIVE OPERATIONS LED TO THE SEIZURE OF APPROXIMATELY



**100 KG OF COCAINE
& 3 KG OF FENTANYL**



**\$1,000,000
IN U.S. CURRENCY**

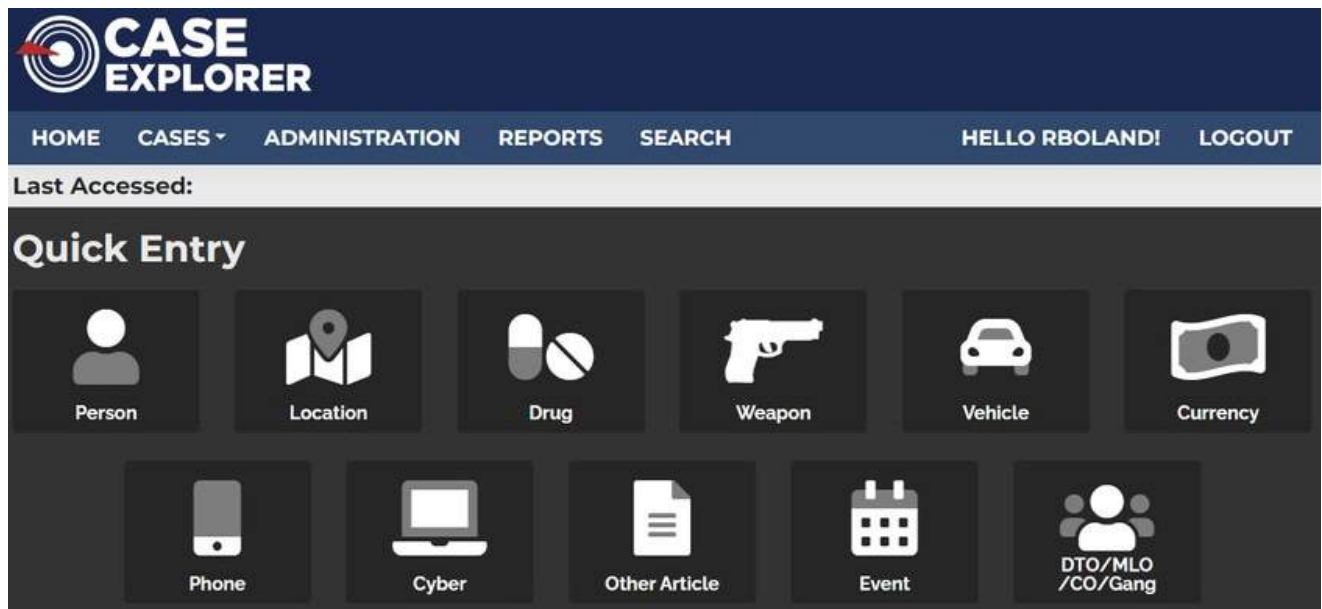


5 VEHICLES



20 FIREARMS

CASE EXPLORER



Case Explorer (CE) is a web-based tool that provides event and target deconfliction, case management, and investigative data matching. In addition to increasing officer safety and operational effectiveness, it is free to all law enforcement. It supports the entry of case data, criminal intelligence, and unconfirmed tip data.

Recognized as one of three nationwide deconfliction services, CE software interfaces with other event deconfliction systems to provide nationwide event deconfliction. It also works with the HIDTA Performance Management Process (PMP) Program, the nationally recognized Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP) through ODFORM, and the Communications Analysis Portal (CAP) to streamline data entry, allowing law enforcement to enter data in one system and perform deconfliction.

5,576

CASE EXPLORER USERS
NATIONWIDE

1,329

UNIQUE PARENT AGENCIES
USING CASE EXPLORER

320,724

INVESTIGATIVE
MATCHES

72,029

EVENTS
DECONFLICTED

CRIME GUN INTELLIGENCE CENTER (CGIC)

In late 2023, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) provided funding to the W/B HIDTA to increase collaboration with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF). As part of a violent crime reduction strategy, the W/B HIDTA and the ATF implemented a Crime Gun Intelligence Center (CGIC) for analyzing data and developing leads for enforcement operations.



The W/B HIDTA Crime Gun Intelligence Center's (CGIC) mission is to support criminal investigations by collecting, evaluating, and analyzing information to produce tactical and operational intelligence products and other analytical services, striving for intelligence-led investigations. The CGIC focuses on organized groups, gangs and armed drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) who are

engaged in violent acts, firearms offenses, and/or use drug trafficking as primary source of income.

