

CY 2006

ANNUAL REPORT

OHIO



OHIO HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA
984 Keynote Circle
Brooklyn Heights, Ohio 44131
(216) 739-3500

Director John Sommer

This document was specially prepared for the ONDCP High Intensity Drug Trafficking Program

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ohio High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program continued to develop in 2006 in response to the drug threats in the region. The Ohio HIDTA, like all HIDTAs nationwide, is designed to significantly disrupt the market for illicit drug activities through the cooperative efforts of federal, state, and local law enforcement. Every time illegal drugs and associated drug assets are seized, the regional marketplace for illegal drugs suffers a setback. These seizures hit drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) hard, affecting their profitability, and frequently their ultimate survival. By disturbing the drug supply chain at the local, multi-state, or international level, law enforcement impacts the drug flow before it ever reaches the individual user. Law enforcement activities, of course, also have a cost. A key question that this report will answer, therefore, is how efficiently and effectively public dollars are being spent on these objectives. During this past reporting period, Ohio HIDTA initiatives disrupted the market for illegal drugs by meeting or exceeding many of their performance targets for the year, and by making significant advances towards meeting other performance targets, in a cost effective manner. The following highlights illustrate this success:

- The Ohio HIDTA facilitates cooperation and joint efforts between numerous law enforcement organizations throughout the region. There were 389 personnel representing 90 federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies participating in the Ohio HIDTA initiatives. The Ohio HIDTA Initiatives and Investigative Support Center combine and coordinate their efforts to continue to make significant progress in identifying, investigating and dismantling or disrupting the area's most dangerous and prolific DTOs, drug dealers, money launderers, street gangs and violent criminals.
- During Calendar Year (CY) 2006, almost \$80,000,000 million dollars in illicit drug profits were removed from regional DTOs, having a lasting effect on their abilities to continue to operate. These seizures represent a sizeable reduction in illicit drug availability.
- Every Ohio HIDTA budget dollar spent on law enforcement and intelligence initiatives contributed to removing \$23.11 in illicit drugs from the market and to seizing \$7.09 of drug-related assets. Ohio HIDTA law enforcement and intelligence initiatives achieved a remarkable combined Return-on-Investment (ROI) of \$30.20 for every \$1.00 of Ohio HIDTA funds invested.
- HIDTAs exist to disrupt and dismantle DTOs. During 2006, Ohio HIDTA initiatives identified 124 DTOs, had 116 DTOs under investigation, and expected to disrupt or dismantle 68 of these DTOs. By the end of the year, 12 of these targeted DTOs were disrupted. In addition, 32 of the targeted DTOs were totally dismantled. In total, Ohio HIDTA Initiatives disrupted or dismantled 65% of the DTOs expected to be disrupted or dismantled.
- The Ohio HIDTA strives to investigate larger, more complex DTOs. Disrupting or dismantling a large-scale DTO generally takes longer than stopping a street level operation, but doing so can substantially reduce the illicit drug marketplace. As illustrated by the statistical measures contained throughout this annual report, during CY 2006, Ohio HIDTA initiatives targeted numerous complex cases involving larger DTOs. Specifically, Ohio HIDTA initiatives handled 38 OCDETF cases of which 16 involved multi-state DTOs and 20 were international in

scope. In addition, Ohio HIDTA initiatives developed enough information to identify 12 of these more complex investigations as CPOT cases, which comprises an impressive 10% of the total number of DTO cases investigated in 2006 by Ohio HIDTA initiatives. An additional 13 cases have been identified as RPOT cases, which brings the total of CPOT and RPOT cases being investigated in 2006 by Ohio HIDTA Initiatives to an imposing 22%.

- An Ohio HIDTA initiative dismantled a DTO that was responsible for distributing substantial amounts of cocaine into the Ohio HIDTA region. An 18-month OCDEF investigation by the Ohio HIDTA Stark County Violent Crimes Task Force led to the dismantlement of a multi-state RPOT-linked DTO and culminated in the seizure of 52 kilograms of cocaine, a load car containing \$956,000 in United States Currency in a secret compartment, \$326,000 in United States Currency secreted in residences and bank accounts, and \$657,000 in vehicles and properties. The drug-trafficking organization involved, based in Los Angeles, California and Phoenix, Arizona, was responsible for the yearly transportation and distribution of 240-300 kilograms of cocaine to the Stark County Area. Once again this demonstrates the effectiveness of an Ohio HIDTA task force in dismantling a DTO responsible for pouring significant quantities of cocaine into the region. The investigation also revealed that the head of the organization had direct links to the Black Guerilla Family and the Black Gangster Disciples. The initiative utilized a four month Title III wiretap that resulted in the execution of multiple search warrants in Stark County, Ohio and Los Angeles, California. As a result, 18 individuals associated with this organization have been charged and found guilty of drug trafficking and money laundering in Federal Court. Intelligence derived from the investigation led to a joint investigation with the Los Angeles County Sheriff Criminal Division and the Los Angeles FBI relating to corrupt Los Angeles County Sheriff's employees including a deputy sheriff.
- The Ohio HIDTA continues to play a leading role in addressing training needs for law enforcement and investigative support initiatives, as well as participating agencies in the region. In 2006, almost 2,400 initiative and participating agency personnel were trained through the Ohio HIDTA Training Program at a cost of only \$4.69 per hour of training.
- The Ohio HIDTA Investigative Support Center (ISC) continues to increase and expand its role in assisting initiatives with their information sharing and investigative needs. Ohio HIDTA initiatives and participating agencies submitted a total of 4,456 event and subject deconflictions in 2006. Information sharing and training support form the "glue" that binds these initiatives together by promoting and facilitating greater efficiency and effectiveness.

II. INTRODUCTION

The Ohio HIDTA is proud to present this annual report documenting its activities and accomplishments during the 2006 calendar year. To fully appreciate the scope of these accomplishments, a basic knowledge of the HIDTA program is helpful. The Director of ONDCP designates regions with critical drug-trafficking problems adversely impacting the United States as HIDTAs. The national HIDTA program, composed of 28 individual HIDTAs spread throughout the nation, is uniquely situated to combat drug trafficking. HIDTAs play a significant role in addressing real world drug and drug-related problems, and offer real world solutions.

The Ohio HIDTA is comprised of eleven counties, which cover the major metropolitan areas in Ohio. In 2006, the Ohio HIDTA fostered cooperative and effective working relationships with 90 federal, state, and local agencies, comprised of 389 agents, officers, analysts and other staff members, in its effort to disrupt or dismantle DTOs. (A complete list of participating agencies can be found in Appendix C.) These working relationships are the foundation of the Ohio HIDTA initiatives. A detailed description of each initiative can be found in the *Ohio HIDTA 2006 Initiative Descriptions and Budget Proposal*, which is available from the Ohio HIDTA office. A summary of each initiative can be found in Appendix E. The following tables depict the breakdown of this coordinated participation.

Chart 1 – Breakdown of Participating Agencies – 2006

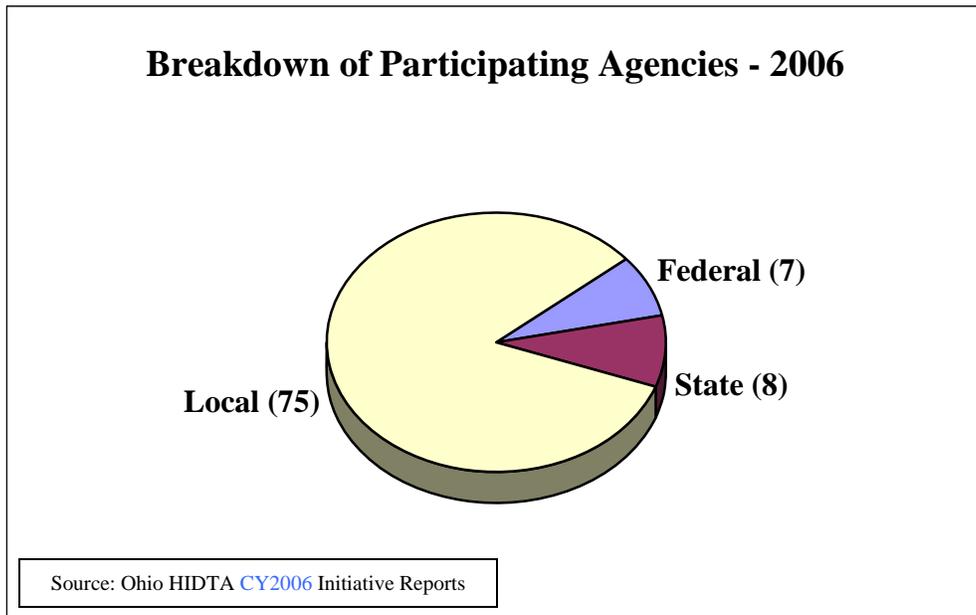
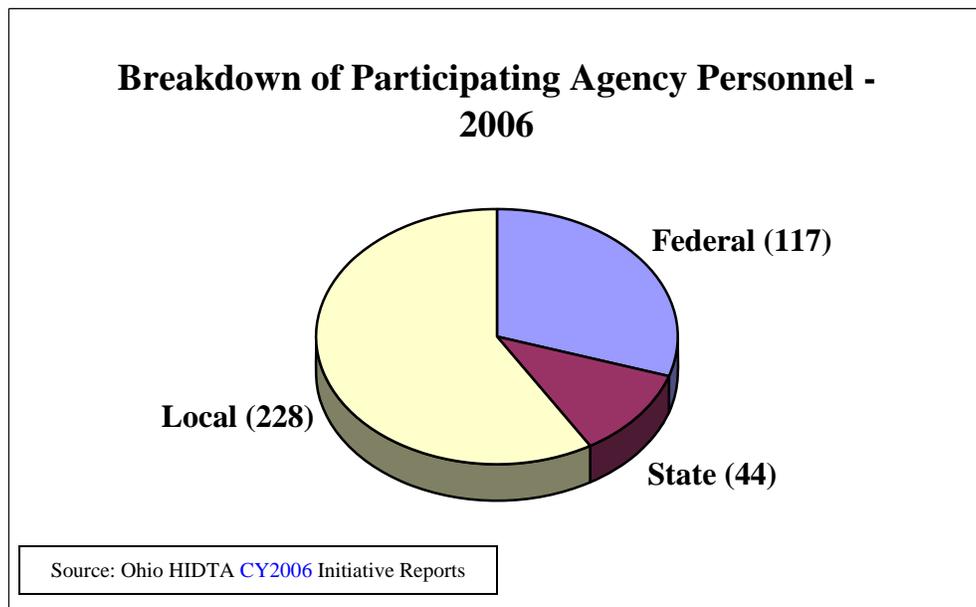


Chart 2 – Breakdown of Participating Agency Personnel – 2006



Ohio HIDTA law enforcement initiatives have established strategies that focus on immobilizing DTOs, especially those involved with drug-related violent crime, as well as targeting those DTOs that have the greatest adverse impact on the quality of life in neighborhoods and communities throughout the region. There is a determined effort to counter drug movement into and through the region, and to arrest those who conceal the proceeds from illegal drug sales within the region. This is exemplified by the continuing enhancements to regional investigative and interdiction initiatives.

To achieve meaningful results, each HIDTA needs clear goals (the HIDTA Program Goals); an understanding of the challenges faced (a Threat Assessment); a plan of action (a Strategy with quantifiable performance targets); and a means to document achievements (an Annual Report). The overall HIDTA mission is embodied by the following National Program Mission Statement:

**National HIDTA
Program Mission Statement**

The mission of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program is to disrupt the market for illegal drugs in the United States by assisting federal, state, and local 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.

The Ohio HIDTA's mission presents a clear and concise message in its cooperative approach towards reducing drug availability in the region. The Ohio HIDTA fully embodies the following mission in conjunction with the national program objectives.

