HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

William F. Honsal, Sheriff

Media Release

Date: 7/6/2018 **Prepared by**: S. Karges

Case Number: N/A **Subject:** Sheriff launches anti-opioid campaign

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office and RX Safe Humboldt are teaming up to protect the next generation from a lifetime of addiction.

On July 6, 2018, the Sheriff's Office and RX Safe Humboldt launched a new anti-opioid campaign titled *"Heroin in your Home: The Danger Within Your Cabinet".* This campaign comes after Humboldt County stood up to opioid manufacturers, signing on to a lawsuit holding drug manufacturers accountable for the national opioid addiction epidemic. The Sheriff's Office recently took a stand for Humboldt County children, signing a letter created by Fight Crime: Invest in Kids California urging Congress to take action to address addiction and prioritize funding for infants and children affected by opioids.

As part of this new campaign, the Sheriff's Office has installed a medication disposal bin in the lobby of the Humboldt County Courthouse's Fourth Street entrance. The location of this bin allows members of the public to drop off unused, unwanted or expired medications while taking care of other errands at the courthouse. The medication bin will be accessible to the community during business hours of the Humboldt County Courthouse, Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., excluding holidays.

The purchase of this bin was generously funded by RX Safe Humboldt and was facilitated by the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Public Health Division. DHHS has also committed to assist the Sheriff's Office in properly destroying all medications deposited into the bin.

The Sheriff's Office believes a part of the solution to the growing opioid epidemic is to curb addiction at its source. Eighty percent of heroin users first began their addiction with prescription drugs. Many of those drugs were obtained from a relative or friend. Prescription opioids can be just as addictive as heroin, possessing similar chemical qualities as the street drug. Unused, unwanted or expired medications sitting in your home are a silent danger, waiting to fall into the wrong hands. The community can help protect the next generation by properly disposing of these medications, decreasing the chance for the prescriptions to be abused.

Join the Sheriff's Office and RX Safe Humboldt in protecting the next generation. For more information regarding prescription opioid abuse in Humboldt County, medication bin locations and resources to help overcome an addiction, visit rxsafehumboldt.org.

RESOURCES:

1. Humboldt County Opioid Litigation: http://humboldt.legistar.com/gateway.aspx?M=F&ID=e6b4e983-f2cb-42b2-aded-7ee592839983.pdf

2. Letter to Congress: Support the Youngest Victims of the Opioid Crisis: https://www.strongnation.org/articles/661-letter-to-congress-support-the-youngest-victims-of-the-opioid-crisis

