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Media Advisory

Kyle Police Department Warns of Fentanyl Drugs in Kyle

KYLE, TEXAS — The Kyle Police Department is warning residents that the presence of pills containing deadly fentanyl has increased in Kyle and the entire region.

In 2022, the Kyle Police Department has responded to approximately 16 overdoses, with 7 of those resulting in deaths. Many of these overdoses are teenagers ranging from ages 14-18 years old.

"Our hearts go out to the families that have lost someone to the influx of these fentanyl pills in our community," Police Chief Jeff Barnett said. "Many of those taking these pills believe taking small pieces of the pills makes them safe, but there is no safe amount. Even small slivers of these pills may contain enough fentanyl to cause death or a serious medical emergency, even on first use."

Police have found that most teens are buying these drugs via phone apps, where sellers are advertising online and arranging in-person transactions.

Police urge parents to have direct and honest conversations with their kids about the dangers of taking these drugs. And if they suspect their child may be taking these pills to take immediate steps to monitor their child's online communications and whereabouts and intervene for their health and safety.

"Our detectives and narcotics investigators are working to find the source and suppliers of these pills," Barnett said. "Sellers should be aware that we will file all appropriate charges related to the possession and distribution of these dangerous pills."

Anyone that may have information about who is distributing these narcotics, can contact the Kyle Police Department at 512-268-3232 or, to remain anonymous, submit the information online at <u>www.p3tips.com</u>.

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The City of Kyle is located in the heart of the I-35 Innovation Corridor, just 26 miles south of Austin-Bergstrom International Airport & 50 miles north of San Antonio International Airport. Kyle is the second largest city in Hays County and is poised to become the largest — with a population that grew from 5,000 citizens in 2000 to just over 52,300 in 2020. We are the designated Pie Capital of Texas and home of the annual Pie in the Sky Hot Air Balloon Festival. For more information, go to <u>CityofKyle.com</u>.

