



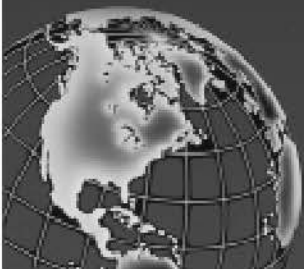
DEA
INTELLIGENCE
REPORT

(U//FOUO) The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division

July - December 2014

DEA-CHI-DIR-041-15

MAY 2015



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The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U) Overview

(U//DSEN) The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Chicago Field Division (CFD) recently completed a bi-annual assessment of the drug situation in the Division's area of responsibility (AOR) for July through December 2014. The threats identified and presented below encompass virtually every aspect of the drug trafficking threats facing our nation — with wholesale supply, transshipment, distribution, use, and money laundering — all occurring at very high levels. Of primary importance are the threats presented by Mexican drug trafficking organizations (DTO) as sources of supply, street gangs as major distributors, and the distribution and use of synthetic drugs, particularly pharmaceuticals such as hydrocodone and fentanyl, methamphetamine, and a wide array of synthetic compounds, in addition to the major drugs of abuse including cocaine, heroin, and marijuana.

(U) Background**(U) DIVISION OVERVIEW AND AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY**

(U//DSEN) Geographically, the CFD is comprised of Indiana, Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, and the Northern and Central Federal Judicial Districts of Illinois. This represents the 4th largest geographic AOR among the 21 DEA domestic field divisions, covering approximately 300,000 square miles with a population in excess of 29 million people. The CFD also shares an 816-mile international border with Canada, along the entire northern borders of Minnesota and North Dakota. There are four separate DEA High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) within the CFD area of responsibility: Chicago, Wisconsin, Midwest,^a and Lake County, Indiana. In addition to designated HIDTA task forces, the CFD includes DEA Program-Funded and Provisional Task Forces, an Airport Enforcement Group, a Financial Investigations Team, and five Tactical Diversion Squads.

(U) Details**(U) DRUG TRAFFICKING GROUPS**

(U//DSEN) The CFD's most significant threat is posed by Mexican DTOs. During the reporting period, Mexican DTOs continued to dominate the wholesale supply of cocaine, methamphetamine, Mexican-grown marijuana, and heroin (South American, Mexican black tar, and alleged Mexican white heroin) in the CFD.

[REDACTED] These links reflect the wide diversity of the sources of illegal drugs distributes within the CFD AOR. Mexican cartels predominate among these sources, with cases linked to CPOTs in the Sinaloa, Juarez, Los Zetas, La Familia



Source: DEA

(b)(7)(E)

^a (U//DSEN) The Midwest is based in Missouri and covers six states; however, only North Dakota is in the CFD AOR.

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

Michoacana, and Beltran-Leyva cartels. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Other major Mexican cartels targeted by the CFD through enforcement action during the reporting period included the Knights Templar, the Guerreros Unidos, and the Cartel de Jalisco Nueva Generacion.¹

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(U//DSEN) Chicago street gangs, with membership estimated to be between 68,000 and 150,000,² serve as mid-level and retail-level distributors of drugs in the city. These gangs include the Gangster Disciples, Vice Lords, Latin Kings, Four Corner Hustlers, Maniac Latin Disciples, Satan Disciples, and the Black P Stone Nation. Independent gangs also operate in other areas of the CFD, such as The Crew in Minneapolis, a criminal group that distributes up to a kilogram of heroin per month, with sources of supply in Chicago. It is important to note that most of the drug arrests affected in the CFD result in the seizure of more than one drug and weapons as well—strong evidence of the poly-drug and violent nature of drug trafficking in general and retail drug sales operations specifically within the Division.

(U) Drug Trafficking

(U//DSEN) The vast majority of drugs moving into the CFD AOR continued to be smuggled across the U.S.-Mexico border and transshipped via various transportation methods to Chicago and surrounding areas. The Chicago area's extensive highway, train, and air transportation systems, including mail and parcel delivery services, make it an ideal transportation hub to move drugs from the Southwest Border to Chicago and throughout the Midwest, as well as the subsequent collection of drug proceeds in Chicago and movement of bulk currency to the Southwest Border. The most common transportation method remains by vehicle, typically tractor-trailer, trucks, or personal cars, or minivans. Chicago is one of the nation's largest trucking centers with numerous trucking depots located throughout the metropolitan area and there is easy access to numerous U.S. Interstates (Interstates 55, 57, 80, 88, 90, and 94). Smaller amounts of drugs (particularly heroin and marijuana) arrive via couriers aboard commercial airlines and/or parcel delivery services.

(U//DSEN) FIGURE 2: SEIZURE OF 42 POUNDS OF METHAMPHETAMINE.



Source: DEA

(U//DSEN) All available indicators, including investigative intelligence, case initiations, seizure and arrest data, and anecdotal information indicate that the drug threat to the CFD has become more diverse and dynamic, with a wider array of illegal drugs, particularly synthetic and prescription drugs, becoming more broadly available. For example, methamphetamine and heroin not only are available in greater volume, but are distributed and used in more varied locations. After several years of a steady decline in the availability of cocaine, seizures of the drug in the CFD rebounded considerably in FY 2014, suggesting a possible resurgence in cocaine distribution. Poly-drug seizures are becoming more prevalent throughout the CFD, as DTOs use established sources of supply and trafficking routes to distribute cocaine, heroin, marijuana, and methamphetamine.

(U//DSEN) All statistical resources confirm the major changes in illegal drug trafficking trends over the past decade. Cocaine arrests by the CFD peaked in FY 2007 at nearly 1,000 and declined sharply thereafter to less than half that number during FY 2014. (See Figure 3) However, arrests on charges related to opiates surged more than 200 percent, from 135 in 2005 to a CFD-record 411 arrests in FY 2014. Of equal concern

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

is the sharp increase in dangerous drugs arrests, which totaled 555 in FY 2014—surpassing arrests for cocaine in the Division for the first time. While a considerable proportion of these dangerous drugs arrests were related to methamphetamine (247), an almost equal number (228) were arrests associated with controlled prescription drugs (CPD, see Figure 4). Moreover, the CPD arrests in 2014 were more than double the number of arrests in any year during the past decade and increased 10 fold since FY 2005. It is likely that the increased number of CPD arrests was directly related to the recent establishment of additional Tactical Diversion Squads (TDSs) within the CFD; but the arrests also are reflective of increased CPD

