



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
RICHMOND COUNTY

MICHAEL E. MCMAHON
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

130 STUYVESANT PLACE
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10301
TELEPHONE (718) 876-6300

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Ryan Lavis (718) 556-7150
Ryan.Lavis@rcda.nyc.gov

District Attorney McMahon Announces the Installation of “MedSafe” Drug Disposal Receptacles at Delco Drugs in Eltingville & Randall Manor Pharmacy in West Brighton

Staten Island, N.Y. -- Today District Attorney Michael E. McMahon announced the installation of two MedSafe drug disposal receptacles at Delco Drugs in Eltingville and Randall Manor Pharmacy in West Brighton. These bins allow any Staten Islander a secure and environmentally safe way to dispose of any unused medication, preventing them from falling into the wrong hands.

Until today, these types of bins were only available for use at each of the four NYPD police precincts on Staten Island.

“As we continue to fight back against the scourge of opioid abuse on Staten Island, we must make every effort to ensure that unused prescription medications are promptly and safely disposed of,” **said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon**. “The installation of two MedSafes on our North and South Shores provides a safe and convenient way for Islanders to dispose of these potentially devastating narcotics.”

Every Staten Islander can dispose of any unused medication, controlled substances or non-controlled substances, in the MedSafe. Currently, many unwanted medications either sit for years in medicine cabinets, or are improperly disposed of via flushing down the toilet or mixing in with normal household trash. These practices are not only bad for our environment, but can ultimately lead to someone other than the intended user consuming and possibly becoming dependent on a controlled substance.

MedSafes are DEA approved; when the bin becomes full the Pharmacy owner will notify the DEA, and a truck will come to take the bag away. The bag will be transported to a secure DEA facility, where the drugs will be safely disposed of by the proper authorities.

District Attorney McMahon added: “I encourage every Staten Islander to go home and take a look inside their medicine cabinets, closets, and anywhere where they may have unwanted medications. Disposing of

these drugs in either MedSafe is good for our planet and can stop someone from using a potentially deadly substance”

NYPD Police Commissioner James P. O’Neill said: “The NYPD encourages Staten Island residents to go to their medicine cabinets and safely dispose of unused medications in the available MedSafe drug disposal receptacles. Properly disposing of prescription drugs helps to reduce the abuse of opioids, prevent overdoses, and potentially save lives.”

Nick Amexas of Randall Manor Pharmacy said: “Here at Randall Manor Pharmacy, we are happy to work with SIHOPE, the District Attorney's Office, and our NYPD to have MedSafe here in our pharmacy, and to provide this service knowing that medicine can be disposed properly and safely, without affecting the environment or the health of others.

Rob Annicharico of Delco Drugs said: “I want to thank DA McMahon for giving me a tool to help my community rid their homes and medicine cabinets of their old medications. It is a fact that prescription drug abuse starts in the home where a youth experiments with these meds left behind.”

Adrienne Abbate, Executive Director of the Staten Island Partnership for Community Wellness and Program Director of the Tackling Youth Substance Abuse (TYSA) coalition said: “In our experience on Staten Island, opioid use disorders can begin in the medicine cabinet. As a coalition, we have purposefully worked alongside pharmacists, who are truly on the front line of this epidemic. They have heard from the community that we needed an option to safely and conveniently dispose of unused medications. We are pleased that Delco Drugs and Randall Manor Pharmacy will now be able to offer this great service to the community.”

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