**Ohio HIDTA
Mission Statement**

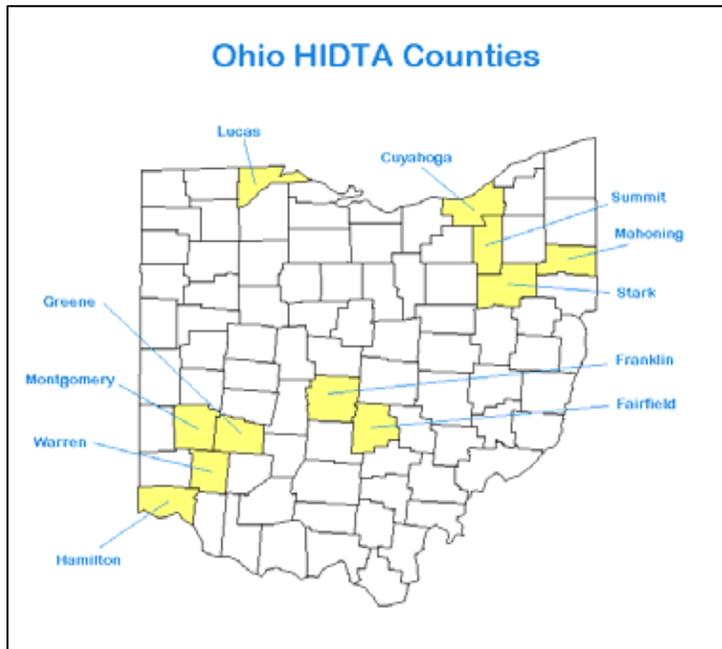
The mission of the Ohio HIDTA is to reduce drug availability by creating intelligence-driven task forces aimed at eliminating or reducing drug trafficking and its harmful consequences through enhancing and helping to coordinate drug-trafficking control efforts among federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

Reporting Period: This Annual Report covers the reporting period January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006.

Budget Allocation: During this reporting period, ONDCP allocated a \$3,133,000 budget for Ohio HIDTA operations. The Ohio HIDTA strives to minimize any expenditure that does not directly address achieving primary objectives. Throughout this Annual Report, the Ohio HIDTA is pleased to report significant success in achieving its mission, and its performance projects a positive future. HIDTA dollars are well spent since they are yielding precisely the desired effects.

Geographic Area of Responsibility:

- Cuyahoga County
- Fairfield County
- Franklin County
- Greene County
- Hamilton County
- Lucas County
- Mahoning County
- Montgomery County
- Stark County
- Summit County
- Warren County



The Ohio HIDTA region covers the major cities in Ohio, including Akron, Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Toledo and Youngstown. The mixture of rural and urban areas in the region fosters a model habitat for drug smuggling, transportation, distribution, production, and consumption of illegal drugs. The Ohio HIDTA region is located approximately halfway between Chicago, Illinois and New York, New York and in close proximity to the U.S./Canadian border. Major interstate highways (I-70, I-71, I-75, I-76, I-77, I-80 and I-90) are easily accessible within the entire Ohio HIDTA region and connect Ohio in all directions to prominent drug-trafficking source areas of supply. These highways, combined with Ohio's other well-developed transportation routes including air, rail, and bus, make this region a prime market of choice for the transportation and distribution of illicit drugs by DTOs.



III. National HIDTA Goals

HIDTAs nationally have adopted two specific goals to address the drug challenge. These two national goals guide all HIDTA initiatives and activities throughout the United States. The Ohio HIDTA is proud to present these national HIDTA program goals, plus concise summaries of its Threat Assessment (Drug Market Analysis) for Budget Year 2006 and resultant Strategy in the following sections. The Ohio HIDTA has developed an individual strategy to meet local drug threats according to its individual needs, in conjunction with the following national objectives:

NATIONAL HIDTA GOALS

Goal 1: Disrupt the market for illegal drugs by dismantling or disrupting drug-trafficking and/or money-laundering organizations; and

Goal 2: Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of HIDTA initiatives.

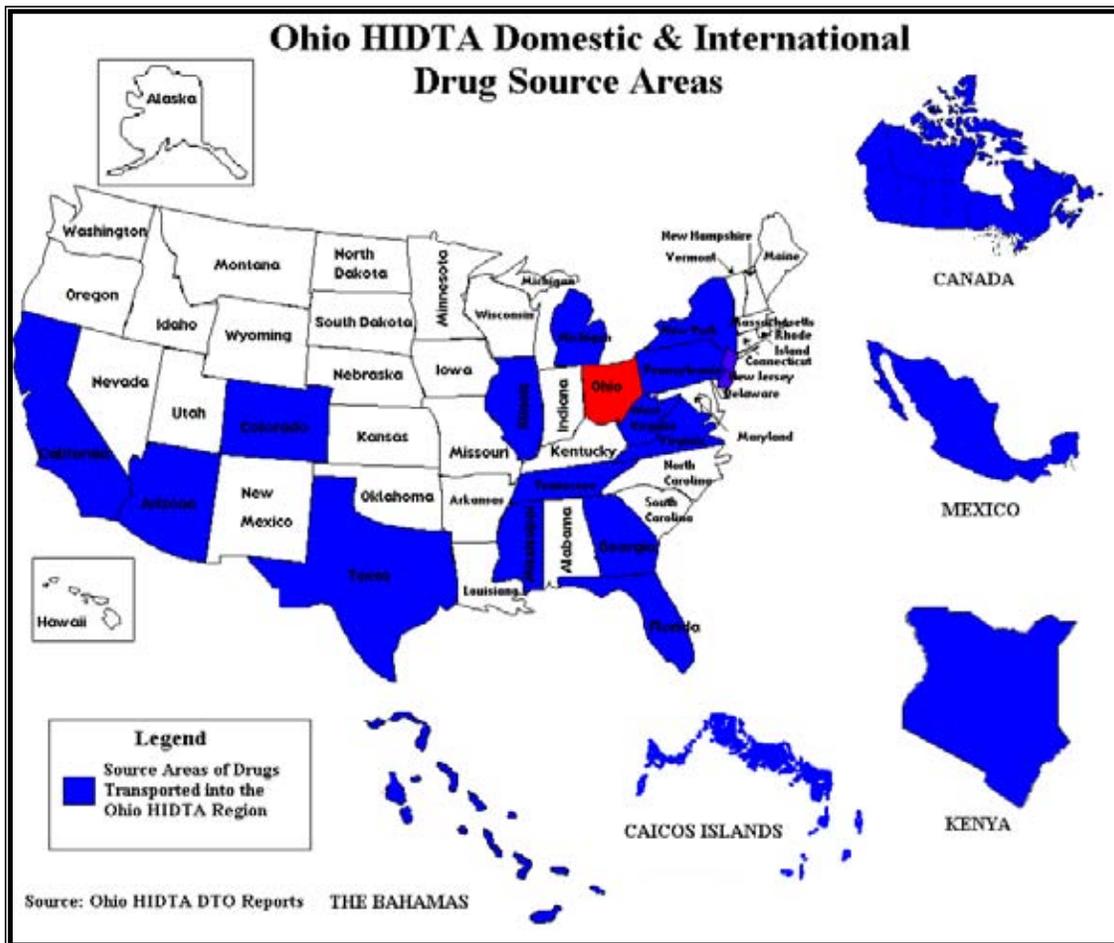
The HIDTA Goals represent clear targets for Ohio HIDTA initiatives. They also provide the foundation upon which performance planning and outcome measurements are based. As the Ohio HIDTA develops budget submissions, each Ohio HIDTA initiative must present programmatic and fiscal justifications that are based on identified threats, must articulate how the initiative's funding request directly addresses the threat, must set realistic performance measures, and must eventually provide specific information on how the funding has allowed the Ohio HIDTA to meet its desired outcomes. Ohio HIDTA initiatives are developed within clear national guidelines governing all HIDTA activities and expenditures.

The Ohio HIDTA Executive Board is significantly involved in all aspects of the Ohio HIDTA intelligence, investigation, and interdiction activities. The board provides a forum to share important trends in drug trafficking, gathers information on which drugs are being distributed throughout the region, and identifies DTOs. The board also addresses important administrative issues in its oversight capacity. The board has established an ISC/Intelligence Subcommittee that supports Ohio HIDTA initiatives and its participating agencies on a wide variety of intelligence issues, training, and other matters. The board has also established a Technical Equipment Subcommittee that supports Ohio HIDTA initiatives in the latest trends in technology for law enforcement. Ohio HIDTA success is measured by results, and each initiative is fully accountable for its success or failure in meeting its objectives.

IV. Summary of Threat Assessment for Budget Year 2006

In CY 2006 the Ohio HIDTA and the National Drug Intelligence Center (NDIC) collaborated in the production of a well-researched and thorough drug market analysis as part of the Ohio HIDTA's formation of an accurate and effective plan to combat drug trafficking in the Ohio HIDTA region. The *Ohio HIDTA 2006 Drug Market Analysis* provides details on the threats identified. The following summary is presented for convenience.

The Ohio HIDTA is uniquely located midway between Chicago and New York City (two of the largest drug distribution centers in the country). It lies in close proximity to the U.S./Canadian border with seaports located in Cleveland and Toledo. With numerous interstate highways located throughout the Ohio HIDTA region, it is also linked to major domestic drug source areas along the Southwest border. This massive highway system is also advantageous for drug-trafficking organizations to maneuver illicit drugs directly into and through the area. Mexican DTOs have increasingly concealed significant quantities of drugs in private and commercial vehicles equipped with sophisticated hidden compartments while shipping smaller quantities via mail and package delivery services. The chart below illustrates the domestic and international source areas from which DTOs transported drugs into the Ohio HIDTA region in 2006.



Mexican drug-trafficking organizations (DTOs) are the principal transporters and wholesale distributors of illicit drugs in the Ohio HIDTA region. Additionally, they have expanded their established transportation and distribution networks into previously untapped markets in smaller cities which have further strengthened their drug-trafficking operations in the Ohio HIDTA region. Their dominance over wholesale drug distribution in many areas is unrivaled and increasing. Over the last several years, Mexican DTOs have gained control over much of the wholesale cocaine and marijuana distribution in the largest cities in the Ohio HIDTA region, such as Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, and Toledo. In recent years, they have also gained greater control over the wholesale distribution of those drugs in smaller cities, such as Canton and Dayton. Mexican DTOs have also become the predominant distributors of heroin in Southern Ohio, and increasingly in Northern Ohio in such cities as Akron and Cleveland. Dominican and Jamaican DTOs are less influential but pose a heightened threat since they are continuously challenged for control of drug distribution areas by Mexican DTOs.

Cocaine, particularly crack cocaine, is not only the greatest drug threat to the major metropolitan areas but also to some of the smaller cities in the Ohio HIDTA region. However, sharp increases in both heroin and methamphetamine arrests and seizures are evidence of a rapid increase in the availability of these drugs. Mexican brown powder and black tar heroin are now the most available heroin types in most of the Ohio HIDTA region. Dominican-supplied South American heroin is less available than it previously was due to the dominance by the Mexican DTOs. The overall number of reported local methamphetamine laboratory, dumpsite, and chemical/glassware seizures throughout the Ohio HIDTA region continues to increase. Summit County, located in Northern Ohio, has the most number of seizures, which equates to approximately one-fourth of all methamphetamine laboratories seized in the state. There has also been an increase in the availability and abuse of Mexico-produced ice methamphetamine. Although a great deal of marijuana distribution is controlled by Mexican DTOs the region is also vulnerable to Canada-produced marijuana due to its close proximity to high volume U.S.-Canada ports of entry.

Local and nationally affiliated street gangs distribute significant amounts of cocaine, marijuana, heroin, and other illicit drugs at the retail level in the Ohio HIDTA region. In March 2006 Cleveland was one of six cities chosen nationwide as a recipient of a grant to combat gang-related violence. Most of the gangs in the Cleveland area are local gangs with many, if not all, involved in the distribution of illicit drugs. However, nationally affiliated street gangs such as Mara Salvatrucha (MS 13) in Toledo have just started to expand drug operations and will most likely become one of the most problematic law enforcement issues in the near future.

V. Summary of Strategy for Budget Year 2006

The *Ohio HIDTA 2006 Strategy* provides details on the Ohio HIDTA strategy and initiatives. The following summary is presented for convenience. Appendix E of this report provides an overview of each Ohio HIDTA initiative individually.

The Ohio HIDTA approach is to collocate law enforcement personnel in order to foster enhanced information and resource sharing. Through collocation, interagency cooperation, and consolidation of strategic and tactical information, the Ohio HIDTA provides a comprehensive response to illicit drug activity by bringing together all available law enforcement resources in a united front. Ohio HIDTA law enforcement initiatives focus on DTOs, money laundering groups, violent drug offenders, street gangs, drug interdiction, domestic drug movement and terrorism. Ohio HIDTA law enforcement initiatives are directed through the respective lead agencies' management policies and the challenges identified in the annual Ohio HIDTA Threat Assessment (Drug Market Analysis). Law enforcement initiatives actively pursue the outcomes sought by HIDTA Goal 1. All Ohio HIDTA initiatives submit data to the Ohio HIDTA deconfliction center, thereby facilitating information sharing, deconfliction, enhanced officer safety, and an ability to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort during investigations where there may be common elements or subjects. Enhanced communication, collaboration, and information sharing, along with effective training, are key law enforcement components designed to promote maximum efficiency and effectiveness as prescribed by HIDTA Goal 2. Goal 1 and Goal 2 are closely intertwined, with Goal 2 providing the integration support services that enhance the ability for all initiatives to meet their goals.

