



## Operation: Street Smart

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office created Operation Street Smart in July 2002 as a way to take community oriented policing to a new level. Street Smart is a collaborative effort between D.A.R.E. and the Special Investigations Unit (SIU), which is the Sheriff's Office undercover narcotics branch. To date, Operation: Street Smart has been presented over 2,000 times to over 250,000 people throughout Ohio and the United States. In May 2004, the program received the F.B.I. Director's Community Leadership Award.

The goal of Street Smart is to provide current and up-to-date narcotics information on trends, terminology, paraphernalia, concealment techniques, and physiological effects to those individuals who deal with today's youth on a daily basis. The target audience for street smart includes DARE and school resource officers, school administrators and school board members, teachers, and parents. Other groups and organizations that have direct daily interaction with juveniles are also eligible to receive this program. Past attendees have also included physicians, school nurses, juvenile prosecutors, juvenile probation officers, patrol officers, and children services employees.

Current/former undercover detectives, who possess decades of combined narcotics experience, conduct the Street Smart presentations. This program includes actual examples of current street drugs such as Cocaine, Heroin, Marijuana, XTC, Bath Salts, Huffing, LSD, GHB, K2/Spice, and Khat. Current drug paraphernalia examples are available to depict the ease in camouflaging drug use from adults. A strong emphasis is placed on the physiological effects of the drugs and indicators to look for. So-called "traditional" drugs such as marijuana, cocaine, crack, fentanyl, heroin, and methamphetamine are also covered extensively as teenagers still heavily abuse these substances. A portion of the program also deals with the darknet and prescription medications, due to their easy accessibility in most households. The entire presentation is back dropped by a PowerPoint slide show depicting additional examples of the drug being shown.

Due to the vast amount of material presented, three-hour time blocks are requested. Smaller time frames may be accommodated under special circumstances.

For more information, contact:

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