



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Press Release

Medfield PD continues to save lives With overdose reversal drug

Norfolk DA Michael Morrissey replenishing town supply

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Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey is replenishing the supply of the opiate overdose reversal drug NarCan for Medfield and other local towns this spring. Above from left are Morrissey, Police Chief Robert Meaney, School Resource Officer Michelle Manganello and Deputy Chief John Whilhelmi.

Norfolk District Attorney Michael Morrissey came to the new Medfield Public Safety Building bearing gifts this week – 14 more doses of the life-saving anti-overdose drug NarCan, and the promise of more to come.

“Medfield police have been on-board since the day we started training and equipping all of the police departments in Norfolk County in how to use this substance to save people actively overdosing,” District Attorney Morrissey said. “I understand MPD had a cluster of successful reversals using NarCan in the fall. I absolutely applaud and encourage their work.”

When District Attorney Morrissey first offered training in using the opiate-antagonist drug naloxone, marketed as NarCan, in March of 2014, he distributed 900 doses to all county police departments.

“NarCan has about a 2 year shelf-life, so doses that have not been used expire and need to be replaced. We work with towns to resupply as needed,” Morrissey said. But in many towns, a large proportion of their naloxone supply expires all at once, and the DA has a system in place to resupply local departments at no cost to the towns.

“Judges routinely order the profits of drug crime to be forfeited by defendants who plead guilty, and a portion of those dollars can be used by prosecutors for specific purposes,” Morrissey said. “We fund naloxone supplies and a great variety of police training activities from that source.”

Morrissey delivered the 14 doses he had on hand and has already processed Medfield’s request for an additional 22 to arrive before the current supply expires.

“In Medfield we have seen overdoses from opiate pain pills and injected drugs,” Medfield Police Chief Robert Meaney said. “When our officers respond to overdoses, we often arrive before ambulance personnel. In a situation where the victim is still viable, officers are able to administer NarCan and halt the dying process.”