



Cutting off opioid abuse at the source

The proliferation of prescription opioid narcotics has created widespread addiction in not only Springfield, but in cities across the nation. Over the past five years, the SPD has been monitoring other law enforcement agencies as they have seen people becoming addicted to prescribed opioids, obtained either fraudulently or legally, only to see them transition to heroin because of the affordability and availability. This has created a volume of overdoses previously unseen in our city. For this reason, the SPD requested and received grant funding for a full-time Prescription Pill Diversion Investigator as part of the department's Narcotics Enforcement Team. The position was filled in May 2016, and the investigator has since presented 120 criminal cases to prosecutors.



This officer actively investigates people involved in the selling of prescription medication and medical professionals who are illegally prescribing medication. He also conducts investigations into fatal heroin overdoses. So far in 2017, there have been 94 heroin overdoses—seven of those were fatal.

The Prescription Pill Diversion Investigator works closely with the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs and with investigators of the Missouri Board of Healing Arts. He has met with numerous local pharmacists to discuss diversion concerns and with practitioners displaying suspicious prescribing habits.

A Prescription Drug Monitoring Program will be a valuable tool for law enforcement and medical professionals alike. PDMPs are electronic databases used by subscribers and pharmacies to track the prescribing and dispensing of controlled prescription drugs to patients to prevent people from abusing the drugs or channeling them into illegal use. Missouri was the last of the 50 states without a PDMP. Missouri Governor Eric Greitens recently signed an executive order directing the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to begin work creating such a program. While police will not have access to the database, the program ensures referrals will be made to law enforcement of those red-flagged by the system. Local officials will continue to work towards partnering with St. Louis County officials to participate in a complimentary PDMP that is already established.

“As the only state without a PDMP, we are more vulnerable to the negative effects of the increase in heroin use and the resulting overdoses and deaths,” said Police Chief Paul Williams.

Community Engagement

Springfield Police Department offers a variety of programs and services that engage citizens in public safety initiatives.

- Police Area Representative (PAR) Officers
- Crime Prevention
 - Neighborhood Watch
 - Business Watch
 - Night Watch
 - CPTED
 - Apartment Watch
 - Citizens Alert Patrol
- Targeted awareness campaigns
- Crime Stoppers
- Citizens Police Academy
- Coffee with the Chief
- Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)

Police Engagement

Springfield Police Department is organized to maximize effective deployment and utilization of resources.

- Highly trained and specialized teams
- Targeted enforcement efforts
 - people
 - places
 - crime
- Annual beat surveys
- Spirit of service
- Commitment to transparency
- Crime trend analysis
- Daily officer deployment based on crime data

See Something. Say Something.

There's no information that's insignificant. Don't hesitate. Call 911.

Report criminal activity anonymously to Crime Stoppers.

(417) 869-TIPS

Text a Tip: Text 417SPD plus your message or photo to CRIMES (274637)

Headquarters:

321 E. Chestnut Expressway
Springfield, MO 65802

South District Station:

2620 W. Battlefield Rd.
Springfield, MO 65807

Connect with us: [sgfpolice](#)



Learn more about how you can be involved in crime prevention efforts:

(417) 874-2113 or springfieldmo.gov/spd

Springfield Crime Statistics

Second Quarter 2017 (April - June)

↑ 16%
Overall increase
in crime in 2nd Qtr.
(Compared to 2nd Qtr. 2016)

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

April - June	2016	2017
Homicide	1	1
Rape	89	97
Robbery	127	86
Aggravated Assault	407	415
Total Against Persons	624	599

THERE WAS A **4% TOTAL DECREASE** IN CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS FROM THIS PERIOD IN 2016.

CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

April - June	2016	2017
Burglary	533	627
Larceny/theft	2,459	2,812
Stolen Vehicle	317	512
Total Against Property	3,309	3,951

THERE WAS A **19% TOTAL INCREASE** IN CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY FROM THIS PERIOD IN 2016.



Thefts from inside vehicles
NEARLY DOUBLED
in this quarter compared to
the same quarter in 2016.

Leaving purses, keys, firearms, electronics, clothing or textbooks visible in an unattended or unlocked car is far too tempting to criminals.

984 VEHICLES

have been reported stolen in Springfield in 2017

That's more than **FIVE PER DAY** on average.



- Lock your vehicle
- Don't leave it running unattended

These are simple and effective ways to prevent yourself from becoming a victim.

Learn more about how you can be involved in crime prevention efforts:
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