



# Ipswich Police Department Operation HOPE Statement and Guidelines for Law Enforcement

## **I. BACKGROUND:**

There has been an increase in heroin and opiate use in recent years in Massachusetts and the greater Cape Ann area:

- Between 2011 and 2016, heroin-related deaths in the State of Massachusetts have seen a dramatic increase and are the leading cause of accidental deaths in the state.
- Fentanyl-related deaths are up during the same period.
- There has been a steady increase in heroin and opiate-related overdoses in the greater Cape Ann area (to include here in Ipswich);
- Heroin and opiate addiction drives a significant number of the crimes we see (home, vehicle, commercial, and residential burglaries; thefts; shoplifting; robbery etc.);
- We have seen crimes of violence related to the illicit drug trade;
- Law enforcement's traditional and predominant approach focuses on the enforcement piece with little regard for demand reduction.

## **II. Guidelines:**

Effective July 1, 2016, The Ipswich Police Department will implement Operation HOPE (Heroin – Opiate Prevention Effort).

The Ipswich Police Department Operation HOPE initiative will be pursued in concert with our partners at the Police Assisted Addiction Recover Initiative (PAARI).

Any person who enters the Ipswich Police Station, between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm, and requests help with their addiction to opiates, will be immediately screened into the Operation HOPE program. These hours are established to ensure the Ipswich Police Department has adequate staff available to provide the appropriate level of assistance.

## **III. Program Philosophy**

It is the philosophy of the Ipswich Police Department that:

- We support a three-prong approach to combatting illegal drugs - Enforcement, Education, and Treatment.
- We recognize that addiction is a disease which can benefit from medical intervention and treatment.

- Officers interacting with persons suffering from addiction *will be professional, compassionate and understanding at all times*. Often times, people suffering from addiction ask for help only as a “last resort” and may be considering self-harm or suicide. Your interaction with them can help make a difference.
- In all instances, officers will continue to take enforcement action within their discretion and normal scope of duties to address criminal activity. At the same time, officers will recognize the fact that such criminal activity may result from a medical condition (addiction).
- The department will make use of its social media presence (i.e. Facebook, Twitter etc.) to market Operation HOPE.

#### **IV. General Program Guidelines**

The following are guidelines for the Ipswich Police Department:

- Any person who enters the police station, between 6 am and 6 pm, and requests help with their addiction to opiates will immediately be screened for potential participation in Operation HOPE.
- If the initial contact is made on the street, officers will use the discretion that we exercise on a daily basis. This program specifically and exclusively applies to persons who present at the police station for help.
- All department personnel having contact with anyone entering the Ipswich Police Department and requesting help with their addiction will be professional, compassionate and understanding at all times.
- If such a person who has requested help with their addiction is in possession of drugs or their drug equipment (needles, etc.), they will not be criminally charged. The materials will be collected and secured for later destruction.
- No questioning of the person will be *INITIATED* by officers in an effort to collect drug intelligence, determine the origins of any drugs relinquished by the person, or any other effort which may undermine the intended purpose of this program - - namely to encourage persons to seek police assistance in getting help for their addiction without fear of arrest or police action.
- The officer or dispatcher having initial contact with the program participant will immediately notify the patrol supervisor that a potential Operation HOPE participant is requesting help with their addiction.

#### **V. Specific Program Implementation**

- The patrol supervisor is responsible for ensuring these guidelines are followed.

NOTE: The patrol supervisor, dispatcher and/or assigned officer will take the following steps:

- Upon entering the Ipswich Police Department, an officer or dispatcher will monitor any person requesting assistance under Operation HOPE until such time Operation HOPE intake is initiated.
- The participant will be treated with respect, care and compassion and reassured that assistance will be provided.

- The program participant can stay in the front lobby until the assigned officer arrives. They will be kept under visual observation to ensure they are not ill or in distress.
- If at any time the participant is noted to be in medical distress or appears to be physically ill or requests medical assistance, EMS personnel will be assigned to respond as in any medical emergency.
- Participation in Operation HOPE is voluntary. If a potential program participant subsequently elects not to request assistance or continue with program screening, they will be allowed to depart and no force will be used to detain them or prevent them from doing so.
- Dispatch will generate a call for service under the Operation HOPE call type and an officer will be assigned to the call.

NOTE: The shift supervisor may exercise discretion in which officer is assigned to the call based upon current call volume, conflicting calls-for-service, and other factors.

