FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Lieutenant Brian Kott
San Gabriel Police Department
626.308.2835
BK076@sgpd.com

TAKING BACK UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

San Gabriel, CA – On Saturday, October 28, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the San Gabriel Police Department will again collaborate with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and give the public its 14th opportunity in 7 years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous, expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to the San Gabriel Police Department at 625 South Del Mar Avenue, San Gabriel, CA 91776. The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, only pills or patches. The service is free and anonymous; no questions asked.

Last April, Americans turned in 450 tons (900,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at almost 5,500 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,200 of its state and local law enforcement partners. Overall, in its 13 previous Take Back events, the DEA and its partners have taken in over 8.1 million pounds—more than 4,050 tons of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the United States are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines such as flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash, both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For further information regarding the event, contact Lieutenant Brian Kott at 626.308.2835 or BK076@sgpd.com.

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