3. National Institute on Drug Abuse

4. California Health Kids Survey

5. www.rxsafehumboldt.og

HUMBOLDT COUNTY MEDICATION DISPOSAL BINS LOCATIONS

1
Cloney's Pharmacy
2515 Harrison Ave.
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 443-7086

2
Humboldt County Courthouse
826 4th Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 445-7251

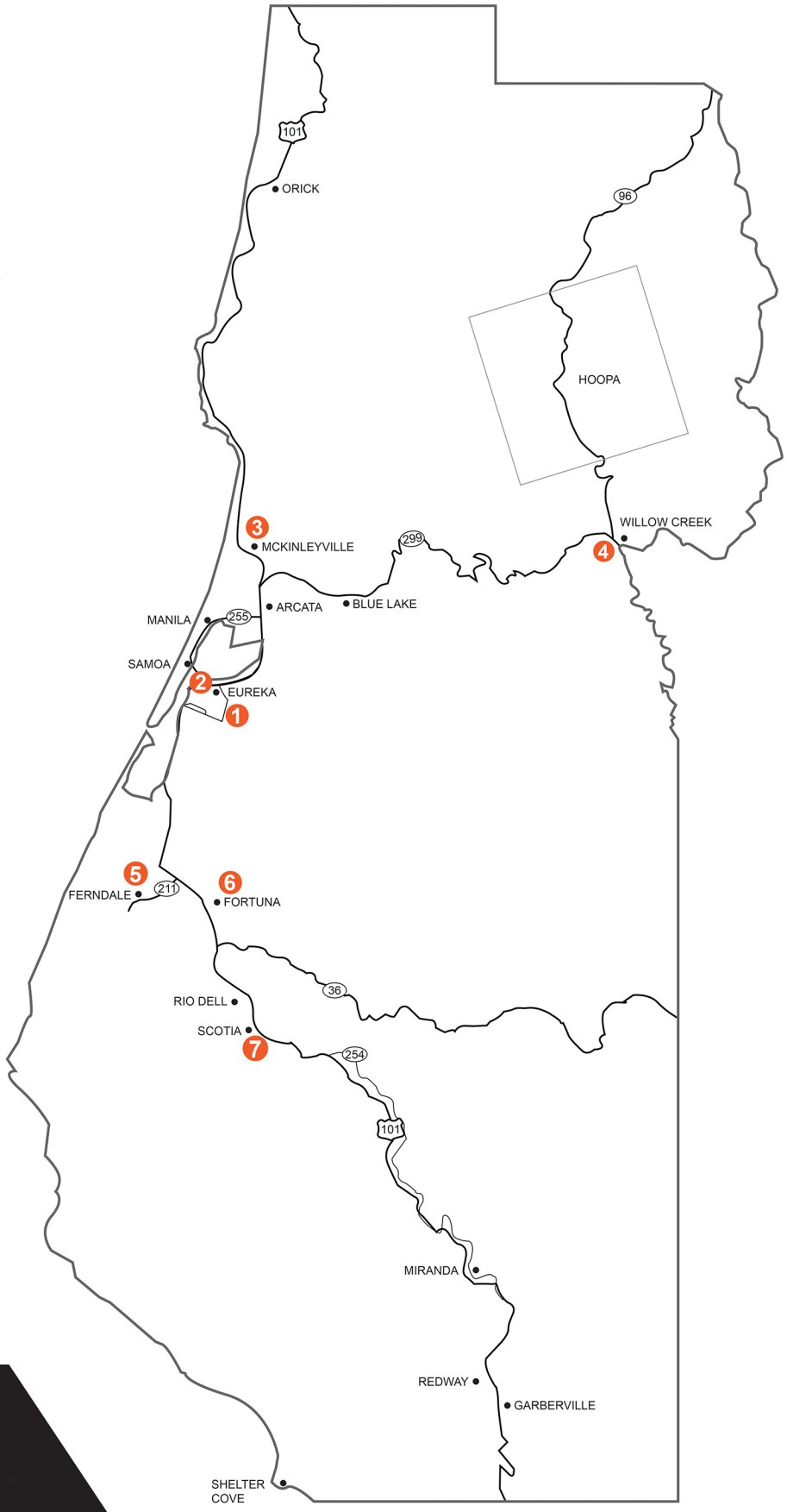
3
Cloney's Pharmacy
1567 City Center Road
McKinleyville, CA 95519
(707) 840-9923

4
Willow Creek Pharmacy
39050 Highway 299
Willow Creek, CA 95573
(530) 629-3144

5
Ring's Pharmacy
362 Main Street
Ferndale, CA 95536
(707) 786-4511

6
Green's Pharmacy
1058 Main Street
Fortuna, CA 95565
(707) 725-4431

7
Palco Pharmacy
113 Main Street
Scotia, CA 95540
(707) 764-3591



SHERIFF-CORONER HUMBOLDT COUNTY CA

SAFE HUMBOLDT
Safer Care and Better Outcomes

DID YOU KNOW?

80%

OF HEROIN USERS START WITH PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Prescription opioids and heroin are chemically similar and can produce a similar high. Many people who misuse opioids get them from a friend or relative.

YOU CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Unused opioids sitting in your home are a silent danger, waiting to fall into the wrong hands. You can help curb opioid addiction by discarding unused prescriptions at an approved medication disposal bin. If you have been prescribed an opioid and are still using it, lock it away and out of sight.

