

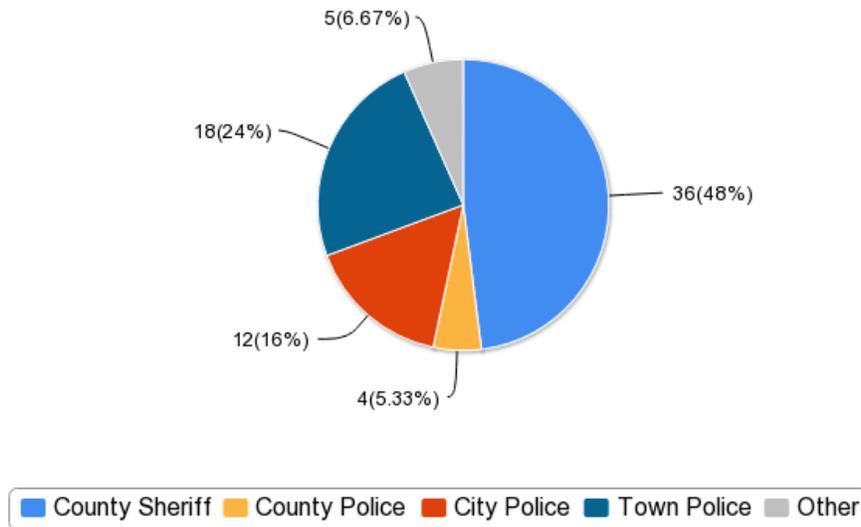
# 2015 Prescription Drug Disposal Survey of Law Enforcement

Storage and Disposal Workgroup

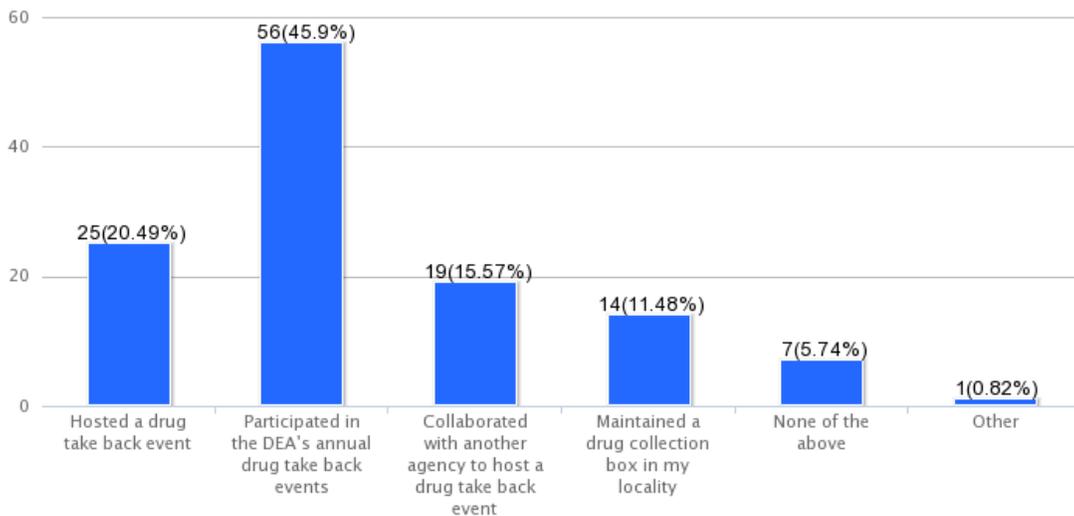
Governor's Task Force on Heroin and Prescription Drug Abuse

## Type of Law Enforcement Agency

(75 total responses)