The Ohio HIDTA continues to develop strategies that will produce positive regional outcomes consistent with the two HIDTA goals. The Ohio HIDTA funded 16 initiatives in CY 2006 distributed as follows:

- 12 Law Enforcement- Investigative Focus
- 6 Law Enforcement-Interdiction Focus
- 2 Intelligence Focus
- 1 Training Focus
- 1 Management & Coordination Focus

(Note – Several initiatives have multiple focuses, i.e. – interdiction and investigation, intelligence and interdiction, thereby accounting for a total number exceeding 16. A detailed description of each initiative can be found in Appendix E.)

VI. HIDTA Performance Measures

HIDTA Performance Measures quantify and track HIDTA targets and monitor HIDTA results. Utilizing the Performance Measurement Process (PMP), the Ohio HIDTA Annual Report now functions as a report card of HIDTA efficiency and effectiveness. The Annual Report provides a reference for comparison with previous years' efforts and serves as a guide for future activities. The next series of tables and charts present specific outputs and efficiency measures relating to the Ohio HIDTA's Goals. These measurable results reflect a continuing increase in efficiency and effectiveness at lower programmatic costs.

A. Performance Measures for Goal 1

Core Table 1 – Percentage of Expected DTOs and MLOs Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006

Table 1: Percentage of Expected DTOs and MLOs Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006, at Ohio (ALL DTOs;MLOs included)								
Scope	#DTOs & MLOs Identified	#DTOs & MLOs to be Disrupted or Dismantled	#DTOs & MLOs Disrupted	% Disrupted	#DTOs & MLOs Dismantled	% Dismantled	Total Disrupted or Dismantled	Total % Disrupted or Dismantled
International	35	6	3	50%	11	183%	14	233%
Multi-state	62	58	5	9%	14	24%	19	33%
Local	27	4	4	100%	7	175%	11	275%
Total	124	68	12	18%	32	47%	44	65%

Source: Ohio HIDTA DTO Reports

Core Table 2 - Percentage of Under Investigation DTOs and MLOs Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006

Table 2: Percentage of Under Investigation DTOs and MLOs Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006, at Ohio (ALL DTOs; MLOs included)								
Scope	#DTOs & MLOs Identified	#DTOs & MLOs Under Investigation	#DTOs & MLOs Disrupted	% Disrupted	#DTOs & MLOs Dismantled	% Dismantled	Total Disrupted or Dismantled	Total % Disrupted or Dismantled
International	35	31	3	10%	11	35%	14	45%
Multi-state	62	58	5	9%	14	24%	19	33%
Local	27	27	4	15%	7	26%	11	41%
Total	124	116	12	10%	32	29%	44	38%

Source: Ohio HIDTA DTO Reports

Core Table 3 - Percentage of Expected Money Laundering Organizations Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006

Table 3: Percentage of Expected Money Laundering Organizations Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006, at Ohio

Scope	# MLOs Identified	# MLOs to be Disrupted or Dismantled	# MLOs Disrupted	% Disrupted	# MLOs Dismantled	% Dismantled	Total Disrupted or Dismantled	Total % Disrupted or Dismantled
International	2	3	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Multi-state	1	0	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Local	0	0	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	3	3	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Core Table 3a - Percentage of Under Investigation Money Laundering Organizations Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope, 2006

Table 3a: Percentage of Under Investigation Money Laundering Organizations Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006, at Ohio

Scope	# MLOs Identified	# MLOs Under Investigation	# MLOs Disrupted	% Disrupted	# MLOs Dismantled	% Dismantled	Total Disrupted or Dismantled	Total % Disrupted or Dismantled
International	2	2	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Multi-state	1	1	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Local	0	0	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	3	3	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Source: Ohio HIDTA DTO Reports

Core Table 4 – CPOT, RPOT, and OCDETF Cases Initiated in 2006

Table 4: CPOT, RPOT, and OCDETF Cases (by Operational Scope) Initiated in 2006, at Ohio

Scope	# CPOT Cases	# RPOT Cases	# OCDETF Cases
International	1	1	8
Multi-state	1	3	4
Local	0	0	1
Total	2	4	13

Core Table 4a – All Active CPOT, RPOT, and OCDETF Cases in 2006

Table 4a: All Active CPOT, RPOT, and OCDETF Cases (by Operational Scope) in 2006, at Ohio

Scope	# CPOT Cases	# RPOT Cases	# OCDETF Cases
International	7	5	20
Multi-state	5	8	16
Local	0	0	2
Total	12	13	38

Source: Ohio HIDTA DTO Reports

HIDTAs across the country target the organizations that propagate illegal drug trade which occurs on several different levels ranging from the small local street dealers to the multi-state organizations, and ultimately to the sophisticated international drug cartels. HIDTAs are geared to attack the problem at the upper levels as well as the street level. Tables 1 through 4 reflect the remarkable impact Ohio HIDTA initiatives had on DTOs, not only within the Ohio HIDTA region itself, but also nationally and internationally.

Tables 1 and 2 show that for calendar year 2006, of the 124 DTOs and MLOs identified by Ohio HIDTA initiatives, 116 were active investigations with 68 expected to be disrupted or dismantled. By the end of calendar year 2006, the Ohio HIDTA had completely dismantled 47% and disrupted another 18% of the DTOs and MLOs expected to be disrupted or dismantled. Thus, of the DTOs and MLOs to be disrupted or dismantled, the Ohio HIDTA disrupted or dismantled 65% which is a significant achievement taking into consideration that most larger-scale DTO investigations require several years of investigative activity.

Tables 1 and 2 also illustrate the Ohio HIDTA's success in terms of the operational scope of the DTOs and MLOs identified, investigated, disrupted and dismantled. Of the 124 DTOs and MLOs identified, 97 operated beyond the Ohio HIDTA region in multiple states, or were involved in international operations. Ohio HIDTA initiatives investigated 89 of these major operations, disrupting and totally dismantling 78% of the larger targeted DTOs.. These large-scale DTOs require more intensive longer-term investigations, which will often last several years. The following examples illustrate Ohio HIDTA's impact in disrupting and dismantling these complex DTOs and demonstrate the effectiveness of Ohio HIDTA's cooperation and collaboration with other law enforcement agencies throughout the country.

The Ohio HIDTA Toledo Metro Drug Task Force concluded an investigation in 2006 of an international CPOT-linked DTO that lasted over a year from its inception. The drug trafficking organization involved extended from Columbia to Mexico, into the states of Texas and California, through Chicago, Illinois, and into Northwest Ohio and the Metropolitan Toledo Area. Sixteen kilograms of cocaine were seized throughout the investigation. In all, it was determined, the DTO was responsible for trafficking over 250 kilograms of cocaine. The dismantlement of this DTO, by the Toledo Metro Drug Task Force, put a halt to a significant amount of cocaine flowing into not only Ohio but the entire country as well. Through the course of the investigation twelve principals were identified. Of the twelve, eight were arrested on federal charges, a federal warrant was issued on one, one was to be indicted, and the last two were victims of a homicide. Information developed during the investigation was shared with the F.B.I office in Chicago, Illinois. Additional conduits identified outside of the region are being investigated by the Chicago office.

An 18-month OCDETF investigation by the Ohio HIDTA Stark County Violent Crimes Task Force led to the dismantlement of a multi-state RPOT-linked DTO and culminated in the seizure of 52 kilograms of cocaine, a load car containing \$956,000 in United States Currency in a secret compartment, \$326,000 in United States Currency secreted in residences and bank accounts, and \$657,000 in vehicles and properties. The drug-trafficking organization involved, based in Los Angeles, California and Phoenix, Arizona, was responsible for the yearly transportation and distribution of 240-300 kilograms of cocaine to the Stark County Area. Once again this demonstrates the effectiveness of an Ohio HIDTA task force in dismantling a DTO responsible for pouring significant quantities of cocaine into the region. The investigation also

revealed that the head of the organization had direct links to the Black Guerilla Family and the Black Gangster Disciples. The initiative utilized a four month Title III wiretap that resulted in the execution of multiple search warrants in Stark County, Ohio and Los Angeles, California. As a result, 18 individuals associated with this organization have been charged and found guilty of drug trafficking and money laundering in Federal Court. Intelligence derived from the investigation led to a joint investigation with the Los Angeles County Sheriff Criminal Division and the Los Angeles FBI relating to corrupt Los Angeles County Sheriff's employees including a deputy sheriff.

In February of 2005, the Ohio HIDTA Money Laundering Intelligence Initiative opened an investigation of a DTO distributing cocaine, marijuana, and heroin to the Cleveland area that ultimately received OCDETF designation. During the course of the investigation of this CPOT-linked DTO, task force officers initiated surveillance on a group of Mexican and Jamaican drug suppliers operating in the Cleveland area. After two days of constant surveillance, the task force executed three interdiction stops on vehicles which led to a search of a local warehouse. The interdiction stops and subsequent search warrant led to the seizure of 2000 pounds of marijuana, arrests of ten subjects and the seizure of over \$117,000 in cash and vehicles. In cooperation with the Michigan HIDTA, this case led to an additional seizure of 1300 pounds of marijuana in Detroit, Michigan. The use of GPS devices, telephone toll analysis, and controlled drug purchases resulted in not only a disruption of the DTO but more importantly the dismantlement of this CPOT-linked DTO. In all, 14 subjects were arrested, with 2300 pounds of marijuana, 10 kilos of cocaine, and \$350,000 in cash and vehicles seized.

An investigation by the Ohio HIDTA Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force (formerly known as the Caribbean Gang Drug Task Force), into a lower level DTO responsible for distributing cocaine in the Cleveland Area, elevated into an OCDETF investigation of a higher level, RPOT-linked multi-state DTO. The leader was at one time a supplier to the leader of the lower level, local DTO. The head of the local DTO was also the leader of a local gang known as the Superior Hill Gang. In 2006 alone, the Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force seized over nine kilos of cocaine, 165 grams of crack cocaine, two ounces of fentanyl, and 106 grams of heroin. The investigation also netted four cars, \$30,000 in U.S. Currency, and firearms. This joint effort by FBI, DEA, ATF, Cleveland Police, IRS, and the United States Postal Inspection Service led to the arrest and conviction of 17 individuals, which have been convicted of drug trafficking with four entering into plea agreements.

In March 2004 the Ohio HIDTA's DEA Youngstown Drug Task Force initiated an investigation into a multi-state/international drug-trafficking organization which concluded in 2006 with significant drug seizures of approximately 179 kilos of cocaine, one kilo of crack cocaine, and approximately 33 kilos of marijuana. Total assets seized amounted to an impressive 1,069,221. Among the assets seized were several vehicles containing professionally installed hidden compartments. During the course of the investigation, 72 arrests were made and 24 State and Federal search warrants were executed. This OCDETF investigation of an RPOT-linked DTO also led to Title III wire intercepts in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (DEA), Akron, Ohio (Akron/Summit County HIDTA Initiative), and Detroit, Michigan (FBI), Chicago, Illinois (DEA) and provided leads to DEA Guadalajara, Mexico regarding an SOD operation. Other Ohio agencies involved included the following: Liberty Police Department, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Austintown Police Department, Warren Police Department, Columbiana County Drug Task Force, DEA Cleveland, and East Liverpool Police Department. Agencies across the

country included: the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office, DEA San Francisco, DEA Pensacola, Florida, and Santa Rosa County (Florida) Sheriff's Office. Other federal agencies involved were: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Department of Homeland Security, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. In the words of the Case Agent, "the success(s) listed above would not have been possible without utilizing a multi-agency/multi-jurisdictional approach with the goal of totally dismantling a multi-state drug trafficking organization. It is anticipated that an additional eight to ten co-conspirators will be indicted federally in the near future. Case link analysis, telephone toll analysis, and subpoena data input was conducted by member of the Ohio HIDTA Investigative Support Center analysts. This analytical support was invaluable and assisted in the identification of assets, telephones, and co-conspirators."

The Akron/Summit County HIDTA Initiative received information from Narcotics Officers in Clark County, Arkansas regarding a drug trafficking route being utilized by couriers for a DTO operating in Summit County, Ohio. Information provided also included a vehicle being used by the drug traffickers that was fitted with a trap system for concealing the contraband. This initial information eventually led to the arrest of an individual identified as an upper level member of a violent drug trafficking gang from Houston, Texas. In all, 24 kilos of cocaine, including three kilos of crack cocaine, and \$259,522.62 in U.S Currency was seized. Along with the seizures, two Summit County, Ohio DTOs were dismantled, one Portage County, Ohio DTO was disrupted and one Houston, Texas DTO was disrupted as well as 14 individuals arrested.

