



COUNTY OF VENTURA

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June 6, 2023

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Ave.
Ventura CA 93009

SUBJECT: Receive and File a Presentation by the County Opioid Abuse Suppression Taskforce (COAST), on the multi-agency effort to combat the opioid crisis in Ventura County.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Receive and file a presentation by the County Opioid Abuse Suppression Taskforce (COAST), Facing Down Fentanyl.

DISCUSSION:

In response to the Opioid Crisis, Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) has coordinated a multi-agency approach to reducing drug use and increasing access to care. In October of 2018, VCBH was awarded a federal grant, that in collaboration with multiple agencies, including Public Health, Emergency Medical Services, Ambulatory Care, Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office, and Medical Examiner's Office, has led to more collaboration and innovative efforts to respond. (www.VenturaCountyResponds.org)

Fentanyl overdoses are extremely powerful, fast, and very often fatal. Fentanyl gives no warnings, it has no smell, no special color, and has been showing up in other drugs on the street. Ventura County agencies are working together to reduce illicit opioid supply, decrease opioid demand, and save lives. In sharing and comparing data, they are leveraging information and analyzing trends to better target resources and respond to this evolving crisis.

Please join me in welcoming members of COAST.

Sincerely,

Matt LaVere, Chair
Supervisor, First District

Attachment: Exhibit 1 - PowerPoint