(U) Figure 3. Chicago Field Division Arrests by Drug

FY	COCAINE	OPIATES	CANNABIS	DANGEROUS DRUGS	OTHER	TOTAL
2005	875	135	239	479	66	1,794
2006	898	234	239	434	70	1,875
2007	968	162	279	408	93	1,910
2008	869	169	283	358	94	1,773
2009	927	228	285	384	66	1,890
2010	851	222	443	443	44	2,003
2011	568	255	465	418	66	1,772
2012	561	347	348	341	90	1,687
2013	487	336	298	366	105	1,592
2014	459	411	264	555	117	1,806

Source: DEA Reporting

(U) Figure 4. Chicago Field Division Dangerous Drugs Arrests

FY	METHAMPHETAMINE	CPDs	SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS	SYNTHETIC CATHINONES
2005	412	21	0	0
2006	368	25	0	0
2007	338	10	0	0
2008	301	37	0	0
2009	281	23	0	0
2010	324	44	0	0
2011	301	87	0	0
2012	242	51	2	8
2013	247	72	2	14
2014	277	228	16	31

Source: DEA Reporting

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

activity and clearly demonstrate the need for these additional squads. Finally, the number of CFD arrests associated with synthetic cannabinoids and cathinones increased sharply from zero as recently as FY 2011 to 47 in FY 2014.

(U//DSEN) CFD case initiations similarly reflect the divergent trends in the traffic of cocaine and heroin, with the number of cocaine cases (combined cocaine and crack) declining more than 50 percent over the past decade and heroin cases rising nearly 200 percent (See Figure 5). Methamphetamine cases have fluctuated after peaking at 109 in FY 2005; but, the number of clandestine laboratory methamphetamine cases declined precipitously, falling more than 80 percent from their peak of 219 cases in FY 2002 to 28 in FY 2014, a reflection of the drastic decline in the manufacture of methamphetamine locally in the wake of the enactment of stronger precursor chemical laws both locally and federally.

(U//DSEN) Seizures of illegal drugs by the CFD follow similar drug trafficking trends observed in previous years (See Figure 6). [Note: The "Analyzed" figures are the only ones that reflect drug exhibits that have been analyzed chemically by the DEA forensic laboratory and, thus, are confirmed drugs with their net weights; however, not all of the FY 2013 seizures have been analyzed fully as of yet. All other figures are gross weights of suspected drugs. As a result, analysis of seizure data over the past two or three years should be approached with extreme caution.] Although seizures of cocaine increased in FY 2014 to over 1,000 kilograms, the amount of cocaine seized remained significantly below the nearly 3,000 kilograms seized in both

(U) Figure 5. Chicago Field Division Case Initiations

FY	COCAINE	CRACK	HEROIN	METH	METH CL
2005	414	145	60	109	84
2006	467	188	67	92	45
2007	386	200	58	82	22
2008	372	156	74	50	30
2009	364	172	97	68	30
2010	283	118	98	80	32
2011	293	73	103	54	20
2012	250	50	123	69	27
2013	246	61	163	87	35
2014	217	49	216	96	28

Source: DEA Reporting

FY 2005 and FY 2006, the years directly prior to the reported shortage of cocaine affecting the CFD and the rest of the United States during FY 2007. Heroin seizures in the CFD increased dramatically between FY 2008 and FY 2009 and have surpassed 140 kilograms in every subsequent year except for FY 2013 (See Figure 7). Indeed, the possible CFD record of 387.4 kilograms of heroin seized during FY 2014 is more than twice the previous record amount of the drug seized in 2012. Methamphetamine seizures in the CFD more than doubled from FY 2012 to FY 2013 to a record 191.9 kilograms, then doubled again in FY 2014 to 613.0 kilograms [Note: this figure includes the single seizure of 262.1 kilograms of methamphetamine in Mexico but reported by the Minneapolis District Office (DO) because that office had supplied the information that directly led to the seizure].

(U//DSEN) Seizures of all assets — including currency, conveyances, jewelry, and real property — by the CFD totaled \$53 million in FY 2014 and have averaged nearly \$48 million in each year over the past decade, totaling almost \$500 million during that time span. A substantial proportion of these assets were in the form of bulk currency, a reflection of the role Chicago plays in the collection of drug proceeds from across the Midwest and its subsequent movement to the Southwest Border.

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U) Figure 6. Chicago Field Division Drug Seizures						
FY	COCAINE			CANNABIS		
	ANALYZED	INFO ONLY	TOTAL	ANALYZED	INFO ONLY	TOTAL
2005	2,350.37	565.80	2,916.17	2,987.91	9,014.06	12,001.97
2006	2,300.42	504.50	2,804.92	222.19	4,115.73	4,337.92
2007	1,462.09	559.01	2,021.10	841.46	7,418.08	8,259.54
2008	769.25	376.16	1,145.41	120.12	2,468.39	2,588.51
2009	955.48	231.94	1,187.42	371.06	6,307.00	6,678.06
2010	366.79	215.05	581.84	4,186.83	10,199.62	14,386.45
2011	495.70	240.96	736.66	2,264.29	23,897.11	26,161.40
2012	277.14	103.92	381.06	8,447.21	7,904.31	16,351.52
2013*	180.60	211.45	392.05	2,123.26	3,350.21	5,473.47
2014**	710.63	456.87	1,167.50	4,796.06	2,082.84	6,878.90

Source: DEA Reporting

* FY 2013 seizure statistics are incomplete.

** FY 2014 "Analyzed" seizure statistics are not chemically analyzed and are based on preliminary counts provided by individual CFD enforcement groups. Methamphetamine Info-only figure includes the single seizure of 292.1 kilograms in Mexico based upon information supplied by the Minneapolis DO.

(U) Figure 7. Chicago Field Division Drug Seizures						
FY	HEROIN			METHAMPHETAMINE		
	ANALYZED	INFO ONLY	TOTAL	ANALYZED	INFO ONLY	TOTAL
2005	32.89	3.68	36.57	94.90	23.61	118.51
2006	22.99	3.68	26.67	48.60	27.02	75.62
2007	27.73	12.71	40.44	40.00	23.32	63.32
2008	44.59	34.37	78.96	37.00	6.84	43.84
2009	134.51	50.97	185.48	50.00	25.86	75.86
2010	121.24	23.01	144.25	93.20	35.08	128.28
2011	139.18	43.22	182.40	43.60	33.35	76.95
2012	158.74	32.64	191.38	78.70	11.40	90.10
2013*	71.60	13.29	84.89	129.70	62.20	191.90
2014**	286.11	101.26	387.37	156.90	456.10	613.00

Source: DEA Reporting

* FY 2013 seizure statistics are incomplete.