Tables 1 and 2 also demonstrate the Ohio HIDTA's commitment to reducing retail drug sales by identifying 27 local DTOs in CY 2006. All 27 of these local DTOs were active investigations, with the Ohio HIDTA Initiatives expecting to disrupt and dismantle four of these DTOs by the end of CY 2006. However due to the steadfast attention to local DTOs by the HIDTA Initiatives, four local DTOs were disrupted and seven completely dismantled by the end of CY 2006. Attacking street-level traffickers in conjunction with the larger DTO targets has a ripple effect in the drug supply chain. Taking a small-level dealer off the streets, although resulting in a smaller drug seizure, impacts the ability of international and multi-state DTOs to get their drugs into the hands of drug users. This will help to reduce the efficiency and effectiveness of this black market industry. By making it more difficult and time consuming for drug buyers to "score" a local connection, thus making it more difficult for street level dealers to sell their drugs, the local drug markets are not able to move the same volume of drugs with the ease they experienced in prior years.

The Ohio HIDTA's Mahoning Valley Drug Task Force Gang Unit targets local street gangs that have an adverse impact upon the community through their drug distribution and violence. The task force has been very successful in dismantling these violent gangs by charging them with violation of the State Of Ohio Gang Statue for participation in a criminal gang. In May 2006, an 18 month historical investigation ended with 44 police officers, state and federal agents, and deputy sheriffs serving 33 arrest warrants. Assisting the Gang Unit in the sweep was the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the U.S. Marshal Service and the Youngstown Police Department Street Crimes Unit. These gang members were not only responsible for distributing crack cocaine and marijuana in the Mahoning County area but also were linked to various robberies, witness intimidation, murder for hire, and at least one homicide. In addition to the drugs taken off the street by the dismantlement of these gangs were

two rifles, one handgun, and one lever-action rifle look-alike with a sawed off stock. The investigation was a cooperative effort put forth by the Gang Unit, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, FBI, the Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office, and the Boardman Police Crime Analysis Unit.

The dismantlement of gangs operating in the region positively impacts the neighborhoods within which they operated and effectively hinders larger DTOs operating in the region by cutting off their local distribution points. In March 2006, U.S. Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales selected the City of Cleveland as one of six target areas to receive grant funds as part of the Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative. Since that time, the HIDTA's Northeast Ohio Interdiction Task Force Initiative has been an integral part of a cooperative effort in targeting violent street gangs that traffic in drugs. To date in one OCEDTF investigation, 21 gang members have been arrested on federal drug trafficking charges and several kilograms of cocaine and firearms have been seized. Other agencies involved in this investigation include the Cleveland Police Department, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Marshal Service. In another investigation, in cooperation with the Cleveland Police and the FBI, several arrests have been made of gang members responsible for shootings, homicides, and other violent crimes. This investigation has also yielded seizures of drugs as well as cash and other assets.

The drug trade, for the most part, thrives upon cash sales. Taking the profit out of drug dealing, therefore, is a very constructive approach to disrupting the drug market. One way to decrease profits is to identify and target those DTOs engaging predominately in drug-money laundering. Since the PMP database only allows for the designation of each organization to be either a drug-trafficking organization or a money-laundering organization, it is important to include those organizations that are both and are not reflected in Tables 3 and 3a. For CY 2006, the Ohio HIDTA Initiatives reported 28 organizations with a money-laundering component.

An ongoing investigation, by the Southwest Regional Drug Task Force Initiative, has uncovered a scheme tied to money laundering, tax evasion, and the likelihood of international drug trafficking through the use of motor vehicles shipped overseas. In less than ten months, the co-conspirators have purchased over three million dollars in American vehicles. Seizures to date include: 110 kilos of cocaine from the El Paso, Texas area that was discovered hidden inside a BMW that was transported via tractor-trailer, 19 vehicles with a sticker value of almost one million dollars being held for forfeiture, and \$141,000 in cash.

Table 4 illustrates the number of CPOT, RPOT, and OCEDTF cases initiated in 2006. In 2006 alone, there were two CPOT, four RPOT, and 13 OCEDTF investigations initiated by the Ohio HIDTA Initiatives. As the Ohio HIDTA region is primarily a "market area" for narcotics distribution, many DTOs identified in the region begin at the local level and require investigative skill and effort to lead to the identification of upper-level organizations and international cartels. The course of these investigations may take months or more to reach the point of association to a RPOT or CPOT or to acquire OCEDTF operational status. Therefore, to truly understand the Ohio HIDTA's success in terms of operational scope and case type Table 4a serves to illustrate the impressive number of ongoing CPOT, RPOT and OCEDTF cases. During CY 2006 there were 12 active CPOT investigations, seven of which were international and five multi-state in scope, and 13 RPOT investigations, with five being international and eight multi-

state in scope. The Ohio HIDTA stresses the importance of developing cases which have the potential to qualify for OCDETF designation. A notable 38 cases were active OCDETF investigations in CY 2006, 20 of which were international, six multi-state, and two local in scope. This is another strong indication that the Ohio HIDTA disrupted the market place for drugs by focusing on those DTOs operating at the multi-state and international levels of operation as the following investigations demonstrate.

The Money Laundering Intelligence Initiative is involved in an ongoing OCDETF investigation of an RPOT-linked, multi-state DTO out of Los Angeles, California. The DTO has been flying kilogram quantities of cocaine through couriers to Cleveland, Chicago, and Memphis. It is also responsible for distributing large volumes of marijuana and PCP to the source cities. The Initiative is currently up on a Title III on three phones of the main California distributor.

The Miami Valley Drug Task Force continues its OCDETF investigation of an RPOT-linked DTO that was identified as one of the five largest organizations/distributors of cocaine in the Dayton, Ohio area at one time. This case is a spin-off of a DEA case in which 39 kilos of cocaine and approximately \$1,000,000 in U.S. currency were seized in September 1996 from two Mexican couriers transporting cocaine to the DTO in Dayton. The source of supply was identified as a large Mexican-based organization operating out of Chicago, Illinois. The current investigation has encompassed numerous federal jurisdictions including Dayton, Ohio; Chicago, Illinois; Detroit, Michigan; McAllen, Texas and Mexico as well. The investigation has resulted in the arrest and conviction of over 50 members of the organization and yielded the seizure of approximately 100 kilos of cocaine, 800 pound of marijuana, and \$2,992,542 in assets. The DTO was targeted without the benefit of active confidential sources and was investigated primarily as a historical drug conspiracy and money-laundering investigation.

Tables 1-4 clearly reflect the nature of Ohio HIDTA's enforcement efforts and demonstrate its effectiveness in achieving its targeted outcomes. In every instance, the Ohio HIDTA has produced significant results in its performance targets towards disrupting and dismantling DTOs operating within the Ohio HIDTA region.

Core Table 5 - Drugs Removed from the Marketplace, 2006

Table 5: Drugs Removed from the Marketplace for Year 2006, at Ohio		
Drugs Seized (kg or D.U.)	Amount Seized (kg or D.U.)	Wholesale Value
Heroin kg	12.000	\$48,213,996
Cocaine HCL kg	949.443	\$22,229,182
Crack Cocaine kg	22.272	\$720,198
Marijuana kg	10,313.96 9	\$32,255,468
Marijuana plants and grows	981.565	\$2,805,297
Methamphetamine kg	1.044	\$45,187
Methamphetamine ice kg	0.060	\$5,100
Ecstasy (MDMA)(D.U.s)	5,472.034	\$101,234
Alprazolam	55.000	\$165
Amphetamine	300.000	\$10,500
Dilaudid	94.000	\$1,880
Fentanyl	0.297	\$2,970
Gamma Butyrolactone	0.690	\$6,900
Hallucinogens	2.280	\$62,700
Heroin, Mexican Black Tar	.558	\$54,405
Hydrocodone	49.000	\$655
Ketamine	0.001	\$100
Khat	1589.406	\$567,413
Klonopin	150.000	\$150
Lorazepam	100.000	\$2,000
Marijuana (Hydroponic)	6.350	\$20,999
Meth Precursor: Pseudoephedrine	5,108.670	\$3,627
Methodone	0.113	\$2
Morphine	255.000	\$956
MS Contin	13.000	\$130
Other	0.018	\$0
Oxycontin	13167.830	\$118,581
PCP	27.168	\$682,947
Percocet	213.000	\$4,260
Phencyclidine	4.790	\$118,273
Prescription Drugs	2,205.860	\$31,977
Psilocybin	57.274	\$60,959
Roxicet	120.00	\$2,400
Tylenol 3	1.000	\$2
Unknown	99.000	\$0
Vicodin	1,042.000	\$16,160
Total Wholesale Value		\$60,796,564

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA Investigative Initiatives

During CY 2006, the Ohio HIDTA seized more than \$108 million in drugs, resulting in a significant impact on the region's drug trade. Table 5 lists the wholesale values of the respective drugs seized by Ohio HIDTA initiatives, illustrating a highly accurate depiction of the economic impact of removing these drugs from the marketplace. By using this monetary measure, achieving the Ohio HIDTA's goals is more clearly shown in terms of real dollar outcomes.

Pharmaceutical diversion investigations are unique in the fact that the vast majority of drugs involved in these scams have already been consumed and/or sold when a person is identified and arrested. These investigations often involve a "doctor shopper," who is a person seeing multiple health professionals to obtain drugs using a variety of deception methods. By time the person is identified and arrested, he or she has obtained hundreds, if not thousands, of illegal dosage units of pharmaceuticals. Oftentimes none of these drugs may have been seized because the investigator follows a paper trail, much like the investigation of bogus checks. In order to accurately measure this crime, the investigator takes the known doses obtained through their profile and the admission of the defendant, if available. The combination of both gives the investigator an estimate of the amount of pharmaceuticals diverted. This estimate is almost always less than the actual statistics, but it is the most accurate calculation possible. For example, a diverter's drug of choice is hydrocodone. When all of the known prescription profiles are compiled, the diverter has obtained 650 dosage units through his doctor shopping. In all likelihood, the defendant will confirm this total and may identify additional sources. Once all sources are compiled, the figure grows to 900 total dosage units during a six-month period. The 900 dosage units of hydrocodone will then be used for the statistics as dosage units identified as diverted.

Four of Ohio HIDTA's Initiatives, the Akron/ Summit County HIDTA Initiative, the Mahoning Valley Law Enforcement Task Force, the Northeast Ohio Interdiction Task Force and the Southwest Ohio Regional Drug Task Force, conducted pharmaceutical diversion programs in 2006. The only way to have an accurate picture of the impact of this crime is to assess the amount of drugs that are diverted, not seized, as in conventional drug enforcement. These four initiatives identified almost 92,000 dosage units of diverted pharmaceuticals in 2006. In addition to the four initiatives that conducted pharmaceutical diversion programs, the Ohio HIDTA Toledo Metro Drug Task Force diverted over 1500 dosage units of pharmaceuticals. The amount is calculated through the investigative efforts of each initiative, many times from the paper trail uncovered during the investigation. These dosage units are not seized pharmaceuticals and, therefore, are not listed in Table 5, Drugs Removed from the Marketplace.

Ohio HIDTA's pharmaceutical diversion programs can only be measured by the illegal flow of pharmaceuticals they have stopped. The more than 93,000 dosage units of diverted pharmaceuticals in 2006 has greatly disrupted current pharmaceutical abuse and serves as a strong deterrent for future illegal distribution of pharmaceuticals in the Ohio HIDTA region.

The Pharmaceutical Diversion component of the Northeast Ohio Interdiction Task Force began an investigation into a doctor operating weight loss and pain management clinics throughout the Greater Cleveland area. At the time, the doctor was also under investigation by the Cleveland Police Narcotics Unit and the Ohio Pharmacy Board. On January 30, 2006 the agencies combined their investigations, arrested the doctor, and executed three search and seizure warrants. During the arrest, 1.7 million dollars was seized. The doctor, along with his wife and several members of his staff were indicted on drug-trafficking and/or conspiracy

charges. The doctor was responsible for distributing more than 100,000 doses of Percocet, Vicodin, and other controlled substances each month.

Core Table 6 - Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives by Year

Ohio Table 6: Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives by Year					
Year	Budget	Baseline Drug Wholesale Value	Expected Drug ROI	Drug Wholesale Value Removed from Market	Actual Drug ROI
2004	\$2,096,569	\$22,101,342	\$11.00	\$61,643,283	\$29.40
2005	\$2,767,640	\$22,101,342	\$15.00	\$65,198,233	\$23.55
2006	\$2,630,216	\$22,101,342	\$15.00	\$60,796,564	\$23.11

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA Investigative Initiatives; Ohio HIDTA Budget

Core Table 7 - Return on Investment (ROI) for Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives by Year

Ohio Table 7: Return on Investment (ROI) for Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives by Year							
Year	Budget	Baseline Value of Drug Assets	Expected Asset ROI	Value of Drug Assets Removed from Market			Actual Asset ROI
				Cash	Other Assets	Total	
2004	\$2,096,569	\$9,267,760	\$4.00	\$0	\$12,251,614	\$12,251,614	\$5.84
2005	\$2,767,640	\$9,267,760	\$4.00	\$0	\$26,555,005	\$26,555,005	\$9.59
2006	\$2,630,216	\$9,267,760	\$4.00	\$15,887,064	\$2,765,793	\$18,652,858	\$7.09

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA Investigative Initiatives; Ohio HIDTA Budget

The removal of drugs and drug profits from DTOs cripples their ability to proliferate drug trafficking. Tables 6 and 7 demonstrate the efficiency of the Ohio HIDTA insofar as removing illicit drugs and drug profits from DTOs.

