

**For Immediate Release:
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Red Rock RPC MARKS INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY IN Canadian County.

Red Rock RPC has today observed International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) in **Canadian County** by spreading the word throughout the community.

Held on 31 August every year, the aim of IOAD is to raise awareness, reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths, remember those who have died or suffered permanent injury because of drug overdose and stimulate discussion about overdose prevention and drug policy.

Convened by Australian charity Penington Institute, the day features rallies, memorial services, candlelight vigils as well as education and training campaigns in towns and cities across the world.

[Red Rock RPC] has urged people in **[Canadian County]** to get involved in IOAD this year. “People in **[Canadian County]** can wear an International Overdose Awareness Day badge or wristband to show their support and use the hashtags #OverdoseAware and #EndOverdose on social media to boost awareness.

“Have the conversation with your friends and family and spread the message that overdose is a problem affecting every community including **[Canadian County]**.”

[Red Rock RPC] has also encouraged people in **[his/her]** community to think differently about drug overdose.

“No community is immune to overdose, it is time to change the way we looked at drug-related deaths in **[Canadian County]**.”

“It is no good pretending overdose doesn’t happen; the figures show that overdoses are affecting towns and cities right across the **[COUNTRY]** including **[Canadian County]**.”

IOAD is also an opportunity to consider whether current overdose and substance use strategies are working.

“Taking a hard-line approach and treating drug use as moral failing won’t help people at risk.

We need to treat drug-related harm as a health issue and invest in proven practices that can save lives; no community including **[Canadian County]** should be left behind.”

If you would like to dispose of your unwanted or expired medications to help increase safe disposal and help reduce prescription drug overdoses in Canadian County please visit the following locations:

Canadian County Sheriff's Office

208 W. Rodgers

El Reno, OK 73036 405-262-3434 (Open 24/7)

Mustang Police Department

650 E. State Highway 152 Mustang, OK 73064 405-376-2488 (Open 24/7)

Piedmont Police Department

400 Edmond Road N.W. Piedmont, OK 73078 405-373-1334

(Open Monday-Friday: 8-5 Closed Holidays and Weekends)

Yukon Police Department

100 S. Ranchwood Blvd. Yukon, OK 73099 405-354-1711 (Open 24/7)

To find out more about International Overdose Awareness Day, including how to purchase wristbands and badges, visit: www.overdoseday.com

Media Contact: Julia Cochran

RPC Director

405-422-8872

juliac@red-rock.com



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