

January 2019

## **PINK – “An Imminent Hazard to Public Safety”**

In 2016 the DEA first encountered the synthetic opioid U-47700, street named “Pink” or “Pinky”, which was later determined to be a potent mixture of U-47700 and heroin. U-47700 is synthetic opioid approximately 7.5 times stronger than morphine which is now classified as a Schedule I by the Controlled Substances Act. The DEA’s 2017 National Drug Threat Assessment further depicted **U-47700** as **“an imminent hazard to the public”**.



More recently, “Pink” has been reemerged in a new form. During a recent controlled-buy of another substance, Counter Drug Task Force members in Northern Kentucky procured an unknown pink substance packaged for distribution. Chemical Analysis conducted by the DEA Laboratory concluded that this substance was a mixture of **heroin, methamphetamine, and fentanyl**.

### **Possibility of Being Naloxone (Narcan) Resistant**

Nationally, Law Enforcement and Emergency Medical Services have reported numerous instances where individuals whom have overdosed on fentanyl based narcotics did not respond to direct, and sometimes multiple, doses of Naloxone.

### **Officer Safety Tips About “Pink”**

Although the color of a substance is not directly indicative of the chemical make-up, Pink has a historical precedence of being deadly; no matter what the chemical make-up. Pink in any form can be absorbed by the skin, but clandestine methods of producing Pink create substances able to be distributed in powder, pill, and even mist forms. The complex chemical make-up of Pink makes it highly-volatile and highly-dangerous to Law Enforcement and Emergency Medical Service personnel even through secondary exposure.

## **Exercise Extreme Caution if You Come in Contact with Any Pink Substance**