The Ohio HIDTA initiatives seizures of \$60,796,564 in drugs during CY2006 significantly reduced the availability and subsequent abuse of these drugs in the Ohio HIDTA region. The 2006 seizures yield an outstanding Return on Investment (ROI) of \$23.11 for every \$1.00 of HIDTA funding invested in Ohio HIDTA law enforcement and intelligence initiatives.

Ohio HIDTA initiatives seized \$18,652,858 in drug assets during CY 2006, thereby reducing the financial gains of DTOs in the Ohio HIDTA region. This yields an impressive ROI of \$7.09 for every \$1.00 of HIDTA funding invested in Ohio HIDTA law enforcement and intelligence initiatives. It is well recognized, that additional law enforcement dollars from agencies outside HIDTA for such expenses as officer salaries and police overhead, also contribute to drug seizures. Tables 6 and 7 do not attempt to calibrate such outside expenses, but are focused directly on what HIDTA spends.

A case opened in November 2005 by the South Central Drug Task Force Initiative, led to a seizure in 2006 of 25 kilos of cocaine and \$1,200,000 in cash. The case involved a Mexican group identified out of California. The task force was able to obtain local phone numbers which eventually led to the first state wire in Franklin County. Intelligence obtained from the state wire was provided to authorities in Oakland, California that led to the arrest of the source.

Core Table 8 - Total Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs and Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives by Year

Ohio Table 8: Total Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs and Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives by Year					
Year	Budget	Drugs and Assets Baseline	Expected Total ROI	Drugs and Assets Removed from Market	Actual Total ROI
2004	\$2,096,569	\$31,369,102	\$15.00	\$73,894,897	\$35.24
2005	\$2,767,640	\$31,369,102	\$19.00	\$91,753,238	\$33.15
2006	\$2,630,216	\$31,369,102	\$19.00	\$79,449,423	\$30.20

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA Investigative Initiatives; Ohio HIDTA Budget.

Reducing its profits cripples a DTO. Tables 6, 7, and 8 demonstrate the efficiency and effectiveness of the Ohio HIDTA in removing illicit drugs and drug profits from DTOs. As shown in Tables 6 and 7, the Ohio HIDTA calculated the expected drug ROI for 2006 as \$15 and the expected asset ROI for 2006 as \$4 as an expectation of the drug and asset seizures in 2006.

In all, the Ohio HIDTA permanently removed more than \$60 million in illicit drugs and more than \$18 million in drug profits from the marketplace. When examined in budget terms, these seizures yield an impressive ROI of \$30.20 for every \$1.00 of HIDTA funding invested in Ohio HIDTA law enforcement and intelligence initiatives. This is a remarkable figure and reflects a 59% increase over the expected total drug and asset ROI for 2006. These rates of return compare favorably to the most successful businesses in the private sector. Significant benefits to the communities of the Ohio HIDTA region were achieved at a low cost.

Threat Specific Table A: Firearms Removed from the Marketplace by Year

Firearms Removed from the Marketplace, 2006		
Firearms Seized (type)	Amount Seized (ea.)	Wholesale Value
Rifles	4	\$1,650
Shotguns	1	\$200
Pistols		
Revolvers	18	\$6,955
Firearms Traced		
Total Value	23	\$8,805

Core Table 9 - Value of Clandestine Methamphetamine Labs Dismantled in 2006, by Size

Table 9: Value of Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratories Dismantled by Size for Year 2006, at Ohio			
Meth Cost per Ounce		\$800.00	
Lab Size	ID/Targeted	Dismantled	Value of Labs Dismantled
A. Less than 2 Oz	127	83	\$132,800.00
B. 2 – 8 Oz	0	2	\$8,000.00
C. 9 – 31 Oz	0	2	\$32,000.00
D. 32 – 159 Oz	0	0	\$0.00
E. 10-20 Lbs	0	0	\$0.00
F. Over 20 Lbs	0	0	\$0.00
Total	127	87	\$172,800.00

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA Investigative Initiatives

Methamphetamine abuse is a continuing drug problem in the Ohio HIDTA region. Ohio HIDTA initiatives continue to make it difficult for potential methamphetamine producers to acquire the necessary precursor materials and to set up the labs required to achieve their illegal objectives. The passage of a restrictive pseudoephedrine law by the State of Ohio in late 2005, that took effect in early 2006, has negatively impacted local “mom and pop” methamphetamine labs.

The Ohio HIDTA Southwest Regional Drug Task Force Initiative reported 23 local labs in 2005 as opposed to a total of four labs reported for 2006. It is important to note that the four labs were prior to the pseudoephedrine law going into effect.

However, on the other hand the Ohio HIDTA Mahoning Valley Law Enforcement Task Force reported discovering its first local lab in the City of Youngstown, and it was possibly only the second one uncovered in Mahoning County by law enforcement. A total of three lab seizures were reported by the task force for CY 2006. Two labs were two ounces or less and valued at between \$2,500 and \$28,800. The third lab was two to eight ounces and valued at \$80,000.

Core Table 10 - Clandestine Laboratory Activities, 2006

Table 10: HIDTA Clandestine Laboratory Activities for Year Ohio, in 2006				
	Baseline	# Projected	# Identified	% Identified
Laboratory Dump Sites Seized	13	17	19	111%
Chemical/Glassware Equipment Seizures	33	37	16	43%
Children Affected	0	0	64	0%

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA Investigative Initiatives

Investigations involving clandestine laboratory activities result not only in the dismantlement of the actual laboratories, but also in the identification of laboratory dumpsites, the seizure of chemicals and glassware, and the identification of children affected by the treacherous clandestine activities of adults around them. Table 10 depicts the number of activities related to clandestine laboratories that were identified by Ohio HIDTA initiatives in 2006. The baseline and projected numbers of children affected by clandestine laboratory activities are 0 this year because this is the first year data on children affected has been reported. However, the Ohio HIDTA Initiatives reported identifying 64 children affected by clandestine laboratory activities, which is a significant increase over the six children reported in CY 2005.

The Ohio HIDTA has developed customized strategies beyond the scope of the Core Tables to address specific threats encountered in the Ohio HIDTA region. Specific Ohio HIDTA initiatives address these threats through their investigative, intelligence, or interdiction efforts including proactive money-laundering intelligence development, fugitive apprehension, and proactive vehicle interdiction. The following represents the performance measures developed to demonstrate the effectiveness of Ohio HIDTA initiatives in these areas.

Threat Specific Table B: Money Laundering/ Terrorist Funding Subject Referrals by Year

Ohio HIDTA Money Laundering/Terrorism Funding Subjects Identified and Referred by Year				
Year	# Subjects Reviewed	Expected # of Money Laundering/ Terrorism Funding Subjects To Be Identified	# of Money Laundering/ Terrorism Funding Subjects Referred	% Referred of Expected # To Be Identified
2006	6,800	15	35	233%

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA Investigative Initiatives

Threat Specific Table C: Money Laundering/ Terrorist Funding Organization Referrals by Year

Ohio HIDTA Money Laundering/Terrorism Funding Organizations Identified and Referred by Year				
Year	# Organizations Reviewed	Expected # of Money Laundering/ Terrorism Funding Organizations To Be Identified	# of Money Laundering/ Terrorism Funding Organizations Referred	% Referred of Identified
2006	25	12	18	150%

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA Investigative Initiatives

The Ohio HIDTA’s Money Laundering Intelligence Initiative and Akron/Summit County HIDTA Initiative have been engaged in the proactive, intelligence-led analysis of potential money-laundering subjects and organizations in 2006. This process identifies significant money-laundering targets in the Ohio HIDTA region through the review and analysis of various financial sources. As depicted in Threat Specific Table B, these Initiatives reviewed almost 7,000 subjects, expecting to identify 15 as potential Money Laundering/Terrorism subjects, when in fact 35 potential money launderers were referred to other initiatives or agencies for investigation. As Threat Specific Table C depicts, 25 organizations were reviewed, and it was expected that 12 would be identified as potential money-laundering organizations. However, the actual number of potential Money-Laundering/Terrorism-Funding organizations referred was 18, or 72%, of those reviewed. This intelligence-led policing significantly bolsters the capacity of Ohio HIDTA initiatives and their participating agencies to disrupt and dismantle money-laundering and terrorism-funding organizations operating within the Ohio HIDTA region.

Threat Specific Table D: Fugitives Targeted and Apprehended, by Year

HIDTA Fugitives Targeted and Apprehended by Year						
Year	# Identified	# To be Apprehended	% To Be of Identified	# Apprehended	# Related to Drug Charges	Apprehended % of To Be Apprehended
2006	0	527	0%	1388		263%
2007	0	300	0%			
2008	0	1085	0%			0%

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA Investigative Initiatives

The apprehension of fugitives impacts communities by effectively removing criminals from neighborhoods. Ohio HIDTA Initiatives are actively involved in the apprehension of fugitives in the Ohio HIDTA region. As depicted in Threat Specific Table D, Ohio HIDTA Initiatives apprehended nearly 1400 fugitives in 2006 which is nearly triple the number of fugitives expected to be apprehended.

Threat Specific Table E: Vehicle Interdictions by Year

Ohio HIDTA Vehicle Interdiction by Year					
Year	Baseline # Vehicles Interdicted	# Commercial Vehicles Interdicted	# Passenger Vehicle Interdicted	Total # Vehicle Interdictions	% Change in Vehicles Interdicted from Baseline
2006	471	452	457	909	+93%

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA Investigative Initiatives

Law enforcement agencies can never measure the crime they prevent. However, logic dictates that the mere presence of law enforcement deters crime. The vehicle interdiction components of Ohio HIDTA initiatives represent those law enforcement efforts, which cannot easily quantify the effect they have on a community. As shown in Threat Specific Table E, the number of interdictions for 2006 resulted in 93% more than the baseline.

The Ohio HIDTA's Commercial Vehicle Intelligence Initiative not only continues as an impressive presence on Ohio's interstates, which by geography are situated as crossroads for transshipment by both legitimate businesses and drug-trafficking organizations, but also continues to make significant seizures. Among the more sizable seizures that resulted from these traffic stops were 170 pounds of Khat, almost 68 kilos of cocaine, another 37 kilos of cocaine found in a hidden compartment in the bed of a truck, 2300 dose units of MDMA, and \$115,300 in cash. While seizures such as this are a measurable indicator of the effectiveness of vehicle interdiction, these coordinated, proactive interdiction efforts have an immeasurable impact on all vehicle traffic. To that end, the initiative must logically have an immeasurable impact upon DTOs transporting narcotics via both commercial and passenger vehicles through the Ohio HIDTA region.

Performance Measures for Goal 2

Core Table 11 – Ohio HIDTA Training Efficiency by Year and Type of Training
Table 11: HIDTA Training Efficiency b

Table 11: HIDTA Training Efficiency by Type of Training for Year 2006, at Ohio

Types of Training	# Students Expected for Training		# Students Actually Trained		# Training Hours Actually Provided		Total Training Cost		Training Cost Per Hour		
	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	% Change 2004-2006
Analytical Computer	301	742	233	694	1,731	6,709	\$11,996	\$41,685	\$6.93	\$6.21	-10%
Investigative Interdiction	760	1,980	616	1,662	8,656	29,294	\$8,335	\$51,336	\$0.96	\$1.75	82%
Management/Administrative	10	15	10	19	160	298	\$7,165	\$8,284	\$44.78	\$27.80	-38%
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$69,010.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
Total	1,071	2,737	859	2,375	10,547	36,301	\$27,496	\$170,315	\$2.60	\$4.69	80%

Type of Training for Year 2006, at Ohio

Source: Ohio HIDTA Training Initiative

Training is essential to improving both the efficiency and effectiveness of Ohio HIDTA operations. In 2006 the Ohio HIDTA almost tripled the number of students provided training, from the number of students trained in 2004, to 2,375 for a total of 36,301 classroom hours. This was accomplished with only slightly more than a \$2.00 per hour increase in the training cost per hour from 2004 for this tremendous training effort. The Ohio HIDTA’s training program is designed to improve students’ computer and analytical skills, bolster their investigative and interdiction knowledge, and develop their managerial abilities. This training was provided free of charge to Ohio HIDTA assigned and participating agency personnel. The vast majority of this training would not have been available to law enforcement in the region without Ohio HIDTA support and funding. The Ohio HIDTA has become a recognized asset in the region for effective and enriching training opportunities to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

Core Table 12: - Percentage of Event and Case Deconflictions Submitted by Year

Table 12: Percentage of Event and Case Deconflictions Submitted by Year at Ohio						
Year	Baseline # Deconflictions Submitted	# Deconfliction Submissions Expected	# Event Deconflictions Submitted	# Case/Subject Deconflictions Submitted	Total Deconflictions Submitted	% Deconflictions Submitted
2004	2,669	2,669	2,007	2,067	4,074	153%
2005	2,669	2,750	2,326	2,728	5,054	184%
2006	2,669	4,074	2,676	1,780	4,456	109%
2007	2,669	5,054	0	0	0	0%
2008	2,669	4,200	0	0	0	0%

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports; Ohio HIDTA ISC.