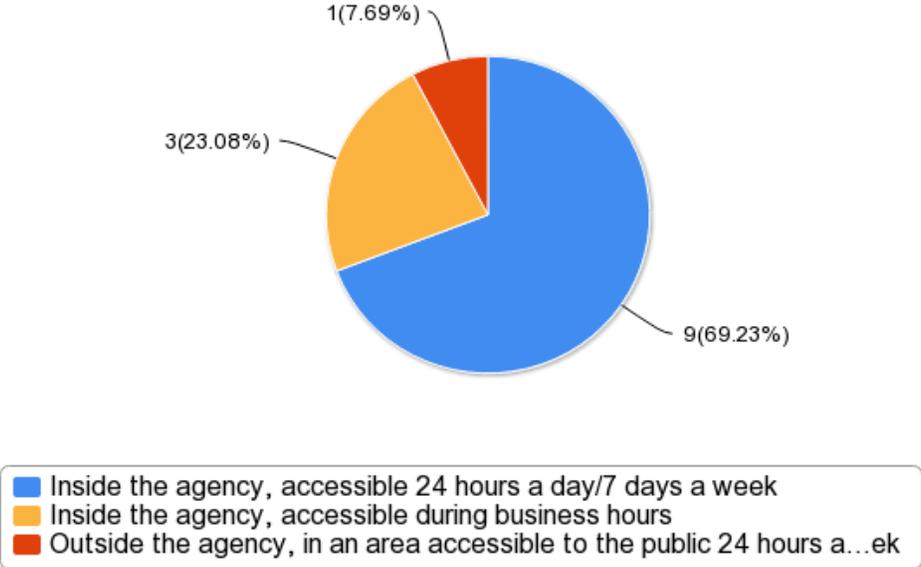


## Agency participation within the past 3 years...

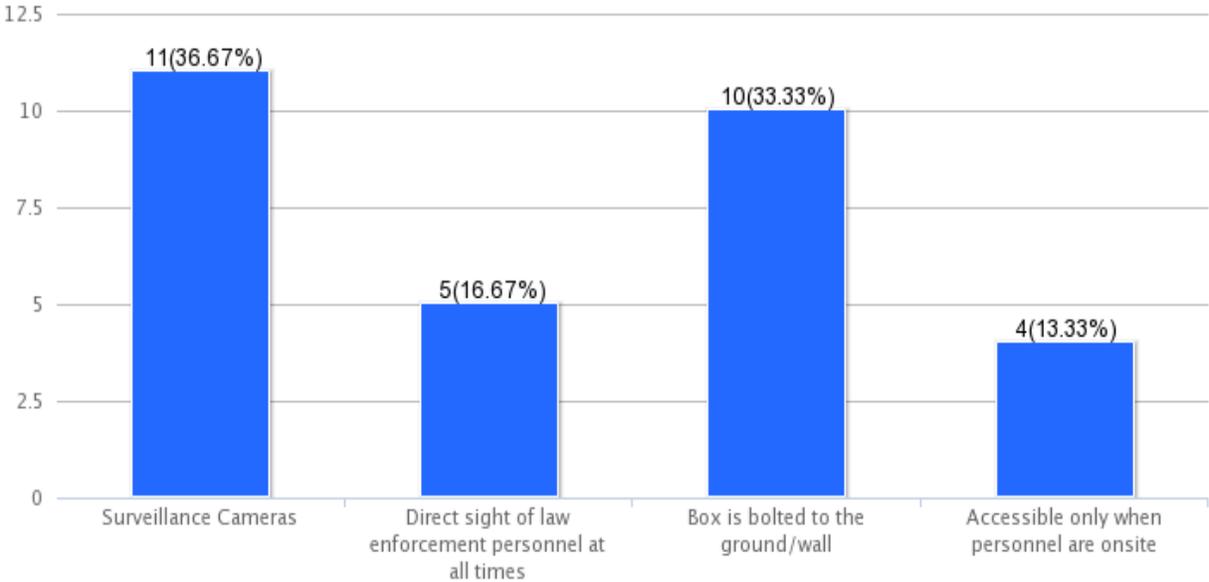


# Of the 14 agencies which maintained a collection box....

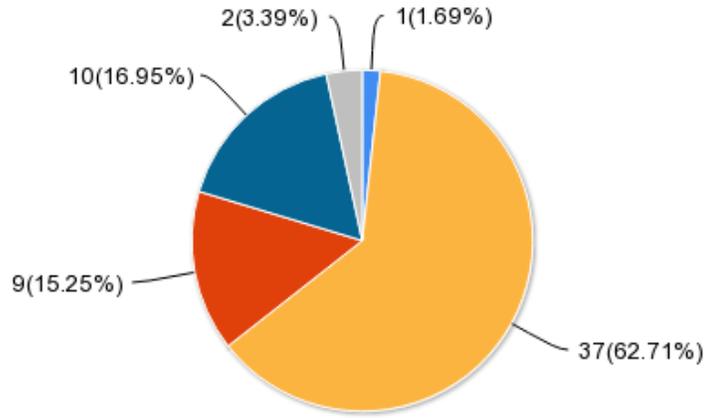
## Location



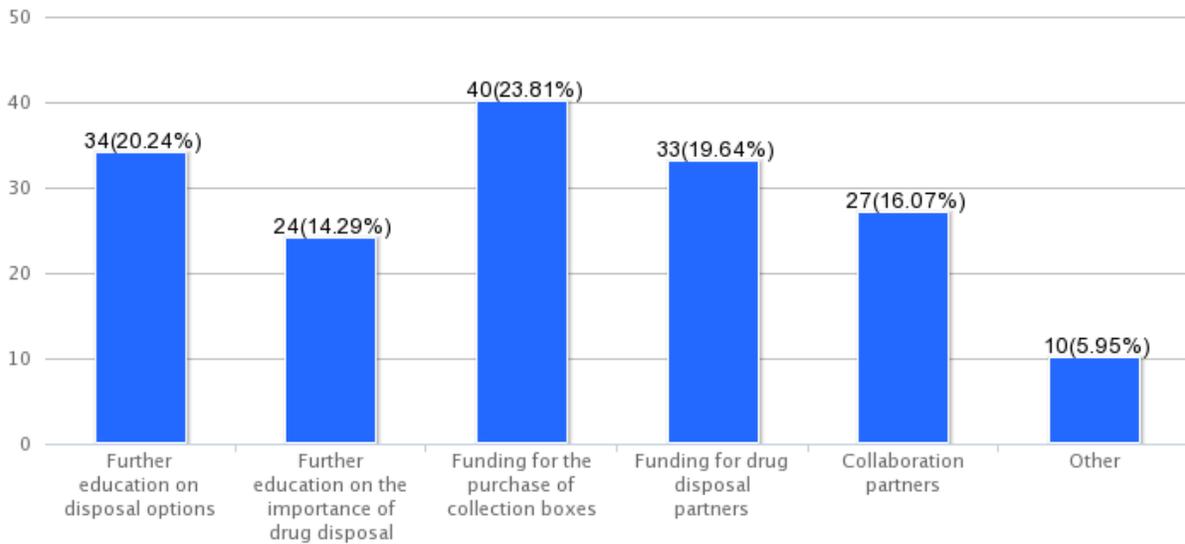
## Security



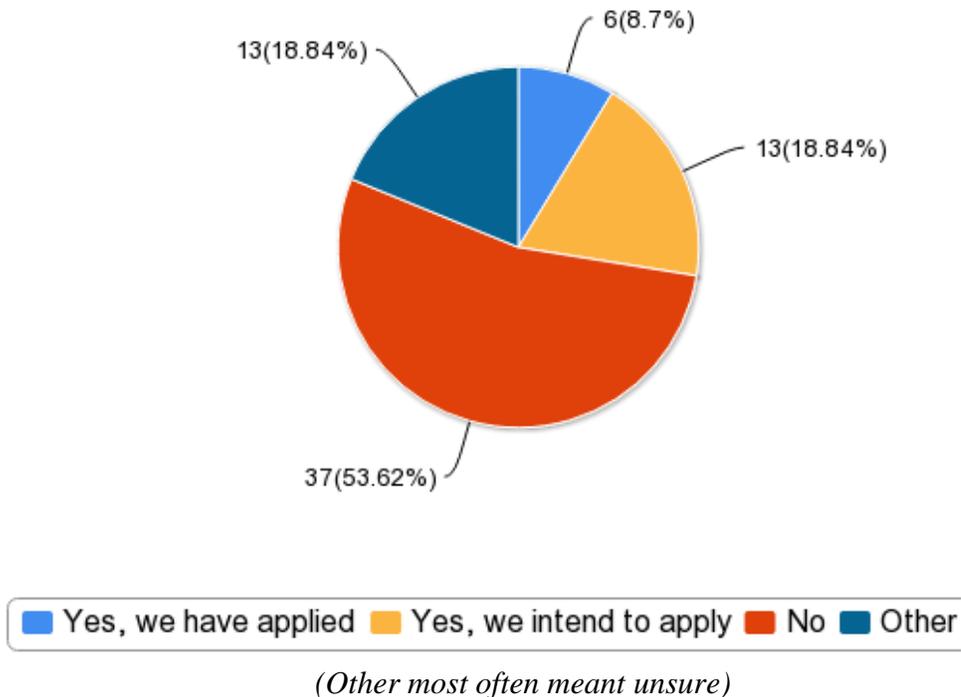
## Disposal Methods



## Assistance Needed



## Intentions to apply for free collection boxes from CVS



### Additional Comments

*“Funding for education/training on the importance of the Drug Take Back Program, assistance in transportation of drugs turned in to be destroyed and possible funding to help small agencies provide an Officer to man the drug take back station.”*

*“From my prospective, the drug take-back events that we have participated in through the DEA have been very successful. There should be a uniform procedure for collection and disposal of prescription medications statewide and have recognizable collection boxes and a method to transport to disposal/drop-off sites that is convenient to law enforcement agencies.”*

*“The collection is the easy part, the disposal is the challenge. Even if we started a year round collection point, we would need to dispose of the collected drugs probably ever two months which would require at least two staff members to travel to an incinerator at least 90 minutes away to dispose of the medication. “*

