PRESS RELEASE

Police Department
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Chief of Police
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Riverside Police Partner with DEA and Kaiser Hospital to Collect Drugs

Riverside, California: The Riverside Police Department, along with other law enforcement agencies around the nation, will be participating in the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) National Pharmaceutical Take-Back initiative.

This initiative seeks to prevent pill abuse and theft through the collection of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. The Riverside Police Department is partnering with the DEA and Kaiser Permanente Hospital and will be collecting these types of drugs for proper disposal. The event is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Many people are not aware that medications that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the United States are increasing at alarming rates, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends. In addition, many people do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medications, often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away, both offering potential safety and health hazards.

When: **Saturday, September 27, 2014**
Time: **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**
Where: **Kaiser Permanente Hospital Parking Lot (NW corner)**
10800 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside

The Riverside Police Department will collect the unwanted pharmaceuticals and turn them over to the DEA who will safely destroy the drugs. For more information regarding the National Take Back Initiative, visit www.dea.gov, or contact Supervisor Karen Haverkamp at 951-826-5644.

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