- Upon arrival of the assigned officer, the officer will ascertain and verify if the program participant possesses any contraband they wish to relinquish or possesses any weapons (i.e. prudent officer safety measures). This will include a search of the program participant and any persons accompanying them into the secure area of the police station.

NOTE: This may be done with the explanation that the parties are entering a secure and sterile area and all persons are subject to search.

- The officer will bring the program participant to the interview room.
- The officer will assure the participant that it is our goal to assist them in exploring treatment options and attempting to identify a program or facility which can assist them.
- The assigned officer will ensure that Ipswich Police Department Operation HOPE Program Participant Agreement (Form "A") and Ipswich Police Department Operation HOPE Intake Form (Form "B") are completed.
- The assigned officer will take steps to positively identify the program participant through a photo driver's license, photo identification card, or other means.
- Upon completion of the Operation HOPE Intake Form and Program Participant Agreement:
  - The officer will request from dispatch that an offense number (OF) to be assigned to the matter.
  - The assigned officer will again inquire if the program participant has any drugs and/or drug equipment to relinquish. If so:
    - The items will be inventoried. The receiving officer will enter a brief description of the items in the Operation HOPE Property Log.
    - The items will be packaged in an appropriate manner (to include the use of "sharps containers" if appropriate) and marked with the associated "OF" number only.
    - The items will be placed in the storage locker in the roll call room for later retrieval by the Ipswich Police Department property custodian.

- If at any point a subject who has relinquished drugs and/or drug equipment under Operation HOPE subsequently withdraws their request for assistance or elects to discontinue program screening, they will not be charged with possessing the items they have already relinquished.
- The assigned officer will determine if the participant is currently on probation by querying the Massachusetts probation database.

NOTE: If an individual is determined to be on probation, it is not necessarily a disqualifying factor. The requested placement should be coordinated with the subject's probation officer.

- The assigned officer will ensure that Ipswich Public Safety Dispatch conducts an NCIC-III/SBI check on the participant.
- The officer processing the Operation HOPE intake will review the NCIC-III/SBI results and fill out the Operation HOPE Form "C" - Operation HOPE Participant Criminal History Screening, to determine if any of the following Operation HOPE disqualifying factors exist.

Persons in the following categories ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION HOPE -

- The subject has an outstanding arrest warrant.

*NOTE: Should the subject have an actionable Massachusetts or other jurisdiction arrest warrant, he/she will be deemed ineligible to participate in the program, will be taken into custody, and processed as normal. They should be informed that upon completion of their legal obligations associated with the warrant, they may again seek help under Operation HOPE.*

*Should the subject have a non-extraditable arrest warrant in another jurisdiction, he/she will be deemed ineligible to participate in the program. Persons refused program participation due to a non-extraditable out-of-state warrant will be advised of the warrant and provided information on the jurisdiction of the warrant.*

- *The subject has three (3) or more drug related CONVICTIONS and at least one of those convictions is for possession with intent to distribute OR trafficking OR drug violation in a school zone.*
- The subject is a registered sex offender and/or has previously been convicted of a felony sex offense.

*NOTE: Should the subject be a registered sex offender and/or has previously been convicted of a felony sex offense, he/she will be deemed ineligible to participate in the program and there is no referral information we can provide.*

- The officer or patrol supervisor expresses the reasonable belief that the ANGEL volunteer or others could be seriously harmed by the subject.
- The subject is under age 18 and does not have parent or guardian consent.
- If at any time the participant is noted to be in medical distress or appears to be physically ill or requests medical assistance, EMS personnel will be assigned to respond as in any medical emergency.

NOTE: Should EMS personnel deem it medically necessary, the program participant may be transported to a medical facility. In such an instance, the responding Operation HOPE Angel(s) will be informed of the participant's status and location.

**VI. FOLLOWING INITIAL SCREENING AND CONFIRMATION THAT THE SUBJECT IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION HOPE:**

