



PRESS RELEASE

From the office of:
Sheriff James Stuart
Anoka County Sheriff's Office
13301 Hanson Blvd. NW
Andover, MN 55304
(763) 324-5000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Possible Pill Overdoses

The Anoka County Sheriff's Office is investigating a series of suspected drug overdoses and wants to warn the public about the dangers of taking prescription medications that are not prescribed for you and that have not purchased from a pharmacy.

Between May 8 and May 21, 2020, the Anoka County Sheriff's Office along with other Anoka County Law Enforcement Agencies, responded to and investigated the deaths of three individuals, in which drug overdoses were suspected. On May 22, the Coon Rapids Police Department and medical personnel responded to two separate incidents of possible drug overdose involving two persons. In those cases, one of those persons survived and one died. Those cases are now being investigated as possible overdoses by the Coon Rapids Police Department and the Anoka County Sheriff's Office.

At the scene of each of the incidents were pills that had similar characteristics to each other. The pills have been described as being light colored or light blue in color with the letter "M" bordered by a square on them. During investigations across Minnesota and the nation, similar pills have been found to be tainted or counterfeit oxycodone pills. Some of those pills have been found to contain fentanyl.

We are using this as a reminder for people to only take prescription type medications that have been prescribed specifically to them and when the medication was obtained from a pharmacy.

These cases remain under investigation by the Midwest Medical Examiner's Office and the Anoka County Sheriff's Office. The cases are pending forensic testing, toxicology results, and final causes of death for each case. No further information is available at this time.

Commander Wayne Heath
(763) 324-5003