

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Oklahoma House Passes Prescription Drug Monitoring Bill**

The Red Rock SPF-SIG Program would like to educate the community on House Bill 1948 that has passed the House and how it is related to the prevention of opiate overdose. The Oklahoma House has approved prescription drug monitoring legislation, which is one of Gov. Mary Fallin's top priorities for the 2015 Legislature. In Fallin's State of the State speech, she called on lawmakers to pass a prescription drug monitoring bill that cracks down on "doctor shopping" and ensures that narcotics are not being prescribed to addicts.

According to the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotic's (OBN) website, the goal of the State of Oklahoma is to reduce prescription fraud, substance abuse, "doctor shopping", and other illegal activity related to pharmaceutical drug diversion. The Bureau works in partnership with pharmacies, practitioners and other health care professionals throughout Oklahoma to reduce prescription drug abuse. The PMP system provides secure access to OBN registrants, including pharmacies and practitioners who are in good standing. Regulatory and law enforcement agencies may also access the system. The PMP application provides continuity between practitioners, pharmacies, and state law enforcement to help prevent prescription fraud in Oklahoma.

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing drug problem facing America today. Prescription painkillers have been identified as a gateway drug to heroin abuse. According to the Oklahoma State Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) and the Oklahoma State Department of Health, the State of Oklahoma ranks ninth in the nation for deaths involving prescription painkillers. It also is one of the nation's leading states for prescription painkiller sales per person. Oklahoma adults in the age range of 35 to 54-years old claim the highest death rate for prescription-related deaths by overdose, with the most commonly involved prescription drugs being OxyCodone (Oxys), hydrocodone (Hydros), and alprazolam (Xanax).

One way to help decrease prescription sharing is to properly dispose of your unwanted or expired medications through the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics (OBN) drop boxes. In Canadian County the drop boxes are located at the following locations:

**Canadian County Sheriff's Office**

208 West Rodgers

El Reno, Oklahoma 73036

405-422-3187

**Mustang Police Department**

650 E. State Highway 152

Mustang, Oklahoma 73064

405-376-2488

**Yukon Police Department**

100 S. Ranchwood Blvd.

Yukon, Oklahoma 73099

405-354-1711

**Piedmont Police Department**

400 Edmond Road NW

Piedmont, Oklahoma 73078

405-373-1334

Red Rock SPF-SIG's primary focus is to serve as a prevention community liaison. Red Rock SPF-SIG educates and informs communities through multiple strategies including community based services, environmental strategies, early recognition, and referral. We take the proactive approach in reducing substance abuse among communities. The SPF-SIG project is funded by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration), CSAP (Center for Substance Abuse Prevention) and ODMHSAS. For more information on the prescription drop-off boxes or other locations, please contact OBN at <http://www.ok.gov/obn/dd/> or for more information on the appropriate disposal of prescription drugs or other substance abuse prevention strategies within Canadian County, please contact the Red Rock SPF-SIG at (405)-422-8873 or visit [www.redrockrpc.com](http://www.redrockrpc.com).