** FY 2014 "Analyzed" seizure statistics are not chemically analyzed and are based on preliminary counts provided by individual CFD enforcement groups. Methamphetamine Info-only figure includes the single seizure of 292.1 kilograms in Mexico based upon information supplied by the Minneapolis DO.

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U) Figure 8. Asset Seizures by Chicago Field Division (in US dollars)

FY	COCAINE
2005	\$38,004,130
2006	40,021,149
2007	35,160,229
2008	43,656,264
2009	65,244,072
2010	54,938,232
2011	40,553,170
2012	58,618,259
2013	51,400,502
2014	53,339,115
TOTAL	480,935,122

Source: DEA Reporting

of cocaine, 100 grams of heroin, cannabis, and approximately \$500,000 USC. During this 20-month investigation, approximately \$5.5 million USC, 78 kilograms of cocaine, 20 kilograms of heroin, and 17 kilograms of marijuana were seized. The DTO, linked to Los Zetas cartel, was headed by two brothers, one acting as the source of supply in Jalisco, Mexico, and one as the cell head in Chicago.

(U//DSEN) On April 29, 2014, members of Chicago Field Division, Strike Force [redacted] conducted surveillance in support of an ongoing investigation. Based on prior intelligence that a subject was going to receive 10 kilograms of cocaine, surveillance was established on him. As a result of the surveillance, agents identified several of the subject's associates and located four stash locations. In separate but related enforcement actions, agents initiated contact with four subjects and obtained consent to search the four stash house locations, resulting in several seizures of drugs and money. In total, agents seized 200 kilograms of cocaine wrapped in gray-colored duct tape and seven kilograms of heroin, five which were wrapped in black-colored duct tape and two which were hidden in re-sealed cans of food. Agents also seized approximately \$405,360 USC and three vehicles.

(U//DSEN) The CFD also conducted the following significant seizures during 2014:

- (U//DSEN) In December 2014, DEA Chicago Strike Force [redacted] seized a total of 79 kilograms of cocaine, eight pounds of black tar heroin, and more than \$1 million USC that were proceeds from previous cocaine transactions.³
- (U//DSEN) In November 2014, Chicago [redacted] seized two shipments of cocaine, one of 11 kilograms and another of 14 kilograms, being transported via Amtrak from Los Angeles, California.⁴
- (U//DSEN) In August 2014, DEA Chicago Strike Force [redacted] seized 23 kilograms of cocaine in a concealed compartment of a car.⁵
- (U//DSEN) In July 2014, the Indianapolis DO seized 14 kilograms of cocaine from a tractor trailer truck destined for Elkhart, Indiana.⁶

(U) Cocaine

(U//DSEN) The increase in cocaine seizures during FY 2014, after nearly a decade of declining seizures, is cause for concern. It is too soon to determine if this represents a concerted effort by Mexican DTOs to reinvigorate cocaine sales in the Midwest, particularly in light of the fact that CFD cocaine-related case initiations and arrests are at ten-year lows and because there has been no anecdotal reporting of a significant resurgence in cocaine use. It is more likely that the seizures reflect successful enforcement operations against cocaine traffickers who use the Chicago area as both a destination market and a transportation hub for shipments destined for other markets throughout the Midwestern and Eastern United States.

(U//DSEN) During the reporting period, Chicago Strike Force [redacted] executed several arrest warrants and consent searches, arresting 18 defendants in Chicago, California, Iowa, and Philadelphia seized one kilogram

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The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U) Figure 9. Cocaine			
DEA OFFICE	GRAM	OUNCE	KILOGRAM
CHICAGO	N/A ^b	\$650 - \$3,000	\$28,000 - \$45,000
FARGO RO	\$90 - \$150	1,200 - 2,500	N/A
GREEN BAY RO	100 - 150	900 - 1,800	N/A
INDIANAPOLIS DO	N/A	1,000 - 1,500	27,000 - 36,000
MADISON RO	100	700 - 1,500	N/A
MERRILLVILLE RO	50 - 100	900 - 1,600	24,000 - 36,000
MILWAUKEE DO	80 - 100	800 - 1,500	26,000 - 37,000
MINNEAPOLIS DO	N/A	1,200 - 1,400	25,000 - 31,000
ROCKFORD RO	N/A	N/A	36,000 - 38,000
SPRINGFIELD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DEA Reporting

(U) Figure 10. Crack Cocaine			
DEA OFFICE	ROCK	GRAM	OUNCE
CHICAGO	\$5 - \$20	\$50	\$800 - \$1,400
FARGO RO	N/A	25 - 100	N/A
GREEN BAY RO	10 - 25	N/A	N/A
INDIANAPOLIS DO	N/A	N/A	900 - 1,600
MADISON RO	N/A	10 - 150	N/A
MERRILLVILLE RO	10 - 20	100 - 120	800 - 1,400
MILWAUKEE DO	10 - 25	N/A	800 - 1,000
MINNEAPOLIS DO	N/A	90 - 140	980 - 1,000
ROCKFORD RO	N/A	60 - 100	N/A
SPRINGFIELD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DEA Reporting

^b N/A – Not Available

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U) Heroin

(U//DSEN) During FY 2014, the seizures of heroin within the CFD appear to have surpassed the previous record set during FY 2012. There appears to be no shortage of heroin despite record-level seizures occurring in each of the past six years. Although much of the heroin seized is believed to be of South American origin, CFD reporting reveals that the primary traffickers of this drug are Mexican, not Colombian. In addition, these Mexican heroin traffickers have expanded their heroin products to include white heroin. The estimated 100,000 street gang members in Chicago control virtually all of the retail-level sales outlets — open-air street-corner operations — for heroin in the city.