CURB ADDICTION AT THE SOURCE

DISCARD UNUSED, EXPIRED OR UNWANTED OPIOID PRESCRIPTIONS PROPERLY

Rx SAFE HUMBOLDT

Safer Care and Better Outcomes

SHERIFF-CORONER HUMBOLDT COUNTY CA

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
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Humboldt County
SHERIFF'S
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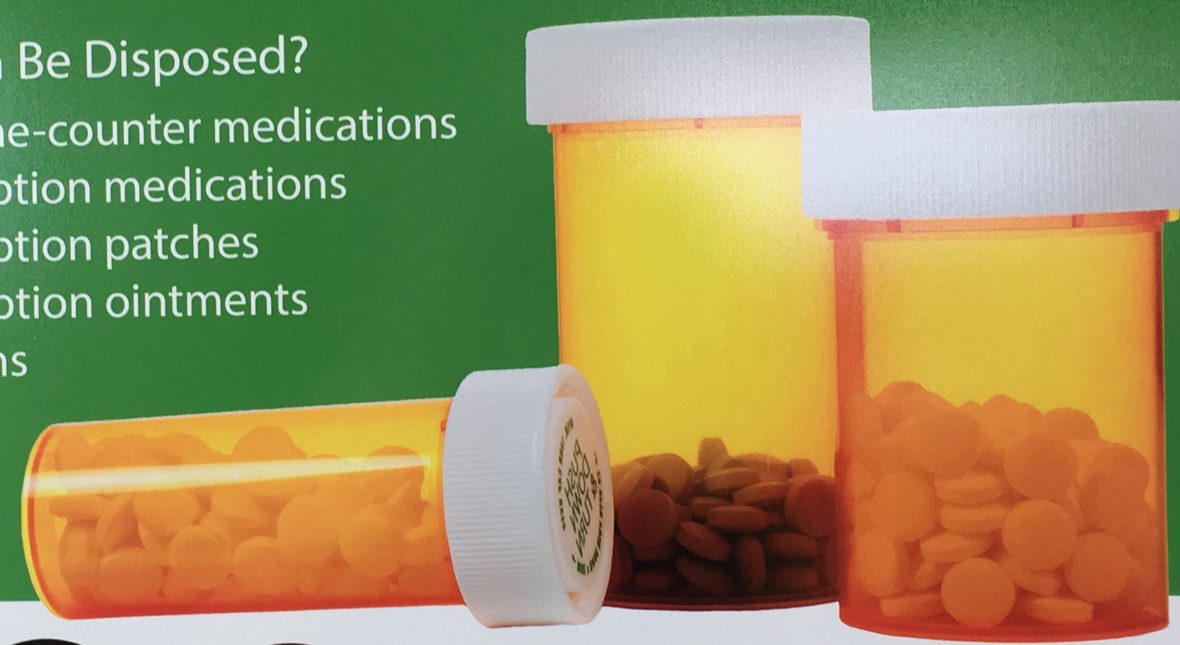
Humboldt County
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SHERIFF-CORONER
HUMBOLDT COUNTY
THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

MEDDROP™

Just drop in your unwanted Rx
Pharmaceuticals for safe and secure disposal

What Can Be Disposed?

- Over-the-counter medications
- Prescription medications
- Prescription patches
- Prescription ointments
- Vitamins



Only Schedule II-V controlled substances and non-controlled substances permitted. Schedule I controlled substances that are not lawfully possessed by the ultimate user and other illicit or dangerous substances are not permitted. Regulated Medical Waste including Sharps and Hazardous Waste are not permitted

HUMBOLDT
SHERIFF
MEDDROP
Just drop in your unwanted
Pharmaceuticals for safe and secure disposal
I'm a part of
the solution.
SAFE
HUMBOLDT
NO POCKET
KNIVES
NOTICE