Safety Bulletin -- Adulterated Heroin

The Department of Public Safety’s EMS division issued two safety bulletins, particularly for EMS providers, last week about a batch of adulterated heroin being circulated that is causing adverse reactions in patients who are revived from an overdose of it.

The suspected product bears the markings of “Santa Muerte” and forensic analysis of a sample found 5F-ADB, heroin and fentanyl. 5F-ADB is a high-potency synthetic cannabinoid. There are reports that patients who have used it and then receive naloxone for overdose reversal have become markedly agitated or combative following reversal. Media reports indicate there were two incidents of violence against EMS practitioners related to this tainted batch of heroin. See the attached July 2018 Notices for additional information.

Department of Public Safety New Hire

The Department of Public Safety is happy to welcome David Daugherty to our team. David is the department’s new Assistant Director, Homeland Security-Intelligence.

After graduating high school, David served six years in the U.S. Marine Corps in the enlisted reserves and achieved the rank of Sergeant. During his first six years he deployed to Iraq as provisional military police.

David earned a bachelor’s degree from West Chester University and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant. He served another six years as an active duty officer, achieving the rank of 1st Lieutenant. During that time, David deployed to Afghanistan as the Officer in Charge of a Police Advisor Team.

After his military service, David took a job with Chester County as a Deputy Coroner and then Chief Deputy Coroner before joining us at the Department of Public Safety.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption

Montgomery County’s 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) has been approved by PEMA and FEMA and municipalities are strongly encouraged to pass a resolution adopting it.

Municipalities are required to adopt the plan to become eligible to apply for federal Hazard Mitigation grants over the next five years. After a federally declared disaster, eligible municipalities can apply for grants to elevate flood prone homes and buildings in the affected areas or purchase them and convert them to open space.

Adopted resolutions should be emailed to Joe Anna Haelig at jhaelig@montcopa.org. A copy of the plan, including a template for a resolution adopting it can be found by following this link: https://www.montcopa.org/DocumentCenter/View/19172/2017-DRAFT-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan?bidId=
Structural Burn Session

There is still room for firefighters interested in participating in a Structural Burn Session at the Montgomery County Fire Academy in September.

The 16-hour course will be held on two Sundays, Sept. 16th & 30th. Structural Burn Session that includes 2-1/2 hours of classroom time reviewing fire behavior, engine/truck company response and fire attack methods incorporating the latest UL studies.

Students will then participate in 13 hours of hands-on activities, including hose advancement, ladder review, live smoke search, residential fire attack, commercial fire attack and high-rise fire attack.

Emphasis is placed on safety for both interior and exterior operations. Students must be at least 18 years old and have completed the Interior Fire Fighter course.

For more information on this and other upcoming training sessions and courses, see the attached July 2018 Notices or visit the fire academy’s web page at: https://www.montcopa.org/136/Fire-Academy

Montgomery County Hiring Telecommunicators

The Montgomery County Department of Public Safety is looking for the best to answer the call, literally, thousands of times per day. The department is recruiting for a new class of telecommunicators to begin training in late September.

An Open Testing/Hiring Marathon, including tours of the 9-1-1 Center, will be held Wednesday, Aug. 22nd from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. for interested applicants at the Montgomery County Emergency Operations Center, 50 Eagleville Road, Eagleville, PA 19403.

To view a full job description, download an application or apply online, visit us on the web at www.montcopa.org/jobs and click on telecommunicator.

Based in a state-of-the-art Communications Center in Eagleville, telecommunicators have workstations with individual climate controls, fully paid training, and work just 182 days per year.

The Department of Public Safety provides 9-1-1 service and communications support to nearly 150 public safety agencies throughout the County.

The County of Montgomery offers a very generous medical, dental, and vision benefit package. The starting salary for a telecommunicator is $35,605 with an increase when training is completed.
Career Opportunities

The Department of Public Safety is hiring for the position of EMS Training Assistant.

The EMS Training Assistant is responsible for coordinating training resources; scheduling and teaching both credential-producing as well as continuing education for Paramedics, EMTs and laypersons from the community.

The EMS Training Assistant will provide training support for all EMS Training Institute programs, including equipment inventory, maintenance and accountability; coordination of classrooms and facilities for classes; and ensuring that appropriate instructor resources are aligned with training activities. This person will serve as point of contact for EMS Training Institute course coordinators and instructors requiring assistance/support.

For a complete job description and to download an application, please visit us on the web: https://www.montcopa.org/jobs.aspx

* The Cheltenham Township Emergency Medical Service has full-time paramedic positions available. The deadline for submitting resumes is Aug. 3, 2018.

* The Good Will Steam Fire Engine Company No. 1 of Pottstown is accepting applications and resumes for a full-time firefighter, a full-time paramedic and a full-time emergency medical technician (EMT). The department is also accepting applications for part-time positions. The deadline for submitting applications is Aug. 8, 2018.