The CGIC's strategy involves tracing all firearms seized by W/B HIDTA initiatives to identify the purchaser and possessor, along with conducting a ballistic examination to link shootings to crime scenes. Both the ATF and W/B HIDTA provide personnel and equipment to support the CGIC, whose resources are available to all jurisdictions in the W/B HIDTA region. The CGIC's priority focuses on the following four areas:

- 1. Organized criminal groups involved in National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) leads**
- 2. Communities impacted by firearms offenses, including shootings and other violent crimes**
- 3. Tracing straw purchasers, firearms traffickers, and other sources of crime guns**
- 4. Field support to increase the use of crime gun intelligence (CGI) across the W/B HIDTA region, including**
 - a. Investigative lead development and dissemination**
 - b. Technical support and training for firearms tracing, NIBIN, and CGI**

OVERDOSE DETECTION MAPPING APPLICATION PROGRAM (ODMAP)

The Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP) is a near real-time suspected overdose event web application that maps and visualizes suspected overdose events to support public safety and public health efforts. ODMAP provides cross-jurisdictional data that provides agencies the critical information they need to mobilize an immediate response when sudden increases in overdoses, new drug threats, or changes in drug trends occur.

"ODMAP EXEMPLIFIES THE HIDTA PROGRAM'S COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING LAW ENFORCEMENT'S EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE OVERDOSE CRISIS BY BREAKING DOWN INFORMATION SILOS AND PROPAGATING TIMELY, INNOVATIVE AND COLLABORATIVE RESPONSES."

- Chicago HIDTA Director, Nick Roti

All agencies sign a participation agreement that is designed to protect the data within the system. Agency personnel can then begin uploading data in near real-time through a variety of methodologies. They can also get access to the National Map, which allows select users to view nationwide data and create custom visualizations. ODMAP is only available to federal, state, local, and tribal government agencies serving the interests of public safety and public health.

"ODMAP IS AN INCREDIBLY VALUABLE TOOL THAT CAN PROVIDE A MORE ROBUST PICTURE OF THE DRUG OVERDOSE LANDSCAPE IN COMMUNITIES. ODMAP CAN INFORM OVERDOSE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE EFFORTS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL AND CAN HELP DRIVE DATA TO ACTION TO ENSURE SERVICES AND RESOURCES ARE REACHING THOSE MOST IN NEED."

-U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
Division of Overdose Prevention, Public Health and Safety Team Leader, Jessica Wolf



4,922

AGENCIES APPROVED
TO PARTICIPATE IN ODMAP

1,500

AGENCIES SUBMITTED
OVERDOSE EVENTS TO ODMAP

1,477

AVERAGE NUMBER OF
OVERDOSE ENTER PER DAY

55,500

DRUG OVERDOSE
SPIKE ALERTS SENT

WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE TRAINING

The W/B HIDTA funded and supported 20,488 hours of training for its law enforcement, analytical, and management resources, to include:

10,895

HOURS OF ENFORCEMENT
TRAINING TO 674
STUDENTS

8,646

HOURS OF ANALYTICAL
TRAINING TO 611
STUDENTS

947

HOURS OF MANAGEMENT
TRAINING TO 304
STUDENTS



When surveyed two months after they received the training:



95%

OF THE STUDENTS RESPONDED THAT
THE TRAINING COURSE IMPROVED THEIR
KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES
NEEDED TO PERFORM THEIR JOBS



85%

RESPONDED THAT THEY USED THE
KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES
THEY ACQUIRED IN THE TRAINING
COURSE

TREATMENT SERVICES

The W/B HIDTA granted \$2,369,590 in 2023 to support initiatives that provide integrated drug treatment services and criminal justice supervision for substance-dependent offenders. Funds continue to be used to address identified gaps in the treatment and recovery systems in W/B HIDTA communities. Adult Treatment initiatives must incorporate drug testing and graduated sanctions for all offenders. They must also include an assessment of the individual's drug use and criminal history, and placement in the appropriate level of service, such as outpatient, intensive outpatient, residential, or community re-entry. Youth treatment initiatives include screening youth and their caregivers for substance use, mental health, and social needs and offer early intervention, treatment, and recovery services.