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(b)(7)(F)

(U//DSEN) On August 15, 2014, Chicago [redacted] arrested four subjects and seized 20 kilograms of heroin based on leads from DEA Atlanta Field Division. Two of the subjects had traveled from California to Tinley Park, Illinois.⁷ On September 19, 2014, Chicago [redacted] and the Chicago Police Department (PD) Area North Gun Team, arrested a Knights Templar Cartel cell head and his associate and seized two kilograms of heroin, a TEC-9 with a high capacity magazine and silencer, three additional firearms, and drug records. To date, [redacted] has made 11 arrests of members of this Knights Templar Cartel cell and seized 15 kilograms of heroin, eight kilograms of methamphetamine, one kilogram of cocaine, eight firearms, two kilogram presses, two money counters, and \$100,000 USC.⁸

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C);
(b)(7)(F)

(U//DSEN) On September 9, 2014, Chicago [redacted] seized approximately six kilograms of heroin, \$40,000 USC, and arrested a subject with an extensive criminal record and a history of supplying narcotics to street gangs in Gary; Indiana; Chicago Heights, Illinois; and Chicago's south side. Then, on October 21, [redacted] in coordination with Baltimore DO [redacted] seized one kilogram of heroin and \$25,000 USC in Berwyn, Illinois, from a Morelos, Mexico, based heroin broker.⁹

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(b)(7)(F)

(U//DSEN) On November 21, 2014, the DEA Rockford Resident Office (RO) arrested two individuals and seized six kilograms of heroin, \$34,790 USC, one handgun, and three vehicles. This investigation was conducted jointly with and in direct support of an operation being conducted by DEA Newark, New Jersey, HIDTA [redacted]. During the week of November 17, 2014, Rockford RO agents developed information relayed by HIDTA [redacted] in reference

to a heroin trafficking network operating in DeKalb, Illinois. Rockford RO agents and officers from the DeKalb City Police Department and DeKalb County Sheriff's Office conducted surveillance on suspected DTO targets attempting to identify when and where a potential shipment of heroin would arrive into the local area. A portion of this shipment of heroin was believed to be destined for Newark. Based on timely and reliable intelligence, investigators responded to a shopping center in DeKalb and eventually interdicted two individuals who had been previously identified as working in the Chicago area with a Newark target.¹⁰

(U//DSEN) CFD reporting on the Guerreros Unidos Cartel (GUC) underscores the potential volume of heroin being moved into the Midwestern United States. On December 9, 2014, Chicago [redacted] orchestrated the arrests of five GUC cell leaders and the seizure of several vehicles, two firearms, approximately \$40,000 USC, and numerous records/ledgers during the execution of multiple search and seizure warrants in this investigation. Three additional subjects charged remain at large. The actions follow a 15-month investigation in which communications established that the GUC used numerous buses with concealed compartments belonging to the Monarca Bus company to smuggle cash and heroin between Mexico and Aurora and Batavia, Illinois. A 20-kilogram shipment and a 31-kilogram heroin shipment that were removed from these buses were seized by [redacted] during the investigation.

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(b)(7)(C);
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(b)(7)(A)

(U//DSEN) FIGURE 11: CHICAGO GROUP
32 ARRESTS; TWO IN CONNECTION WITH
LARGE MONEY SEIZURE.



Source: DEA

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(b)(7)(F)

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(b)(7)(A)

The Atoka County, Oklahoma, Sheriff's Department, with coordination from the Oklahoma City DO and McAlester RO, arrested two subjects as they were en route to Mexico. The other subjects were arrested in Chicago, Aurora, and Rockford, Illinois. To date, this investigation has resulted in the seizure of over 68 kilograms of heroin, nine kilograms of cocaine, and \$500,000 USC. DEA investigative information established that this GUC cell was distributing in excess of 300 kilograms of heroin per month to the Midwestern United States, with much of it destined for violent Chicago street gangs.¹¹

**(U) Figure 12. Heroin: Brown Powder -
Illegal Drug Price Range Summary**

DEA OFFICE	GRAM	OUNCE	KILOGRAM
CHICAGO	\$65 - \$200	N/A	\$46,000 - \$80,000
FARGO RO	150 - 300	\$10,000 - \$12,000	N/A
GREEN BAY RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
INDIANAPOLIS DO	150 - 335	1,000 - 1,600	N/A
MADISON RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MERRILLVILLE RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MILWAUKEE DO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MINNEAPOLIS DO	100 - 150	1,900 - 2,400	40,000 (pounds)
ROCKFORD RO	120 - 150	N/A	N/A
SPRINGFIELD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DEA Reporting

**(U) Figure 13. Heroin: Black Tar -
Illegal Drug Price Range Summary**

DEA OFFICE	GRAM	OUNCE	KILOGRAM
CHICAGO	N/A	N/A	\$55,000 - \$65,000
FARGO RO	\$150 - \$250	\$4,000 - \$10,000	N/A
GREEN BAY RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
INDIANAPOLIS DO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MADISON RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MERRILLVILLE RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MILWAUKEE DO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MINNEAPOLIS DO	N/A	N/A	N/A
ROCKFORD RO	N/A	N/A	70,000 - 90,000
SPRINGFIELD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DEA Reporting

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

**(U) Figure 14. Heroin: White Powder (South American) -
Illegal Drug Price Range Summary**

DEA OFFICE	GRAM	OUNCE	KILOGRAM
CHICAGO	\$65 - \$150	\$1,000 - \$1,200	\$40,000 - \$75,000
FARGO RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
GREEN BAY RO	150 - 250	N/A	N/A
INDIANAPOLIS DO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MADISON RO	60 - 200	N/A	N/A
MERRILLVILLE RO	65 - 200	1,700 - 3,200	52,000 - 60,000
MILWAUKEE DO	85 - 200	2,100 - 3,000	N/A
MINNEAPOLIS DO	100 - 200	2,000 - 4,500	40,000 (pounds)
ROCKFORD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
SPRINGFIELD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DEA Reporting

**(U) Figure 15. Heroin: White Powder (Southwest Asia) -
Illegal Drug Price Range Summary**

DEA OFFICE	GRAM	OUNCE	KILOGRAM
CHICAGO	N/A	N/A	\$65,000 - \$85,000

Source: DEA Reporting

(U//DSEN) In 2013, the DEA Fort Wayne Post of Duty (POD) initiated an investigation into the poly-drug distribution activities of a methamphetamine and heroin cell head for the Sinaloa Cartel in Fort Wayne. During the course of this investigation methamphetamine was purchased on multiple occasions from DTO members, along with multiple weapons with the assistance of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). In January 2014, a traffic stop on a DTO member led to the seizure of approximately \$250,000 USC. In April, two DTO members were arrested in possession of 580 pounds of marijuana at a stash house in Fort Wayne following a controlled delivery. Further investigation led to the seizure of nine kilograms of heroin on December 17, 2014 in Ft. Wayne. Five defendants were subsequently arrested and charged federally. A search of one of the defendant's home led to the seizure of ¼ kilogram of cocaine, one shotgun, one AK-47 assault rifle, and one stolen handgun.¹²

(U) Heroin Signature Program

(U//DSEN) Results from the Heroin Signature Program (HSP) for FY 2014 are very limited at this time. These exhibits consist of 12.4 kilograms of heroin—a fraction of the overall amount of heroin seized in the CFD that year. As a result, conducting meaningful analysis of the results is not possible. Six of the exhibits were determined to be of South American origin, one Southwest Asian, one of Mexican origin, and no source of origin could be identified for two exhibits. The lone Southwest Asian heroin exhibit was a referral from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and was contained in a package that was sent via the U. S. Postal Service to Edina, Minnesota from Cupang, Philippines; it consisted of one 80 milligram tablet. The purity of the HSP exhibits ranged between 3.5 and 85.0 percent, with an overall average of 49.4 percent (See Figure 17).

