



Central Falls Police Department Office of Public Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 27, 2016

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Central Falls Police Department to Participate in National Prescription Drug Take Back Program:

CENTRAL FALLS – On Saturday, April 30, 2016, from 10:00am until 2:00pm, Central Falls residents are encouraged to drop off their unused and expired prescription drugs at police headquarters as part of the National Prescription Drug take Back program. The program was created in 2010 by the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to prevent pill abuse and theft by allowing residents to rid their homes of potentially dangerous expired unused and unwanted prescription drugs.

Last September, Americans turned in 350 tons (over 702,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at more than 5,000 sites operated by the DEA and more than 3,800 of its state and local law enforcement partners. Overall, in its 10 previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners have taken in over 5.5 million pounds—more than 2,750 tons—of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised

that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the April 30 Take Back Day event, go to the DEA Diversion website at www.dea.gov

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