*“If there was a central disposal center in each region of the state (state labs, MEs offices, hospitals etc) where we could drop collected drugs off that did not require a full day's dedication of two staff members, that would eliminate any hesitancy in establishing a year round collection box at my office.”*

*“Provide educational material for general public on importance of proper disposal of drugs. Help with state wide advertising of events and state help with obtaining pricing for goods and services used and needed.”*

*“Need education for the public and also assistance in the destruction of all drugs that would be turned in to the drop boxes. Our resources are limited and if the box gets full before one of the scheduled take back programs then we have to get a court order signed by the Judge in order to destroy these items.”*

*“One of the biggest issues we face as a small department is manpower for the DEA National Drug Takeback. We love to be able to participate however we either have to pull our regular duty officer from the street or we have to pay another officer overtime to come in on an off day to monitor the dropoff site. This is why we have not participated in the past couple because our budget does not allow for the extra funding. If there was funding through a grant type program for extra enforcement or participation in these types of Drug takeback initiatives our department would be able to do more.”*

*“The main issue we are dealing with is the disposal. Our current system won't allow us to simply collect and store until our Evidence Unit goes to the incinerator. Even if we did have the available space to hold on to the collected drugs, there are accreditation standards that also come into play. Our current contract allows us a certain poundage of disposal and if we don't go over that weight we can just add it to what we already dispose of, but if it goes over then we have to pay the extra amount. There is no way to annual budget for this expenditure since we don't know what amount will come in.”*

*“We have had great success with the collection box. Funding for a small scale incinerator would be great. Most agencies put the box behind at least one locked door which hinders the public's willingness to dispose of the drugs. We have secured ours very well under two cameras with 24 hour monitoring with great success, currently over 300 lbs of drugs recovered since it was implemented in October. Also supplying the Federal Register information with the box or for events would be helpful as in most people do not know where to find the information.”*

*“Funding for advertising and/or drug disposal boxes. We own an incinerator.”*

*“I would like to see the DEA program continued. This was a worthy event and very easy to be part of. We will plan to do this in Fairfax but it would be nice to continue the collaboration with State Police and the DEA.”*