Core Table 13: Percentage of HIDTA Initiatives Using Event and Case Deconfliction Services for Year

Table 13: Percentage of HIDTA Initiatives Using Event and Case Deconfliction Services for Year at Ohio				
Year	Total HIDTA Initiatives	# Initiatives Targeted to Use Services	# Initiatives Using Services	% Initiatives Using Services
2004	13	13	13	100%
2005	13	13	13	100%
2006	13	13	13	100%
2007	13	13	0	0%
2008	13	13	0	0%

Source: Ohio HIDTA ISC.

Separate law enforcement initiatives, while aggressively pursuing suspects or covering an event, can easily cross paths in the field. This can be dangerous if either party is unaware of the other. In a “best case” scenario, it merely results in harmless interference. At worst, however, it could cost an officer his or her life in a dangerous encounter. Thus, information which can serve to deconflict such potential encounters is vital to well-coordinated policing. The Ohio HIDTA provides such information through its Investigative Support Center. As in past years, of the 13 Ohio HIDTA initiatives eligible to use Ohio HIDTA deconfliction services, all took advantage of these valuable tools. Recognizing the importance and necessity of officer safety through deconfliction, the Ohio HIDTA has successfully offered deconfliction to other agencies throughout Ohio, adding a significant component to operational safety that is not otherwise available in the state. Tables 12 and 13 depict how well Ohio HIDTA initiatives and participating agencies used these services in 2006. Event and case/subject deconflictions were 109% higher than expected submissions. These services promote officer safety, conserve resources, and help to coordinate investigations.

Initiative Specific Table F: Deconflictions submitted by Non-HIDTA Agencies

Other Outputs/Outcomes		
Deconfliction Type	CY 2006 Totals	FY 2008 Target Number
Event	907	500
Subject	761	400
Total Value	1668	900

Initiative Specific Table F shows the importance of offering deconfliction services to non-HIDTA agencies as evidenced by the vast number of deconflictions submitted by these agencies.

Core Table 13 - Percentage of Cases Provided Analytical Support for Year

Table 13*: Percentage of Cases Provided Analytical Support for Year at Ohio				
Year	Baseline # Cases Receiving Analytical Support	# Cases Expected for Analytical Support	# Cases Provided Analytical Support	% Expected Cases Supported
2004	48	48	62	129%
2005	48	60	54	90%
2006	48	66	128	193%
2007	48	54	0	0%
2008	48	93	0	0%

Source: Ohio HIDTA ISC.

*Note: As numbered in the ONDCP PMP Database

Table 13 depicts the significant analytical support provided by the Ohio HIDTA Investigative Support Center (ISC) to other initiatives and participating agencies. Analytical support to investigations in the Ohio HIDTA region has become an integral part in many of the more complex investigations. Analysts routinely provide support to investigative initiatives and participating agencies, which includes telephone toll analysis, link analysis, biographical research, and documents analysis. Table 13 shows 128 cases were provided analytical support in 2006. This number is almost double the number of cases expected to receive analytical support. Table 13 reflects the number of investigations provided support, but cannot capture the depth of support required for each investigation. In 2006, ISC analysts provided support to several complex, long-term investigations which required more of their time and attention. This analytical support is essential to Ohio HIDTA Goal 2 of improving efficiency and effectiveness through information sharing and coordinated intelligence.

Core Table 14 - Percentage of HIDTA Initiative Cases Referred to Other HIDTAs and Other Agencies for Year

Table 14: Percentage of HIDTA Initiative Cases Referred to Other HIDTAs and Other Agencies for Year at Ohio						
Year	Total HIDTA Initiative Cases	# Initiative Cases Expected for Referral	# HIDTA Initiative Cases Referred to Other HIDTAs	# HIDTA Initiative Cases Referred to Other Agencies	Total Initiative Cases Referred	% Expected Initiative Cases Referred
2004	925	138	37	101	138	100%
2005	1039	132	38	94	132	100%
2006	1386	156	50	121	171	109%
2007	0	138	0	0	0	0%
2008	0	234	0	0	0	0%

Source: Ohio HIDTA CY2006 Initiative Reports.

Table 14 clearly depicts the positive outcome achieved by Ohio HIDTA initiatives in the areas of Affiliated Case Referrals. As primarily “market areas” for drug trafficking, the Ohio HIDTA region provides a wealth of intelligence and investigative information to other law enforcement partners throughout the country, allowing other HIDTA and non-HIDTA agencies to pursue investigations in their jurisdictions. Many of Ohio HIDTA’s initiatives routinely provide referral information resulting in spin-off investigations throughout the country. In 2006 Ohio HIDTA investigators referred 171 investigations either to other HIDTA regions or other agencies for closer scrutiny and subsequent action.

VII. Conclusions

CY 2006 marks the third year that the Ohio HIDTA has reported initiative operational expectations and subsequent outcomes using the Performance Management Process (PMP) efficiency and effectiveness performance measurement tables spread throughout this Annual Report. This report depicts the success of Ohio HIDTA's initiatives in meeting both Ohio HIDTA goals. Drug availability is being significantly reduced, DTOs are being disrupted and dismantled (Goal 1), and these accomplishments are being done efficiently, effectively and at less budgetary cost through HIDTA-sponsored training and information sharing (Goal 2).

Ohio HIDTA initiatives have substantially reduced illegal drug availability in this region. Some highlights include seizing almost 950 kilograms of cocaine, over 12 kilograms of heroin over 10,000 kilograms of commercial grade marijuana, almost 1,000 high quality marijuana plants, more than 5,000 ecstasy units, almost 17,000 illicit prescription drug units, over 1,500 kilograms of khat, plus significant quantities of other drugs. These seizures equated to over \$60 million in value; this represents a staggering amount removed from the market place. These seizures, coupled with drug-asset seizures exceeding \$18 million, have significantly impacted DTOs' abilities to operate in this region. Overall, DTOs within the Ohio HIDTA region have been severely impacted by nearly \$80 million in seized drugs and assets. Ohio HIDTA initiatives dismantled 87 clandestine methamphetamine laboratories. 44 DTOs were either severely disrupted or dismantled. All this was accomplished with an impressive return on investment of \$30.20 for every \$1.00 of the budget expended for law enforcement and intelligence initiatives.

In the eight years the Ohio HIDTA has been in existence, there has been an increase in the number of initiatives, the number of participating agencies, and volume of information sharing. There has also been a steady increase in the use of the Ohio HIDTA Deconfliction Center, Analytical Units, and the number of interactions, cooperation and intelligence activities between law enforcement agencies.

With support from the Ohio HIDTA Investigative Support Center, law enforcement initiatives operating throughout Ohio HIDTA's eleven counties continue to make significant progress in identifying, investigating, and dismantling the most dangerous and prolific drug dealers and money launderers operating in the region. As the tables and charts presented throughout this report demonstrate, Ohio HIDTA initiatives have achieved Goal 1 and Goal 2 objectives.

Cooperation and communication between the participating federal, state, and local law enforcement personnel continues to be the cornerstone of the success of the Ohio HIDTA. Law enforcement agencies in the Ohio HIDTA region are working together more effectively and efficiently. Investigative intelligence is reaching the people who need it. Traditional barriers among different law enforcement agencies have been eroded sufficiently enough so that these entities can find a common ground to pursue common goals. Real and tangible progress is being made in addressing illicit drug trafficking. The Ohio HIDTA has significantly contributed to achieving these outcomes. The results set forth in this CY 2006 Annual Report reflect that the Ohio HIDTA significantly and positively impacts the Ohio HIDTA region through a cooperative and cost-efficient approach to law enforcement.

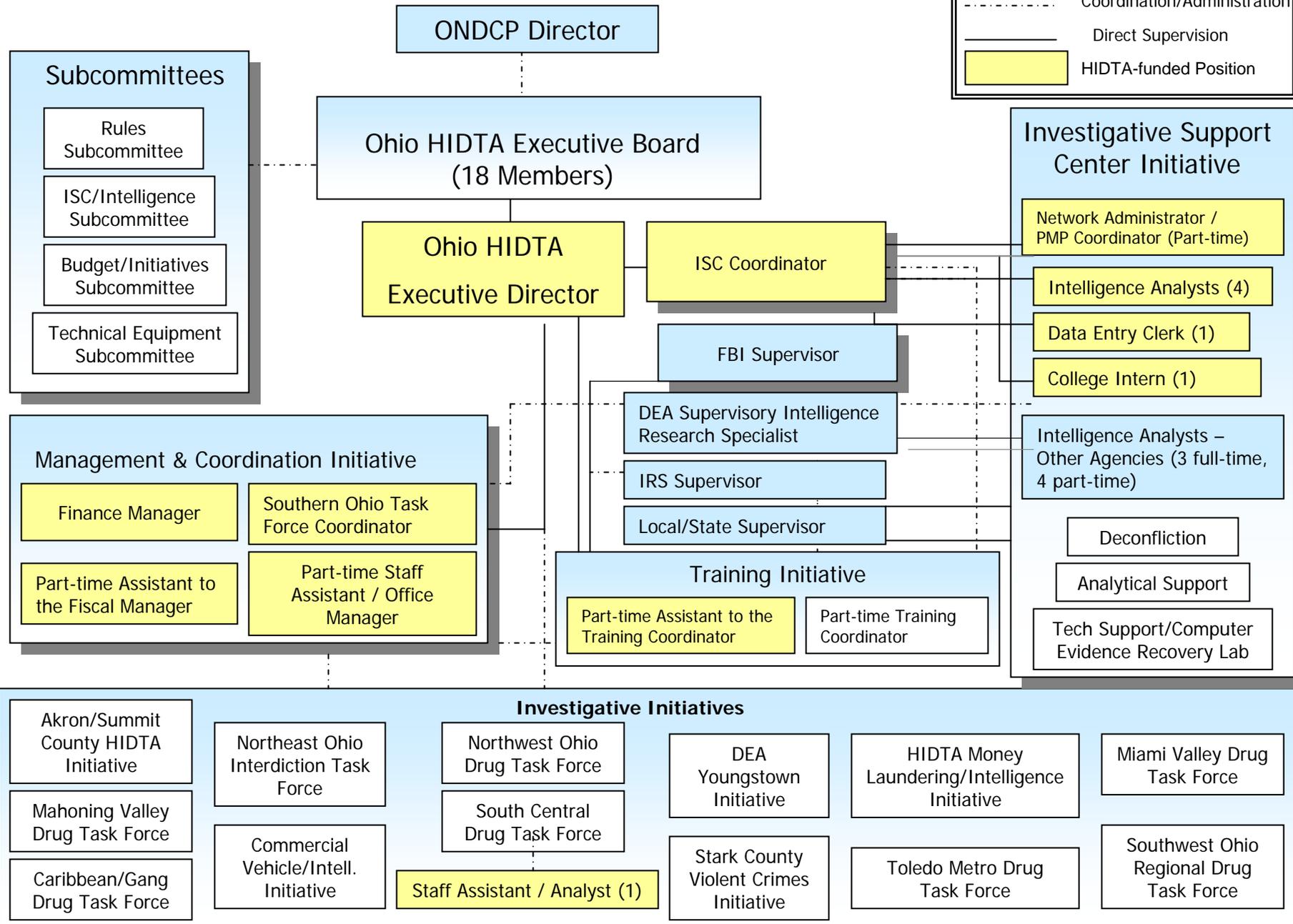
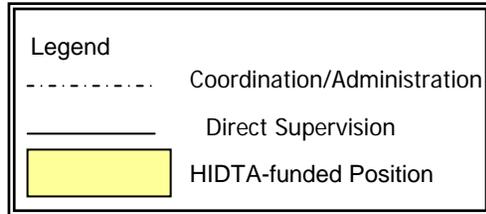
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- D. HIDTA PMP Matrix
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2006 Ohio HIDTA Organization Chart