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U) Figure 16. 2014 Heroin Signature Program Results

AGENCY	EXHIBIT No.	DATA COLLECTED	CITY	STATE	NET WEIGHT	PURITY	SIGNATURE
DEA	2	10/07/2013	Chicago	IL	805.6	75.5	South American
DEA	3	10/07/2013	Chicago	IL	148.4	49.4	South American
DEA	4	10/21/2013	Forest Park	IL	17.1	11.8	South American
ATF	4	11/15/2013	Chicago	IL	2,958.0	85.0	South American
ATF	5	11/15/2013	Chicago	IL	4,917.0	54.4	South American
ATF	6	11/15/2013	Chicago	IL	2,955.0	59.2	South American
FBI	102.01	01/03/2014	Chicago	IL	150.4	35.4	Unknown
DEA	1	01/16/2014	Minneapolis	MN	20.0	3.5	Southwest Asian Type C
DEA	15	04/08/2014	Robbinsdale	MN	349.9	49.7	Mexican Black Tar
ATF	45	05/13/2014	Chicago	IL	80.8	70.5	Unknown
TOTAL					12,402.2	49.4	

Source: DEA Reporting

(U) Domestic Monitor Program

(U//DSEN) Results from the Domestic Monitor Program (DMP) conducted during FY 2014 varied little from the program results observed over the past decade in Chicago. As with the HSP results noted above, heroin from South America predominates as an identified source of origin. Thus far in FY 2014, 18 exhibits have been analyzed by DEA's Special Testing and Research Laboratory (STRL). The average purity of the exhibits was 11.1 percent, with a low of 2.5 percent and a high of 25.4 percent, in line with DMP results from previous years. Of the 18 exhibits, 11 were unclassified, six were determined to be of South American origin, and one—a "free" sample—did not contain any heroin. Of concern is the large number of unclassified exhibits. Previous information provided by STRL suggests that many of these exhibits may be of Mexican origin, as DTOs there attempt to exert greater influence in the eastern U.S. heroin market.

(U) Fentanyl

(U//DSEN) No single drug captures the dynamics of all of the major threats to the CFD than does fentanyl. This drug appears as a diverted pharmaceutical, as a clandestinely-manufactured synthetic, and as a potentially lucrative substitute for heroin trafficked by the Mexican cartels and distributed by the street gangs. The lethality of this drug poses a significant threat to heroin users who ingest the drug, emergency personnel who treat these users, and law enforcement officers who handle it as evidence.

(U//DSEN) This threat became painfully evident in 2006 when more than 300 people died of fentanyl-related overdoses in Cook County, Illinois, and hundreds more nationwide, due to the introduction of a large volume of fentanyl manufactured in a clandestine laboratory in Mexico. This laboratory was identified during a CFD investigation of a Mexican DTO and, upon alerting the authorities in Mexico, it was dismantled successfully. Since this one laboratory supplied all of the fentanyl sold on U.S. streets at that point, fentanyl-related overdoses declined sharply.

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U//DSEN) Since that time, however, traffickers have identified new sources for fentanyl, for example in China, and are acquiring the drug through direct purchase over the internet and shipment via express parcel delivery services. This new trafficking scheme poses additional challenges to law enforcement authorities by creating new opportunities for criminals who traditionally never served as sources of supply or who were never even involved in illegal drug trafficking. As a result, future outbreaks of fentanyl-related overdoses could appear as isolated, unconnected spikes in cities where a trafficker has recently acquired a shipment of the drug; these traffickers need not be related to traditional sources of supply, such as Mexican DTOs or any of the Mexican cartels.

(U) Marijuana

(U//DSEN) Most of the marijuana available in the CFD is grown in and smuggled from Mexico. However, over the past few years, other sources for marijuana and the volume of that marijuana has been expanding. These include sources of supply located on the West Coast and Pacific Northwest and Asian DTOs that produce and distribute high-grade marijuana. During the summer months, it is common for law enforcement agencies in the CFD to identify and eradicate outdoor marijuana grow operations, often located on public lands. Additionally, local indoor marijuana grow operations appear to be expanding.

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C);
(b)(7)(F)

(U//DSEN) On October 27, 2014, Chicago [redacted] the Springfield RO, and the Illinois State Police conducted a controlled delivery of approximately 1,700 pounds of marijuana, and arrested two Mexican nationals who received the marijuana and who had recently traveled to the Chicago area from Guadalajara, Mexico, to oversee the distribution of the load.¹³

(U//DSEN) On August 17, 2014, DEA Indianapolis DO arrested the leader of a marijuana trafficking organization and one of his subordinates and seized approximately 40 pounds of high-grade marijuana, \$254,511 USC; two vehicles; and three handguns. Agents also seized one-half pound of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentrates, also referred to as “shatter” hash.¹⁴

(U//DSEN) Law enforcement agencies in the Chicago area are beginning to encounter THC extraction laboratories. For example, the CFD enforcement personnel have seized sophisticated THC extraction laboratories at indoor marijuana grow locations throughout the Chicago area. The extraction process, which utilizes butane and loose cannabis leaves and buds, also known as “trim,” creates a concentrated form of cannabis with THC levels of 60 percent or higher. The final product, most commonly referred to as Butane Honey Oil (BHO), is inhaled, smoked or ingested via edible products like candies and baked goods.

(U) Figure 17. Cannabis: Sinsemilla (e.g., “BC Bud,” “Hydro,” “Kush”) — Illegal Drug Price Range Summary

DEA OFFICE	GRAM	OUNCE	KILOGRAM
CHICAGO	N/A	N/A	\$1,800 - \$5,000
FARGO RO	N/A	\$400 - \$500	3,500 - 6,000
GREEN BAY RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
INDIANAPOLIS DO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MADISON RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MERRILLVILLE RO	\$20 - \$40	300 - 400	2,000 - 4,800
MILWAUKEE DO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MINNEAPOLIS DO	N/A	N/A	2,600 - 3,000
ROCKFORD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
SPRINGFIELD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DEA Reporting

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U//DSEN) The extraction laboratories have been operated by avid members of a popular marijuana blog site. On this site, marijuana growers from across the country discuss cannabis issues related to growing tips, the extraction process, current cannabis legislation, and defeating investigative techniques.