* The Upper Providence Township Department of Fire and Emergency Services is accepting applications for a per diem firefighter.

* The Whitemarsh Community Ambulance Association is accepting applications for part-time and PRN paramedics.

More detailed information can be found in the attached July 2018 Notices.

Foam Task Force Training

The Montgomery County Foam Taskforce undertook an intensive four-hour training at the Delaware County Emergency Services Training Center recently focused on combating flammable liquids fires on the ground and it storage tanks.

The exercise tested protocols for notifying the members of the Foam Taskforce, response coordination, and foam handline operations. The drill included multiple scenarios and crews rotated through stations that included air monitoring, fire suppression, and tank cooling.

The Foam Task Force is made up of from the Abington Township Fire Department, East Norriton Fire Engine Company, the Montgomery County Hazardous Materials Response Team, Limerick Fire Company and Merck Fire Brigade.
Entry Level Firefighter Graduations

The Montgomery County Fire Academy graduated two entry-level fire classes with a total of 51 new firefighters on of new firefighters on July 18th.

All of the new firefighters completed Pennsylvania Entry Level Firefighter curriculum of four courses that culminated in a live burn with emphasis on hose advancement, fire extinguishment, forcible entry, interior search and rescue.

Montgomery County Commissioners Vice Chair Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr. was the commencement speaker.

Class 1802 included 43 students from fire companies across Montgomery, Delaware, Chester and York counties. Firefighter John Alderfer of Sanatoga Fire Company received the Interior Firefighter Award.

Congratulations to all. Below is a list of the graduates:

Firefighter Vincent Albanese, Radnor
Firefighter Joshua Alderfer, Sanatoga
Firefighter Connor Beebe, Limerick
Firefighter Jeffrey Bickel, Worcester
Firefighter Hugh Borbidge, Oreland
Firefighter Zayne Brunner, Centre Square
Firefighter Russell Bryant, Worcester
Firefighter David Burt, Ridge
Firefighter Domenic Cemini, Lower Providence
Firefighter Michael Chapman, Centre Square
Firefighter Andrew Christman, Hancock
Firefighter Clay Cochrane, Berwyn
Firefighter Alec Dascani, Penn Wynne
Firefighter Brian Finnegan, Barren Hill
Firefighter Ray Florkowski, Norriton
Firefighter Jack Jacobson, Lionville
Firefighter Daniel Jonas, Union
Firefighter Kareem Lee, Centre Square
Firefighter Pablo Leiva Jr., Barren Hill
Firefighter James Mc Carraher, Limerick
Firefighter Joseph Motzer, Valley Forge

Firefighter Arman Force, Union
Firefighter Christopher Giannini, Narberth
Firefighter Mikel Goldberg, Good Will
Firefighter Caitlin Henderson, Narberth
Firefighter Jeffery Horvath, Towamencin
Firefighter Stephen Iaquinta, Oakmont
Firefighter Samantha Nields, Malvern
Firefighter Seongjong Oh, Radnor
Firefighter David Powell, III, Glenside
Firefighter Dora Preston, South Media
Firefighter Nicholas Pucci, Lansdowne
Firefighter Armando Rase, Valley Forge
Firefighter Tyler Reynolds, Sadsburyville
Firefighter Steven Ross, Sanatoga
Firefighter Jonathan Schrems, Radnor
Firefighter Jared Scott, Radnor
Firefighter Mason Sergas, Limerick
Firefighter Thomas Sheffer, East Whiteland
Firefighter Andrew Thompson, Good Will
Firefighter Paul Vanfossen, Centre Square
Firefighter Joseph Wagner, Barren Hill
Firefighter Richard Webster, Trappe
Class 1803, the day-time Summer Essentials Class, included eight students who are college students or professionals who work weekends or evenings. Firefighter Tamara Hopple of the Phoenixville Fire Company received the Interior Firefighter Award.

![Firefighters Group Photo]

**Summer Essentials 2018**

**Class 1803**

Congratulations to all. Below is a list of the graduates:

- Firefighter Timothy Cheng, Swedesburg
- Firefighter Tamara Hopple, Phoenixville
- Firefighter David Keller, Black Rock
- Firefighter Brandon Pearson, Swedesburg
- Firefighter Aiden Peat, East Brandywine
- Firefighter Robert Scholly III, Glenside
- Firefighter Joseph Stanley, Glenside
- Firefighter Justis Turner, La Mott

**Emergency Management Certifications**

- Congratulations Shannon Schreur, emergency management staff member at Upper Merion Township, for receiving PEMA Basic Emergency Management certification.
- Congratulations to Michael Rohlfing, emergency management staff member at Lower Providence Township, for receiving PEMA Basic Emergency Management certification.