Appendix B - Executive Board Members

2006 Ohio HIDTA Executive Board Members		
Name	Agency	Affiliation
Chief Michael Matulavich	Akron Police Department	Local
SAC Christopher Sadowski	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms	Federal
Chief Dean McKimm	Canton Police Department	Local
Chief Mike McGrath	Cleveland Division of Police	Local
Chief Doug Berkhart	Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department	Local
ASAC Anthony Marotta	Drug Enforcement Administration	Federal
SAC Ted Wasky	Federal Bureau of Investigation	Federal
ASAC Anthony Macisco	Immigration & Customs Enforcement	Federal
Assist. Chief Don Kenney	Toledo Metro Drug Task Force	Local
Superintendent John Monce Jr.	Ohio Bureau of Criminal Ident. & Investigation	State
Chief Walter Ugrinic	Shaker Heights Police Department	Local
SAC Cromwell Handy	Internal Revenue Service	Federal
U.S. Attorney Gregory White	U.S. Attorney's Office	Federal
U.S. Marshal Pete Elliott	U.S. Marshal's Office	Federal
SAC Conrad Everett	U.S. Secret Service	Federal
Chief Jimmy Hughes	Youngstown Police Department	Local
Lt. Col. Tom Beckman *	Ohio National Guard	State
AUSA Ron Bakeman *	U.S. Attorney's Office	Federal

* - *ex-officio member*

Appendix C- 2006 Ohio HIDTA Participating Agencies

Agency

Akron Police Department
Allen County Sheriff's Office
Alliance Police Department
Austintown Police Department
Barberton Police Department
Bath Police Department
Beaver Twp. Police Department
Boardman Police Department
Broadview Heights Police Department
Brook Park Police Department
Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms
Canfield Police Department
Canton Police Department
Cleveland Division of Police
Cleveland Heights Police Department
Columbus Division of Police
Copley Police Department
Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office
Cuyahoga Falls Police Department
Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority
Dayton Police Department
Drug Enforcement Administration
East Liverpool Police Department
Euclid Police Department
Fairfield County Sheriff's Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Findlay Police Department
Franklin County Sheriff's Office
Franklin Police Department
Geauga County Sheriff's Office
Goshen Police Department
Green Fire Dept
Greene County Sheriff's Office
Hancock County Sheriff's Office
Hubbard Police Department
Immigration & Customs Enforcement
Independence Police Department
Internal Revenue Service
Jackson Twp. Police Department
Lake County Narcotics
Lancaster Police Department

Lorain County Drug Task Force
Lucas County Sheriff's Office
Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office
Mahoning County Sheriff's Office
Maumee Police Department
Medina County Sheriff's Office
Milton Twp. Police Department
Monroe County Sheriff's Office
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
Montville Police Department
Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation
Ohio National Guard
Ohio State Board of Pharmacy
Ohio State Highway Patrol
Ohio State Parole Authority
Orange Village Police Department
Oregon Police Department
Perkins Twp. Police Department
Poland Twp. Police Department
Poland Village Police Department
Regional Transit Authority
Reminderville Police Department
Richfield Police Department
Rocky River Police Department
Salem Police Department
Shaker Heights Police Department
Springfield Twp. Police Department
Stark County Sheriff's Office
Stow Police Department
Strongsville Police Department
Struthers Police Department
Summit County Sheriff's Office
Sylvania Police Department
Sylvania Twp. Police Department
Toledo Police Department
Trotwood Police Department
Twinsburg Police Department
U.S. Coast Guard
U.S. Postal Service
University of Akron Police Department
Warren County Sheriff's Office
Warren Police Department
Washington Twp. Police Department
Waterville Police Department
Wilmington Police Department

Wood County Sheriff's Office
Woodmere Police Department
Youngstown Police Department
Youngstown State University Police Department

Appendix E - HIDTA Initiatives

Akron/Summit County HIDTA Initiative – The mission of the Akron/Summit County HIDTA Initiative is to develop a cooperative effort to substantially reduce the impact of organized drug-trafficking activity in the greater Akron/Summit County area by combining the resources of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. A special investigative emphasis will be placed on targeting drug-trafficking organizations whose multi-layered, complex, conspiratorial relationships have resisted traditional investigative and prosecutorial efforts against their membership.

The initiative will continue to combine the Greater Akron Drug Task Force's and Summit County Drug Unit's manpower resources and its detailed knowledge of local drug distribution networking with FBI and DEA intelligence. In addition, the DEA will bring its experience in undercover operations and the FBI will apply its electronic surveillance expertise to investigative efforts by the initiative. The initiative will continue to focus on disrupting and dismantling drug-trafficking organizations that have the greatest impact on the community. In addition, this initiative will seize each opportunity to engage interagency resources where multi-jurisdictional distribution networks are identified.

The Akron/Summit county HIDTA Initiative operates as a single task force with both mutual and separate investigations which utilize the traditional methods of investigation such as controlled purchases of drugs, surveillance, and more sophisticated techniques such as Title III investigations. The administrators and leaders of the participating law enforcement agencies are in regular direct contact. There are frequent meetings of the city, county and federal representatives to insure targets are carefully selected and investigations are coordinated. Combining the resources of these unites under a single initiative aids in elimination duplications of effort and helps enhance cooperation and efficiency.

As a result of the coordination and cooperation within the initiative, the Akron/Summit County HIDTA initiative is able to maintain a highly trained Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratory Response Team to attack the threat of meth-labs in the area. Summit County, in which this initiative is located, has accounted for the largest number of meth-labs in the state of Ohio.

Additionally the Akron/Summit County Initiative works in conjunction with the Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force (NOVFTF) to enhance both task forces' ability to pursue fugitives. This combined effort has allowed the initiative to capitalize on its capabilities in support of the NOVFTF's efforts. NOVFTF is collocated with the Akron/Summit County Initiative.

The Akron/Summit County HIDTA Initiative proactively reviews financial records to identify potential money laundering subjects within its jurisdiction. The results of this process will both in the identification of Money Laundering Organizations that

can be targets for disruption or dismantlement as well as the referral of potential subjects to other agencies for further investigations.

Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Initiative (formerly known as the Caribbean Gang Drug Task Force)- The Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Initiative is a multi-agency cooperative effort designed to undermine the impact of organized drug-trafficking activity through the identification, investigation, and prosecution of the leaders of such organizations. A special emphasis is placed on dismantling those groups exhibiting violence and conspiratorial relationships as a means of furthering their illegal activities.

The primary investigative focus is multi-agency investigations of organized groups, or organized criminal organizations, which are involved in the trafficking of large quantities of drugs, whose organizational influence crosses state and/or local jurisdictional boundaries and whose mode of operations involves conspiratorial relationships, often including violence. These organizations typically have a chief source of cash derived from large-scale narcotics trafficking due to the size and complexity of the organization. The task force frequently employs appropriate sophisticated investigative techniques, which includes electronic surveillance, pen registers, and GPS tracking devices to attack the entire scope of the targeted drug-trafficking organization. The task force fully interacts, utilizes, and shares information with the Ohio HIDTA Investigative Support Center.

Commercial Vehicle Intelligence Initiative – The mission of the HIDTA Commercial Vehicle/Intelligence Initiative, code-named “Operation Weigh-In,” is to develop and assist with criminal investigations and related enforcement operations that focus on organized drug-trafficking activities as well as the identification and seizure of financial assets derived from narcotics proceeds. The emphasis of this HIDTA initiative is to gather intelligence on drug-trafficking and money-laundering organizations utilizing commercial vehicles to transport their product to and through the State of Ohio, specifically the current eleven-county HIDTA-designated areas. Central to this mission is an enhanced emphasis on the disruption of drug-trafficking organizations and the seizure of financial assets through the sharing and coordination of investigative activities with ongoing Ohio HIDTA initiatives, other law enforcement agencies, and HIDTAs on the national level.

Due to the fact that this initiative is spread out over the State of Ohio, the participants cannot be collocated for logistical reasons. However, the initiative shares all information developed with the other HIDTA initiatives in a timely manner. The members of this initiative meet regularly at target locations based on mutual agreement and intelligence developed from previous “blitzes.” This initiative exemplifies the effectiveness and cooperation of multi-agency coordination both within Ohio and across the nation. Not only does this initiative exchange intelligence with other Ohio HIDTA initiatives and the Ohio HIDTA ISC but also EPIC Commercial Vehicle Unit, as well as law enforcement agencies across the country, including Arizona, Illinois, and Texas.

DEA Youngstown Task Force – The mission of the DEA Youngstown Task Force (DEAYTF) is to disrupt the flow of illicit drugs in and around the Mahoning Valley and the Ohio HIDTA region. The objectives are to gather and report intelligence and to immobilize targeted violators and organizations at the highest levels. To accomplish this end, the DEAYTF pursues a coordinated federal, state, and local drug enforcement effort through the use of a myriad of overt and covert investigative techniques. The goals are the arrest and prosecution of violators, the seizure of drugs, and the forfeiture of assets in the Federal and State Courts of Ohio and beyond. The measure of success is a reduction in drugs and violence, which will result in an improved quality of life in the Mahoning Valley.

The initiative started as a point of contact between agencies in the Mahoning Valley and DEA. The size and scope of the initiative has grown with DEA presence, as well as full-time task force members dedicated to the development of OCDETF investigations. In addition, the task force targets mid-level traffickers via controlled purchases of evidence as a means to move into long-term cases. Recently, the task force has expanded into drug interdiction by targeting parcel services and bus terminals. These investigators have yielded numerous seizures, many of which can be documented back to targeted DTOs in our area.

The program does not target street violators but instead targets mid and upper-level traffickers. The task force utilizes the availability of DEA resources to purchase evidence and pay confidential sources. The task force can work from mid-level purchases of controlled substances up to Title III intercepts. In addition, via the use of the K-9 supported interdiction team.

Investigative Support Center Initiative– The ISC provides tactical, operational, and strategic intelligence support to the Ohio HIDTA investigative and interdiction initiatives as well as to other participating agencies. The Deconfliction Center within the ISC handles all event and subject deconflictions and performs numerous law enforcement and public databases checks. The Analytical Unit within the ISC provides operational case support primarily in the form of telephone toll analysis, link analysis, biographical research, and post-seizure analysis. The Analytical Unit also provides strategic support in the form of the annual Threat Assessment and Intelligence Bulletins. The Analytical Unit is also responsible for drafting the Annual Report, the Initiative Budgets and Descriptions, and the annual Strategy. The ISC Coordinator is responsible for the management of the ISC and is assisted by an FBI Supervisor and a DEA Intelligence Analyst Supervisor in the everyday supervision of the analysts and personnel assigned to the ISC. The ISC has developed and maintained a strong internship program over the past six years. In 2006, two interns from Mercyhurst College one intern from Baldwin Wallace College, one intern from Fordham, one intern from Xavier University, and one intern from Dayton University assisted the ISC. In the fall, the ISC hosted its annual two-day intelligence symposium with more than 150 analysts and investigators from local, state and federal law enforcement agencies attending, including participants

from other HIDTAs in the Great Lakes Region. The ISC's structure and design is ever-changing as are the personnel assigned from the participating agencies. These changes improve the ISC and assist in homeland security.

Management and Coordination Initiative– The Management and Coordination Initiative consists of the Executive Director, the Fiscal Agent, the Assistant to the Fiscal Agent, and the Staff Assistant/Office Manager. The Director supervises the everyday management of the Ohio HIDTA and delegates certain responsibilities to the other staff members. The Southern Ohio Coordinator assists with the overall administration of the six Southern Ohio counties. The Fiscal Agent and Assistant to the Fiscal Agent manage the financial function of the office, which includes, but is not limited to, the preparation of the budget and the accounting of all financial transactions. The Staff Assistant/Office Manager coordinates the daily activities of the Director and other staff members and administers office matters.