W/B HIDTA TREATMENT GRANTEES:

- City of Alexandria (VA)
- Arlington County (VA)
- Behavioral Health Leadership Institute (MD)
- Behavioral Health Systems Baltimore (MD)
- Berkeley County (WV) CATALIST Program
- Berkeley County (WV) Day Report Center
- Brooke's House (MD)
- CATALIST Valley Health (VA)
- Fairfax County (VA) Sheriff's Office
- Northern Shenandoah Valley (VA) Substance Abuse Coalition
- Prince William County (VA)
- City of Richmond (VA)

PREVENTION

The W/B HIDTA invested \$479,096 in 2023 to support prevention activities. Funded initiatives are designed to prevent, identify risky use, or mitigate substance use across the region by coordinating community and local government resources to foster protective factors, decrease risk factors, build skills, and link individuals to appropriate levels of care.

Prevention initiatives include law enforcement partnerships with schools and community organizations. A nexus has been formed among law enforcement and other public and private sector program elements, with an ongoing effort to expand alternative funding to enhance the W/B HIDTA's prevention component.

Funding supports on one or more of the following purposes:

- Strengthening youth, parent, and teacher resiliency
- Developing social and emotional competence in youth
- Offering concrete support, early intervention, or referral services in times of need
- Developing healthy and supportive social connections
- Providing education on parenting and child development
- Offering unique prevention services to W/B HIDTA high-risk communities based on community needs assessments
- Promoting healthy decision making

The W/B HIDTA funded prevention initiatives are:

- Badges for Baseball
 - Richmond, VA
 - Baltimore, MD
 - Roanoke, VA
- Prince William County (VA) Prevention
- The Martinsburg Initiative, Martinsburg, WV



TREATMENT & PREVENTION SPOTLIGHT

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The W/B HIDTA sponsors and supports the Behavioral Health Leadership Institute (BHLI) Project Connections at Re-Entry (PCARE) program. PCARE focuses on serving Baltimore City community members who have recent criminal justice involvement and are interested in low-threshold treatment with buprenorphine.

As a leader in drug treatment for over 20 years, BHLI continues to identify gaps and develops a new, innovative, systemic, and comprehensive public health responses for vulnerable populations. Its work is rooted in its founding values of providing the highest quality and lowest barrier treatment for the most vulnerable populations. It is strengthened by its commitment to data, evaluation, and continuous improvement. Since the beginning of its PCARE program, BHLI has served almost 3,000 patients, and has completed approximately 47,000 clinical assessments.

BHLI provides community leadership in many ways. It has published several groundbreaking articles in national journals, and penned op-eds to address local issues with national consequences. BHLI supports graduate students from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, who work with administrators on data collection/analysis, and presenting the results at national conferences. It also hosts visitors to its sites from other jurisdictions who are interested in learning about BHLI's service model and how they may replicate it.

“BHLI RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF OFFERING IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO EVIDENCE-BASED SERVICES DURING HIGH-RISK TRANSITION PERIODS SUCH AS COMMUNITY RE-ENTRY FROM CRIMINAL JUSTICE SETTINGS. THESE SERVICES ALIGN DIRECTLY WITH WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE HIDTA’S FOCUS ON INTEGRATING THE BEST AVAILABLE EVIDENCE TO MEET THE VARIETY OF PREVENTION AND TREATMENT NEEDS ACROSS OUR REGION. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR BHLI’S COMMITMENT TO WEAVING TOGETHER RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THE BALTIMORE CITY COMMUNITY.”

*-W/B HIDTA Deputy Director, Treatment and Prevention
Lora Peppard, PhD, DNP, PMHNP-BC*

BHLI BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH
LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE

REACHING
OUT
to REACH IN

TREATMENT & PREVENTION SPOTLIGHT

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH
LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE

THE COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE W/B HIDTA AND BHLLI SEEKS TO:

1

PROVIDE LOW-THRESHOLD MEDICATION FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER (MOUD) TO THE MOST MARGINALIZED AND UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS IN BALTIMORE CITY, INCLUDING CRIMINAL JUSTICE POPULATIONS

2

EXPAND PCARE VAN HOURS AND STAFFING TO PROVIDE SERVICES TARGETED TO THOSE RELEASED FROM THE BALTIMORE CITY DETENTION CENTER

3

FACILITATE TRANSITION BETWEEN JAIL AND THE MOUD PROGRAM, UTILIZING INTENSIVE CASE COORDINATION AT EACH STAGE.

In 2023, W/B HIDTA funds were used to provide services targeted to those released from the Baltimore City Detention Center via PCARE, which facilitates the transition between the jail and the MOUD program. In 2023, 152 clients received care.

152

CLIENTS RECEIVED
CARE VIA PCARE

WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE HIDTA EXECUTIVE STAFF

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HIDTA

HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA

2023

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE
HIGH INTENSITY DRUG
TRAFFICKING AREA PROGRAM



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