(U//DSEN) In August 2014, DEA Chicago HIDTA seized several cylindrical glass tubes from an indoor marijuana grow. These tubes had a small opening on one end and a screen-like material secured by a hose clamp on the other end. The tubes also contained cannabis plant material, primarily comprised of dried leaves and stems, compressed into them. Additionally, officers found butane bottles, a commercial grade vacuum pump, and a desktop digital vacuum degassing oven with the tubes. These items are consistent with the manufacturing of BHO.

(U//DSEN) DEA received additional information regarding the residual cannabis powder, often referred to as "pollen" or "kief". "Kief" is the powder form of the extracted plant cannabinoids. The powder can be extracted using a "kief" machine, which extracts the pollen from the cannabis plant. It takes a substantial amount of cannabis to make enough "kief" powder to fill a glass tube. If "kief" is substituted for loose cannabis during the same BHO method described above, then a user can manufacture an even higher level of THC in the final product.

(U) Methamphetamine

(U//DSEN) Historically, most methamphetamine distribution within the CFD has occurred in Indiana and Minnesota. However, over the past few years, large shipments of methamphetamine have been seized in the Chicago area. This has been of concern because, heretofore, there never has been a substantial market for the drug in the city. Investigative information indicates that most of this methamphetamine was

**(U) Figure 18. Cannabis:
Mexican — Illegal Drug Price Range Summary**

DEA OFFICE	GRAM	OUNCE	KILOGRAM
CHICAGO	N/A	\$100	\$500 - \$1,500
FARGO RO	N/A	100 - 175	1,200 - 1,600
GREEN BAY RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
INDIANAPOLIS DO	N/A	N/A	750 - 1,000
MADISON RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MERRILLVILLE RO	\$10	30 - 40	650 - 1,300
MILWAUKEE DO	N/A	50 - 100	325 - 1,000
MINNEAPOLIS DO	N/A	150 - 225	700 - 1,500
ROCKFORD RO	N/A	N/A	600 - 4,500
SPRINGFIELD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DEA Reporting

**(U) Figure 19. Cannabis:
Domestic — Illegal Drug Price Range Summary**

DEA OFFICE	GRAM	OUNCE	KILOGRAM
CHICAGO	N/A	N/A	N/A
FARGO RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
GREEN BAY RO	\$25 - \$50	\$50 - \$100	\$500 - \$700
INDIANAPOLIS DO	N/A	N/A	3,000 - 4,000
MADISON RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
MERRILLVILLE RO	5 - 10	30 - 40	400 - 1,100
MILWAUKEE DO	N/A	300 - 500	3,000 - 4,800
MINNEAPOLIS DO	N/A	N/A	3,000 - 4,000
ROCKFORD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
SPRINGFIELD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DEA Reporting

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

destined for other markets in the Midwest, but also that a larger volume of the drug is now available in the Chicago area. It is presumed that the Mexican DTOs moving the drug to Chicago may be attempting to develop a market for it in the area; this would be an ominous development in a region already beset by chronically high levels of cocaine, heroin, and marijuana abuse.

(U//DSEN) On December 6, 2014, the DEA Evansville POD was notified by FedEx in Evansville of a suspicious FedEx package sent on December 5, 2014, from Beverly Hills, California, to Poseyville, Indiana. Officers executed a search warrant for the package revealing that it contained six pounds of methamphetamine.

(b)(7)(A)

(U//DSEN) On December 8, 2014, DEA Garden City, Kansas, contacted the Indianapolis DO regarding the seizure of three pounds of methamphetamine and 1/2 kilogram of cocaine. Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) Interdiction Units attempted to conduct a traffic stop; however, the subject fled in his vehicle. During the pursuit by IMPD marked units, the subject collided with a tree and was subsequently found dead inside the vehicle from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. Additional investigation resulted in the seizure of \$9,000 USC, five fully loaded military grade rifles with 1000+ rounds of ammunition, one shotgun, eight handguns, a ballistic vest, and a Cadillac sedan. An additional nine pounds of methamphetamine and 1.5 kilograms of cocaine were also seized during the operation. The Indianapolis DO also learned that the subject was arrested on April 25, 2014, in Lake County, Indiana, with approximately five kilograms of cocaine.¹⁶

(U) Figure 20. Methamphetamine – Illegal Drug Price Range Summary

DEA OFFICE	GRAM	OUNCE	POUND
CHICAGO	N/A	\$900 - \$1,800	\$10,000 - \$16,000
FARGO RO	\$200 - \$350	2,500 - 3,500	25,000 - 30,000
GREEN BAY RO	N/A	N/A	N/A
INDIANAPOLIS DO	N/A	1,500 - 2,400	12,000 - 24,000
MADISON RO	N/A	900	N/A
MERRILLVILLE RO	N/A	1,000 - 1,600	16,000 - 19,500
MILWAUKEE DO	110 - 120	N/A	N/A
MINNEAPOLIS DO	N/A	1,000 - 1,800	6,500 - 11,000
ROCKFORD RO	80 - 100	N/A	N/A
SPRINGFIELD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DEA Reporting

(U//DSEN) On December 23, 2014, CFD reporting from Evansville, Indiana indicated that two individuals from Evansville were traveling to Phoenix from Louisville International Airport in an attempt to obtain methamphetamine from a source of supply. Once arriving in Phoenix, they would be traveling back to Evansville during the Christmas holidays. On December 25, 2014, the two subjects were arrested pursuant to a traffic stop at Illinois Route 1 and Illinois Route 45, Norris City, Illinois, that resulted in the seizure of 17 pounds of methamphetamine found concealed inside a black duffel bag in the trunk of a vehicle.¹⁷

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C);
(b)(7)(F)

(U//DSEN) On November 17, 2014, Chicago [redacted] seized approximately five kilograms of methamphetamine following an interview at a residence in Cicero, Illinois.

(b)(7)(A)

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U//DSEN) On October 21, 2014, the Minneapolis DO seized approximately 19 pounds of methamphetamine and approximately \$60,000 USC during the execution of a search warrant.

(b)(7)(A)

(U//DSEN) On October 1, 2014, Minneapolis DO Task Force [redacted] executed 11 federal arrest and eight search warrants in the Owatonna, Minnesota, resulting in the arrests of 11 defendants and the seizure of six pounds of methamphetamine, and \$75,000 in assets.