Mahoning Valley Law Enforcement Task Force – The mission of the Mahoning Valley Law Enforcement Task Force (MVLETF) is to reduce all levels of drug trafficking and violent crime associated with drug trafficking. The task force is made up of 4 units, the Criminal Gang Unit, The Drug Unit, the Fugitive Squad Unit, and the Homeland Security/Crisis Response Team. The task force as a whole disrupts and dismantles high-level and mid-level drug trafficking organizations operating in the greater Mahoning Valley area. The Gang Unit addresses violent gangs that rely on the drug trade to support their existence. To accomplish this, the Gang Unit uses a myriad of covert and overt investigative techniques, working together with local, state and federal authorities. The Drug Unit investigates all levels of drug trafficking with an emphasis on mid to upper level drug trafficking organizations. The Fugitive Squad Unit locates and apprehends violent felons. The Homeland Security/Crisis Response team responds to critical incidents, barricade suspects, hostage situations, acts of terrorism, serves high risk warrants and handles drug search warrants. The pharmaceutical Diversion Unit investigates the illegal diversion of prescription drugs. The goal of the operations of the Units is to share intelligence and eliminate duplication of effort in the pursuit of arresting and conviction principal offenders, seizing their contraband and assets, and conduct money-laundering investigations. Utilizing the Investigative Support Center (ISC) enhances cooperation, coordination, and officer safety throughout Ohio. The availability of illegal narcotics has been greatly affected by the efforts of the task force, and thus has improved the quality of life in the Mahoning Valley

Miami Valley Drug Task Force- The mission of the Miami Valley Drug Task Force (MVDTF) is to reduce violent crime associated with all levels of drug trafficking in the Miami Valley area, which includes Montgomery, Greene, surrounding counties, and the city of Dayton. Because of Miami Valley's geographic location, the region is a major distribution point of bulk marijuana and cocaine destined for the East coast and Midwest market.

MVDTF consists of two units, the Interdiction Unit and the Major Case Unit. The Interdiction Unit focuses on disrupting the movement and distribution of illicit narcotics and pre-cursor chemicals via private and commercial vehicles along major highways and through commercial shipment facilities in the region. When an Interdiction Unit investigation leads to the identification of a larger drug trafficking organization, the Major Case Unit takes over.

The Major Case Unit targets mid to high-level drug trafficking organizations with specific emphasis on gang affiliations and international cartels involved in trafficking marijuana, heroin, cocaine, Ecstasy (MDMA), OxyContin, and the chemicals used in the manufacture of methamphetamine. The Major Case Unit focuses on disrupting and/or dismantling these organizations by seizure of assets and narcotics along with arrest and prosecution of the members of the drug trafficking organizations. The two Units work closely together during the course of investigations, relying upon mutual resources and intelligence sharing to accomplish their goals.

Money Laundering/Intelligence Initiative – The mission of the HIDTA Money Laundering/Intelligence Initiative is to develop and assist with criminal investigations and related enforcement operations that focus on organized drug-trafficking activities as well as the identification and seizure of financial assets derived from narcotics proceeds. The emphasis of the initiative is to gather intelligence on drug-trafficking, money-laundering and terrorists financing activities from as many financial sources as possible to include suspicious activity reports (SARs), Money Service Businesses, wire transfers, express package companies, airport seizures, vehicle seizures, hotels/motels, conventional banking institutions, surveillance, seized personal computers, and related electronic media. Central to this mission is an enhanced emphasis on the disruption of drug-trafficking organizations and the seizure of financial assets through the sharing and coordination of investigative activities with ongoing Ohio HIDTA initiatives, other law enforcement agencies (including intelligence information gathered and developed through SAR reviews that are forwarded to the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) for follow-up investigation), and HIDTAs on the national level.

The MLII is a collaborated task force composed of two units: The Drug Intelligence Unit and The Money Laundering Unit. Each unit is comprised of investigators from various federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies co-supervised by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Cleveland Division of Police. While each unit has a specific area of focus, they collaborate and share both information and resources in developing financial and narcotics related intelligence and investigations. In addition, the two units work together in supporting relevant investigations of the other Ohio HIDTA initiatives. This initiative has the ability to cross-reference intelligence developed via the hotel/motel industry with intelligence developed via the review of financial sources without the duplication of efforts in their intelligence gathering.

Northeast Ohio Interdiction Task Force – This initiative, supervised by the DEA, is comprised of five units: The Akron Canton Airport Unit, the Cleveland Airport Interdiction Unit, the Parcel Interdiction Unit, the Major Investigations Unit and the Pharmaceutical Diversion Unit. These units focus on reducing drug trafficking, related violent crimes and money-laundering in the Ohio HIDTA region. This is done through the use of coordinated resources such as substances into the Northern Ohio HIDTA region, and the seizure of the profits gained by the sale of controlled substances from these individuals and organizations. The five units work together as a single initiative to eliminate the duplication of effort and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of their cases. This initiative will continue to target those drug organizations that have the greatest impact on the Northeast Ohio community.

Northwest Ohio HIDTA Task Force - The Northwest Ohio HIDTA Task Force was created to reduce drug trafficking, related violent crimes, and money laundering in the Ohio HIDTA region. This is accomplished through the coordination and sharing of intelligence, unified law enforcement effort, and community cooperation, which will improve the quality of life in Northwest Ohio.

The Northwest Ohio HIDTA Task Force is a collocated, cooperative effort within the greater Toledo, Ohio area. All elements of the task force are centrally located in downtown Toledo, in an office funded by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Historically, the task force has focused upon dismantling major trafficking groups operating within the area. Particular attention will continue to be directed toward undermining the increasing role the area plays in supplying controlled substances to other parts of the region. The initiative and the areas of operation have not changed since its creation.

This law enforcement initiative continues to address drug-trafficking related problems and issues as deemed necessary. The utilization of undercover agents, undercover narcotics purchases, extensive surveillance, pen registers, clone pagers, and potential Title III intercepts are commonplace when conducting these types of investigations. This initiative targets the major cocaine, heroin, and marijuana organizations in the region and seeks to disrupt and dismantle all facets of each organization. Through the Northwest Ohio HIDTA Task Force's primary focus is the Lucas County metropolitan area, its area of responsibility reaches throughout several counties and even into a neighboring state. The task force is responsible for 22 counties in Ohio and 3 in Southeastern Lower Michigan. It is commonplace for investigations that begin in Lucas County to extend into outlying counties in Ohio and Michigan. The task force shares information and deconflicts with the Michigan HIDTA regarding the Michigan counties on a regular basis, as well as, deconflicting with the Ohio HIDTA. All investigations interact with and share information with the HIDTA ISC. Analytical resources on site in Toledo are shared with non-member law enforcement agencies within the area, as requested. The HIDTA ISC is used to augment investigative support resources on site and expand on its efforts. In addition, all Ohio HIDTA resources are carefully monitored to ensure that

expenditures and equipment are centered and maintained within the Lucas County Area.

South Central Drug Task Force- The South Central Drug Task Force (SCDTF) undertakes cooperative efforts to substantially reduce the impact of higher-level organized drug-trafficking activity in the Franklin, Fairfield, and surrounding central and southern Ohio counties by combining the resources of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. This initiative links participating agencies and shares developed information on identified targets and then uses that information to track, investigate, and prosecute those responsible for drug trafficking and violent crimes that accompany it.

The SCDTF consists of two units, the Southwest Border Initiative and the South Central Enforcement Group. The Southwest Border Initiative (SWBI), a DEA-led unit, employs traditional and non-traditional investigative and surveillance techniques in order to gather evidence involving drug trafficking organizations and drug distribution cells operating in Columbus and central Ohio, specifically those connected to the United States/Mexican border. SWBI will use intelligence derived from DEA cases worldwide and from other law enforcement sources throughout the United States to dismantle or disrupt the emerging threat posed by drug trafficking organizations based in Mexico and other Central and South American countries. The task force concentrates on exploiting telephonic communications and tracing financial transactions in an effort to identify members of the organizations, and identify the methods of transporting drugs and laundered money to and from central Ohio.

The South Central Enforcement Group (SCEG) is broken into two investigative groups. The first group will focus on the interdiction of contraband that is shipped via parcels and commercial freight. The second group will focus on more traditional drug organizations that are operating in the central Ohio area.

Southwest Ohio Regional Drug Task Force Initiative- The Southwest Ohio Regional Drug Task Force (SWORD) mission is to reduce violent crime associated with all levels of drug trafficking in Hamilton, Warren, and surrounding counties in southwestern Ohio, and to reduce the influx of controlled substances into the region through interdiction of the highways, package shipments, and the hotel-motel establishments. Disrupting and dismantling domestic and foreign organizations involved in production, transporting, and supplying illicit drugs to the region will accomplish these goals. These goals will be achieved by a combined effort of federal, state, and local law enforcement engaged together to fight large-scale drug distribution. SWORD consists of two units, The Southwest Task Force Network (STFN) and the Drug Interdiction Unit (DIU). The Southwest Task Force Network (STFN) targets cocaine, marijuana, methamphetamine, and prescription trafficking organizations responsible for violent crime. STFN will unify the efforts and information sharing necessary to combat drug trafficking organizations and related

violent crimes, including homicide, murder-for-hire, money laundering, and conspiracies. All investigative activity will be coordinated through the Deconfliction Center. The Drug Interdiction Unit (DIU) will focus on the shipment of all illegal substances and proceeds being transported into Southwest Ohio by motor vehicle, train, and airways. The liberal use of drug detection canines to facilitate highway interdiction on the region's extensive Interstate system will assist SWORD in intercepting illegal substances and/or illegal proceeds of illegal drug distribution. The DIU will also be involved in the investigation of illegal drug and money laundering operations in our area's large hotel-motel arena attached directly to the Interstate highway system. The DIU will also utilize personnel and drug detection canines to monitor the DHL hub in Wilmington, Ohio. DHL receives and ships approximately 2 million packages daily, and is the main hub in the United States.

Stark County Violent Crimes Initiative - This initiative is a multi-agency cooperative effort to undermine the impact of organized drug-trafficking activity through the identification, investigation, and prosecution of such organizations. Special emphasis is placed on dismantling groups exhibiting violence and conspiratorial relations as a means of furthering their illegal activities. This initiative is a federally-led, collocated federal, state, and local law enforcement task force created with a combined mission of utilizing highly sophisticated techniques in long-term narcotics-trafficking organizations to disrupt and dismantle highly entrenched, tight-knit, violent drug-trafficking organizations in Stark County, Ohio.

This initiative targets the most violent and/or sophisticated drug-trafficking organizations trafficking cocaine, cocaine base, marijuana, heroin, and crystal methamphetamine that cannot be dismantled by local/state jurisdictions currently in place to combat street level and mid-level traffickers. However, as investigations dictate, any and all local departments share narcotics intelligence and provide investigative support for initiative priorities.

Toledo Metro Drug Task Force - The law enforcement mission of the Toledo Metro Drug Task Force (TMDTF) is to identify, investigate, prosecute, disrupt, and dismantle middle and upper-level drug-trafficking organizations operating in, and/or attempting to establish drug routes into, the Northwest Ohio Region. The TMDTF utilizes all means at its disposal while working cooperatively and in conjunction with the Ohio HIDTA, other HIDTA initiatives, and all other law enforcement agencies with an interest in the counter drug effort in Northwestern Ohio and other parts of the United States, respectively, which are affected by information developed within the initiative.

Techniques employed by the TMDTF to counter drug trafficking in the region include surveillance; intelligence gathering through the use of informants; trash pulls; highway, commercial vehicle, bus/train, hotel/motel, and parcel interdiction; search warrants; controlled buys; direct buys; reverse buys; video surveillance; pen-registers; and Title III activities. The availability of drug-sniffing canines to assist in

the discovery of narcotics and assets derived from drug trafficking has proven invaluable, especially in the area of drug interdiction. The canine handlers also conduct several demonstrations a year instructing young people on the dangers of narcotics.

The interdiction branch of the TMDTF was formed to further the law enforcement mission of the task force in identifying, disrupting, and dismantling upper-level narcotics trafficking organizations operating in the Northwest Ohio Region. The Interdiction Unit's objective is to intercept narcotics, along with assets derived from the sale of narcotics coming into and leaving Northwest Ohio via highways, airports, hotels, bus and train stations, parcel services and storage facilities. The unit has expanded its ties with other law enforcement interdiction teams both within the State of Ohio and the State of Michigan in an attempt to counter drug trafficking.

Training Initiative - The mission of this initiative is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Ohio HIDTA initiatives and participating agencies to counter drug trafficking and address the drug threat in the Ohio HIDTA region. Selective training opportunities, provided in support of HIDTA initiatives and law enforcement agencies within the HIDTA, will contribute directly toward accomplishing this objective. This initiative allows the Ohio HIDTA to provide timely, relevant training that enhances the knowledge, skills, and performance of all participating Ohio HIDTA law enforcement and support personnel. The Training Initiative provides threat-driven training programs to the Ohio HIDTA participating law enforcement and support personnel as well as other law enforcement agencies within the Ohio HIDTA region.

The Training Initiative is divided into two areas of concentration. The first area is computer-related. The training is conducted at the Ohio HIDTA in a specifically designed Computer Training Center. The other area of concentration is investigative training designed to assist the task force officers and analysts in their investigative missions. Generally, this training is conducted at the Ohio HIDTA ISC. Also, if pertinent, the Training Initiative promotes training in other areas of the country contingent upon available funds.