

Broome County District Attorney Stephen K. Cornwell Jr.

Operation S.A.F.E. (Save Addicts From Epidemic) **Policy and Procedure**

STATEMENT:

The heroin and drug epidemic is now a public health crisis which has caused record overdose deaths and a drastic increase in crime. The demand side of the epidemic (those addicted to drugs), is not being adequately addressed in Broome County. The Broome County District Attorney's Office has joined the Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (P.A.A.R.I) to address the demand side of the drug epidemic to prevent crime and overdose deaths.

GOALS:

- Reduce future crimes and overdose deaths associated with drug addiction by getting addicts off the streets and into treatment facilities.
- Encourage addicts to seek help from law enforcement without fear of being arrested and prosecuted. (Addiction is not a crime).
- Connect addicts with treatment facilities that are ready, willing and able to provide treatment (at low or no cost to the addict).

ELIGIBILITY:

- > Broome County residents seeking immediate inpatient drug treatment.
- > Addicts must be willing to enter long term treatment outside of New York.
- No registered sex offenders; no active arrest warrants; no Defendants currently enrolled in Binghamton Drug Treatment Court.

ENTRY PROCESS:

Contact the District Attorney's Office at 778-6119 and simply ask for help.

Our staff and volunteers will take your information and immediately begin searching our network of quality treatment facilities accepting new patients.