*“We would like to see more access to disposal of prescription drugs. There are no local incinerators available to people on this end of the state and we are having to find our own ways of incinerating them. I think it was pretty sneaky to help make the collection boxes available, get the public used to using them and then let us know that we would have to find our own way of disposal. I appreciate the total burden being placed back on the locality.”*

*“A regional approach to the collection and disposal of prescription medication.”*

## 2015 Prescription Drug Disposal Survey for Law Enforcement

On behalf of Governor McAuliffe's *Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse Task Force*, the storage and disposal workgroup is conducting a survey of all Virginia law enforcement agencies regarding efforts to assist the public in disposing of their unwanted prescription drugs. Please answer the following questions based on actions taken by your agency (*Note: This survey does not apply to drugs collected as evidence or the subsequent disposal of evidence.*)

### I. Identifying information

1. Which of the following best describes your agency?

- County Sheriff
- County Police
- City Police
- Town Police
- Campus Police
- State Law Enforcement
- Private Police

2. Please select the name of your agency.

(List populated based on answer to Q1.)

3. Your name.

4. Your email address.

### II. Prescription Drug Disposal

1. Within the past 3 years, has your agency participated in any of the following events? Check all that apply.

- Hosted a drug take back event
- Participated in the DEA's annual drug take back events
- Collaborated with another community partner to host a drug take back event
- Maintained a drug collection box in my locality
- Other
- None of the above

(if 1 = hosted or collaborated)

1a. You indicated that your agency hosted, or collaborated with another agency to host a drug take back event. How many events did your agency host or collaborate to host within the past three years?

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- Other:

*(if 1= DEA)*

1b. You indicated that your agency collaborated with DEA to conduct drug take back events, in how many events did your agency participate?

0

1

2

3

4

5

Other:

*If 1= maintained)*

1c. You indicated that your agency maintained a collection box in your locality, where does your agency house this collection box?

Inside the police department, accessible 24 hours a day/seven days a week

Inside the police department, accessible during business hours

Outside the police department, in an area accessible to the public, 24 hours a day/seven days a week

Other:

*(if 1c= maintained)*

1c-i. You indicated that your agency maintained a collection box in your locality, how many collection boxes does your maintain?

1

2

3

4

5

Other:

*(if 1c= maintained)*

1c-i. You indicated that your agency maintained a collection box in your locality, how is this box secured? Check all that apply.

Surveillance cameras

Direct sight of law enforcement personnel at all times

Box is bolted to the ground/wall

Accessible only when personnel are onsite

Other:

*(if 1≠ none)*

1d. How does your agency dispose of the prescription drugs it collects in a drug take back event and/or with a drug collection boxes?

Mail-back services

Combine with DEA collections

Transport to incinerator

Internal Destruction

Other:

*(if 1 ≠ none)*

1e. So far in fiscal year 2015, how many pounds of prescription drugs has your agency collected in a drug take back event and/or with a drug collection boxes??

- 0-250 pounds
- 251-500 pounds
- 501-1000 pounds
- 1001-2000 pounds
- Over 2000 pounds
- Other:

(if 1 ≠ none)

1f. Why does your agency not participate in any prescription drug collection efforts? Select all that apply.

- Lack of funding
- Lack of education on collection and destruction
- Policy
- Lack of viable destruction options
- Other:

2. To adopt or expand the practice of collecting prescription drugs, what assistance would your locality need? Select all that apply.

- Further education on disposal options
- Further education on importance of drug disposal
- Funding for purchase of collection box(es)
- Funding for drug disposal costs
- Collaboration partners
- Other:

3. Have you or do you intend to apply for a free collection box offered through CVS Health and the Partnership at drugfree.org at [http://www.cvs.com/content/safer-communities?stop\\_mobi=yes](http://www.cvs.com/content/safer-communities?stop_mobi=yes)?

- Yes, we have applied
- Yes, we intend to apply
- No

4. What resources would you like to see as a product of the Governor's Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse Task Force?

On behalf of the Governor's Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse Task Force, thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. For more information about prescription drug disposal, please visit \_\_\_\_\_.