- Dispatch will contact an Operation HOPE "Angel" from the Angel call-out list. Every effort will be made to obtain an Angel of the same gender as the program participant. The Angel will be informed that an Operation HOPE intake is occurring and be requested to respond to the Ipswich Police Department. Dispatch will ascertain an approximate estimated time of arrival of the Angel and inform the officer.
- Upon arrival of the Angel, the officer will brief the Angel on the situation. The officer will provide the Angel a copy of the participant's completed Operation HOPE Program Participant Agreement (Form "A") and Ipswich Police Department Operation HOPE Intake Form (Form "B").
- The officer will introduce the Angel (by first name only) and transition the program participant to the care of the Angel.
- If the Angel finds an appropriate program placement for participant, Action Ambulance Headquarters will be contacted via telephone to provide transportation.
- If the Angel subsequently advises that the participant is unable to be placed after exhausting all possible methods, the participant is not to leave without being given a plan to continue with help. The participant shall be afforded every courtesy to find them a safe place upon departure.
- The officer will accomplish a brief OF (see attached samples). An Operation HOPE (No Crime report) category has been created in IMC under event type "HOP". Original copies of the participant's Operation HOPE Program Participant Agreement (Form "A"); Ipswich Police Department Operation HOPE Intake Form (Form "B") and Operation HOPE Participant Criminal History Screening (Form "C") will be attached to the OF.

## SAMPLE OFFENSE REPORT NARRATIVES

### Completed Intake

#### OPERATION HOPE INTAKE

On 07/15/16 at 1515 hours, David E. JONES (DOB: 2/17/1987) entered the Ipswich Police Department and requested assistance under Operation HOPE.

I conducted initial Operation HOPE screening of JONES (see attached Operation HOPE forms) and determined he met program participation criteria.

Operation HOPE "Angel" Robert SMITH was contacted and responded to the Ipswich Police station. I introduced him to JONES and he began to assist him.

JONES was accepted into treatment facility Name of facility and was transported to said facility by Action Ambulance.

\*OR\*

JONES was not placed into a treatment facility because \_\_\_\_\_. He was transported to \_\_\_\_\_.

**STATUS:** CLOSED

#### **ATTCH:**

Operation HOPE Form "A" - Operation HOPE Program Participant Agreement  
Operation HOPE Form "B" - Operation HOPE Intake Form  
Operation HOPE Form "C" - Operation HOPE Participant Criminal History Screening

### Incomplete Intake – Actionable Arrest Warrant

#### OPERATION HOPE INTAKE

On 07/15/16 at 1515 hours, David E. JONES (DOB: 2/17/1987) entered the Ipswich Police Department and requested assistance under Operation HOPE.

I conducted initial Operation HOPE screening of JONES (see attached Operation HOPE forms) and determined that he did not meet program participation criteria due to the existence of a previously existing arrest warrant. He was taken into custody (ref 16-IPS-986-AR).

It was recommended that JONES return to the Ipswich Police Department for Operation HOPE screening after resolving his pending legal issues.

**STATUS:** CLOSED

#### **ATTCH:**

Operation HOPE Form "A" - Operation HOPE Program Participant Agreement  
Operation HOPE Form "B" - Operation HOPE Intake Form  
Operation HOPE Form "C" - Operation HOPE Participant Criminal History Screening

**Incomplete Intake – Non-Extraditable Arrest Warrant**

**OPERATION HOPE INTAKE**

On 07/15/16 at 1515 hours, David E. JONES (DOB: 2/17/1987) entered the Ipswich Police Department and requested assistance under Operation HOPE.

I conducted initial Operation HOPE screening of JONES (see attached Operation HOPE forms) and determined that he did not meet program participation criteria due to the existence of a previously existing arrest warrant from INSERT STATE.

JONES was advised of his ineligibility for Operation HOPE and provided information on his outstanding warrant in INSERT STATE.

**STATUS:** CLOSED

**ATTCH:**

Operation HOPE Form "A" - Operation HOPE Program Participant Agreement  
Operation HOPE Form "B" - Operation HOPE Intake Form  
Operation HOPE Form "C"- Operation HOPE Participant Criminal History Screening

**Incomplete Intake – Sex Offender/Prior Sexual Conviction**

**OPERATION HOPE INTAKE**

On 07/15/16 at 1515 hours, David E. JONES (DOB: 2/17/1987) entered the Ipswich Police Department and requested assistance under Operation HOPE.

I conducted initial Operation HOPE screening of JONES (see attached Operation HOPE forms) and determined that he did not meet program participation criteria due to the existence of prohibited prior criminal conduct (sex offender/sex offense).

JONES was advised of his ineligibility for Operation HOPE.

**STATUS:** CLOSED

**ATTCH:**

Operation HOPE Form "A" - Operation HOPE Program Participant Agreement  
Operation HOPE Form "B" - Operation HOPE Intake Form  
Operation HOPE Form "C"- Operation HOPE Participant Criminal History Screening