(b)(6);
(b)(7)(C);
(b)(7)(F)

(b)(7)(A)

(U//DSEN) On September 24, 2014, DEA Indianapolis [redacted] arrested five individuals on federal drug conspiracy charges and three individuals on state drug charges. Law enforcement officers also seized seven pounds of methamphetamine, \$150,000 USC, six firearms, and 19 vehicles.²²

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C);
(b)(7)(F)

(b)(7)(D); (b)(7)(A)

(U) Other Drugs

(U//DSEN) The manufacture of synthetic cannabinoid and cathinone products continues to be a significant threat across the AOR. Although investigations of this criminal activity typically pose a number of significant challenges, for example identifying chemically the true controlled substance involved, they often result in the seizure of sizeable quantities of illegal substances and assets. During FY 2014, the CFD conducted enforcement operations targeting the producers and distributors of these drugs in the Chicago, Springfield, and Milwaukee areas.

(U//DSEN) On January 30, 2014, a Federal Grand Jury in the Northern District of Illinois returned a 26 count indictment on a father and son for allegedly operating a \$2 million nationwide mail order business distributing synthetic marijuana using an internet website in Manhattan, Illinois. This is one of the first indictments in the Northern District of Illinois for violations of the Federal Controlled Substance Analogue Act. The execution of search warrants resulted in the seizure of hundreds of packages of illegal synthetic marijuana products, which were packaged for retail distribution, and eight bank accounts totaling approximately \$165,247. In addition to charges related to the misbranding of controlled substances, the target was charged with money laundering violations.²⁴

(U//DSEN) During October and December 2014, the Springfield RO seized over 100 pounds of synthetic cannabinoids in Decatur, Illinois.²⁵ The Milwaukee DO seized 7,000 packets of synthetic cannabinoid products and \$780,000 USC from accounts of a business located in Delavan, Wisconsin.

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U) Figure 21. Other Drugs (price range per dosage unit or pill)

DEA OFFICE	MDMA	HYDROCODONE	OXYCODONE	VALIUM/ XANAX®	ADDERALL/ RITALIN®
CHICAGO	\$5 - \$15	N/A	N/A	\$3 - \$5	\$5 - \$10
FARGO RO	N/A	N/A	\$10 - \$50	N/A	N/A
GREEN BAY RO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
INDIANAPOLIS DO	4 - 25	\$4 - \$8	10 - 80	3 - 8	3 - 8
MADISON RO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MERRILLVILLE RO	15 - 25	3 - 5	3 - 5	3 - 5	N/A
MILWAUKEE DO	N/A	5 - 10	N/A	4	5
MINNEAPOLIS DO	20	6 - 8	N/A	N/A	8 - 12
ROCKFORD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SPRINGFIELD RO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DEA Reporting

(U) Diversion

(U//DSEN) Diversion within the Chicago Field Division occurs at all levels of the distribution chain. Diversion is encountered through fraudulent prescriptions; theft; deception by doctors, pharmacists, and pharmacy employees; illegal or indiscriminate prescribing; and illegal dispensing by pharmacists. Schedule III and IV controlled substances especially Vicodin® and other hydrocodone products have been the most frequently diverted controlled substances in the Division. For more than a decade hydrocodone products have been the most prescribed narcotic drug and oxycodone products have been the most abused narcotic drugs. However, with the re-scheduling of hydrocodone products from Schedule III to Schedule II, effective October 6, 2014, it is anticipated that prescribing of hydrocodone products will decrease. This will reduce the opportunities for diversion, misuse, and abuse. Other commonly diverted controlled substances are benzodiazepines and codeine combination products, to include codeine cough syrups.

(U//DSEN) There is a state managed Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) in each state in the CFD's five state AOR. The PMPs have helped to further diversion investigations by providing law enforcement agencies with prescription information that is vital to ongoing investigations. With PMP information, investigators are able to identify fraudulent prescriptions, doctor shoppers, and the quantity and frequency of issued prescriptions. Nevertheless, Schedule II narcotics and stimulants continue to be sought after by dealers and users throughout the Division.

(U//DSEN) FIGURE 22: SEIZURE OF OVER \$1.8 MILLION USC.



Source: DEA

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U//DSEN) Regulated chemical firms are carefully scrutinized to ensure they adhere to regulatory requirements and application process. As a result of these efforts, diversion of Listed Chemicals by regulated firms has decreased dramatically in recent years. The Division will continue to monitor these registrants in view of the significant national concern regarding abuse of methamphetamine.

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(7)(D); (b)(7)(F)

(U//DSEN) On July 24, 2014, a subject was arrested by CFD and indicted by the Illinois Attorney General's Office on five counts of unlawful acquisition of a controlled substance, Class 4 Felonies, two counts of medication shopping, Class A Misdemeanors, and one count of deceptive practices, a Class 4 Felony, which were allegedly committed in the Illinois counties of Cook, Kane, and McHenry. The investigation revealed that from December 2012 through present the subject obtained 7,254 tablets of different hydrocodone combination products, a Schedule III controlled substance, for which he received prescriptions from over 195 different practitioners and got the prescriptions filled at over 68 different pharmacies in multiple counties in Illinois. The subject also obtained various other Schedule III, IV, and V controlled substances, but hydrocodone was the primary drug he received.²⁷

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C);
(b)(7)(F)

(U//DSEN) On September 22, 2014, a pharmacy manager was arrested and processed by the Madison County (Indiana) Sheriff's Department and charged with two counts of Possession of a Controlled Substance and two counts of theft under Indiana criminal codes. This Indianapolis DO Diversion [redacted] investigation was initiated in September 2014 after information was received by CVS Loss Prevention Unit regarding a pharmacy located in Alexandria, Indiana, which reported that a pharmacy manager was suspected of stealing quantities of controlled substances from the pharmacy. During a subsequent interview, the subject admitted to the theft of approximately 8,500 tablets of hydrocodone for self-use. A DEA audit has revealed in excess of 25,000 tablets of hydrocodone and benzodiazepines unaccounted for from this pharmacy.²⁸

(U//DSEN) In September 2013, Minneapolis TDS initiated an investigation into the alleged drug diversion activities of a licensed pharmacist who obtained controlled substances from the pharmacy allegedly for her own personal use and benefit. The substances diverted included hydrocodone, oxycodone, carisoprodol, diazepam, and tramadol products. Subsequent to an extensive DEA audit, it was determined that the pharmacist was responsible for diverting over 67,000 dosage units of controlled substances. The diversion was accomplished by misrepresentation, fraud, and deception. The pharmacist falsified the pharmacy's written logbooks and computer logs to reflect receipt of smaller quantities of the diverted substances

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

than had actually been received by the registrant. The pharmacist would then steal/divert the quantity of controlled substances that had been omitted from the log books. If sold on the street, within the greater Minneapolis metropolitan area, the value of the diverted drugs was estimated at approximately \$542,003. The investigation further substantiated civil culpability on the part of the DEA registrant pharmacy.²⁹

(U//DSEN) On July 25, 2014, DEA Indianapolis culminated an investigation of a physician and the Drug and Opiate Rehabilitation Network (DORN) Medical Practice with 16 simultaneous search and arrest actions that resulted in the arrest of four doctors and seven members of the DORN staff, to include a Registered Nurse and an Attorney. The physician and other members of DORN engaged in a scheme of providing controlled substance prescriptions of Suboxone® with no proper medical exam and for no legitimate medical purpose in exchange for cash payments.

(b)(7)(D)

In addition to the arrests, investigators seized numerous pre-signed prescriptions, patient files and assets to include; bank accounts and cash totaling over \$400,000; numerous vehicles and conveyances; and four pieces of real property. Investigators served the physician with an Immediate Suspension Order prohibiting him from causing any further harm to the public. Additionally, one of the other medical doctors agreed to voluntarily surrender his DEA registration.³⁰

(U) Money Laundering and Financial Crimes

(U//DSEN) A substantial amount of USC is collected in the Chicago area from drug sales occurring both within the city and throughout the Midwest in preparation for its movement to the Southwest Border for eventual delivery to cartels and other drug suppliers residing in Mexico. In addition, significant amounts of USC are transported to domestic source cities, including those in border states such as Arizona, California, and Texas, for the purchase of illegal drugs.

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C);
(b)(7)(F)

(U//DSEN) On November 1, 2014, based on information received from DEA Chicago (b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(7)(F) members of the DEA Indianapolis DO (b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(7)(F) and the Indianapolis Metropolitan Drug Task Force (Metro) recovered \$456,160 USC from a subject in a hotel room who claimed he was contracted by an unknown Hispanic male in Ontario, California, and instructed to pick up the currency near Hammond, Indiana—close to the Indiana/Illinois border— and then to take the currency to an unknown location in California.³¹

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C);
(b)(7)(F)

(U//DSEN) During the second half of calendar year 2014, the Chicago Airport Group (b)(6); (b)(7)(C); (b)(7)(F) seized approximately \$1.6 million USC at Chicago-area airports and train stations. The value of each of the 39 seizures ranged between \$14,000 USC and \$110,000 USC with an average seizure value of nearly \$42,000 USC. All but six of the seizures were destined for California; other destinations included Arizona, Colorado, and Texas, all of which are border states and/or source areas for illegal drugs.

(U) Outlook

(U//DSEN) At the wholesale level, there appear to be no viable competitors to the Mexican DTOs that serve as the primary sources of supply for the major illegal drugs of abuse within the CFD; specifically cocaine, heroin, marijuana, and methamphetamine. Similarly, street gangs are expected to maintain control of the retail-level drug market places within the major cities of the AOR. As a result, the enforcement efforts of the CFD will continue to focus on identifying, targeting, and dismantling these groups.

(U//DSEN) The recent rise in cocaine seizures, both within the Division and in other areas, is cause for concern. The supply of a larger volume of high-quality heroin is not receding and it is interesting to note that, despite the higher availability of the drug, there has been no corresponding increase in purity at the retail level, as would be expected. Indiana and Minnesota will continue to experience the brunt of

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

(U//DSEN) FIGURE 23: SEIZURE OF APPROXIMATELY EIGHT POUNDS OF MDMA (AKA MOLLY).



Source: DEA

methamphetamine distribution within the CFD; however, the spike in seizures of this drug in the Chicago area has been an ominous development.

(U//DSEN) The fluid nature of the emerging market for synthetic drugs could provide opportunities for new entrants into the illegal drug market, mainly because of the ease with which traffickers can obtain chemicals and/or synthetic drugs from foreign sources, most notably China, and the ease with which they can be converted to retail-level illegal drugs. However, absent more widespread acceptance of and increased demand for these drugs, these opportunities will remain isolated and limited, particularly when compared to the scale at which the cartels and gangs operate. The deployment of additional TDSs across the Division will lead to increased targeting of the diversion of pharmaceuticals and chemicals and likely will result in a larger number of arrests and significant asset seizures.

(U//DSEN) As criminals identify new sources for fentanyl via the internet, outbreaks of fentanyl-related overdoses could occur randomly throughout the United States. It is important to note that these criminals need not be traditional drug traffickers, nor need they be associated with established

DTOs; however, they will have to have some association with illegal drug distributors in order for them to sell the drug to users at the retail-level and these distributors most likely would be members of street gangs.

- ¹ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, January 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ² (U) Chicago Crime Commission, The Chicago Crime Commission Gang Book - 2012, (http://www.chicagocrimecommission.org/content.aspx?page_id=586&club_id=783436&item_id=3211).
- ³ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, December 4 and December 12, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ⁴ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division reporting, November 7 and December 11, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ⁵ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, July 9 and August 26, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ⁶ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, July 10, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ⁷ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, August 17, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ⁸ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, September 20, 2104; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ⁹ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, September 9, September 29, and October 22, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ¹⁰ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, November 26, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).

The Drug Situation in the Chicago Field Division: July - December 2014

- ¹¹ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, July 30, August 17, and December 10, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ¹² (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, December 23, 201; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ¹³ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, October 29, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ¹⁴ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, August 19, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ¹⁵ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, (b)(7)(A) extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ¹⁶ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, December 10, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ¹⁷ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, August 4, December 9, and December 29, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ¹⁸ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, (b)(7)(A) extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ¹⁹ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, (b)(7)(A) extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ²⁰ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, (b)(7)(A) extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ²¹ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, (b)(7)(A) extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ²² (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, September 25, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ²³ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, (b)(7)(D); (b)(7)(A) extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ²⁴ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, January 31, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ²⁵ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, October 22 and December 31, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ²⁶ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, (b)(7)(D) extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ²⁷ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, July 24 and November 12, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ²⁸ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, October 14, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ²⁹ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, October 28, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ³⁰ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, July 25, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).
- ³¹ (U//DSEN) DEA Chicago Field Division Investigative Reporting, November 4, 2014; extracted information is: (U//DSEN); overall document classification is: (U//DSEN).

(U) This product was prepared by the DEA Chicago Field Division. Comments and questions may be addressed to the Chief, Analysis and Production Section at dea.onsi@usdoj.gov.