

# Opioids and Law Enforcement

The background features a large, light gray circular seal. The outer ring of the seal contains the text "PAUL BUNYAN" at the top and "DRUG TASK FORCE" at the bottom, separated by two five-pointed stars. The inner circle of the seal depicts a silhouette of a man in a uniform, likely a police officer, standing and holding a rifle. The man is facing right, and his right arm is extended towards a map of the state of Minnesota.

**CAPTAIN  
Joe Kleszyk**

# Local Opioid Timeline

- Early 2000 – 2010, rise in prescription pills
- 2014-2015, Heroin is increasingly found in area
- 2016-2018, Fentanyl is rumored to be in the area, found to be “cut” into heroin
- 2019-2020, Fentanyl becomes more prevalent, becoming the main opioid in area
- 2021-Present, Fentanyl is king, Heroin is hard to find.

# Heroin/ Fentanyl



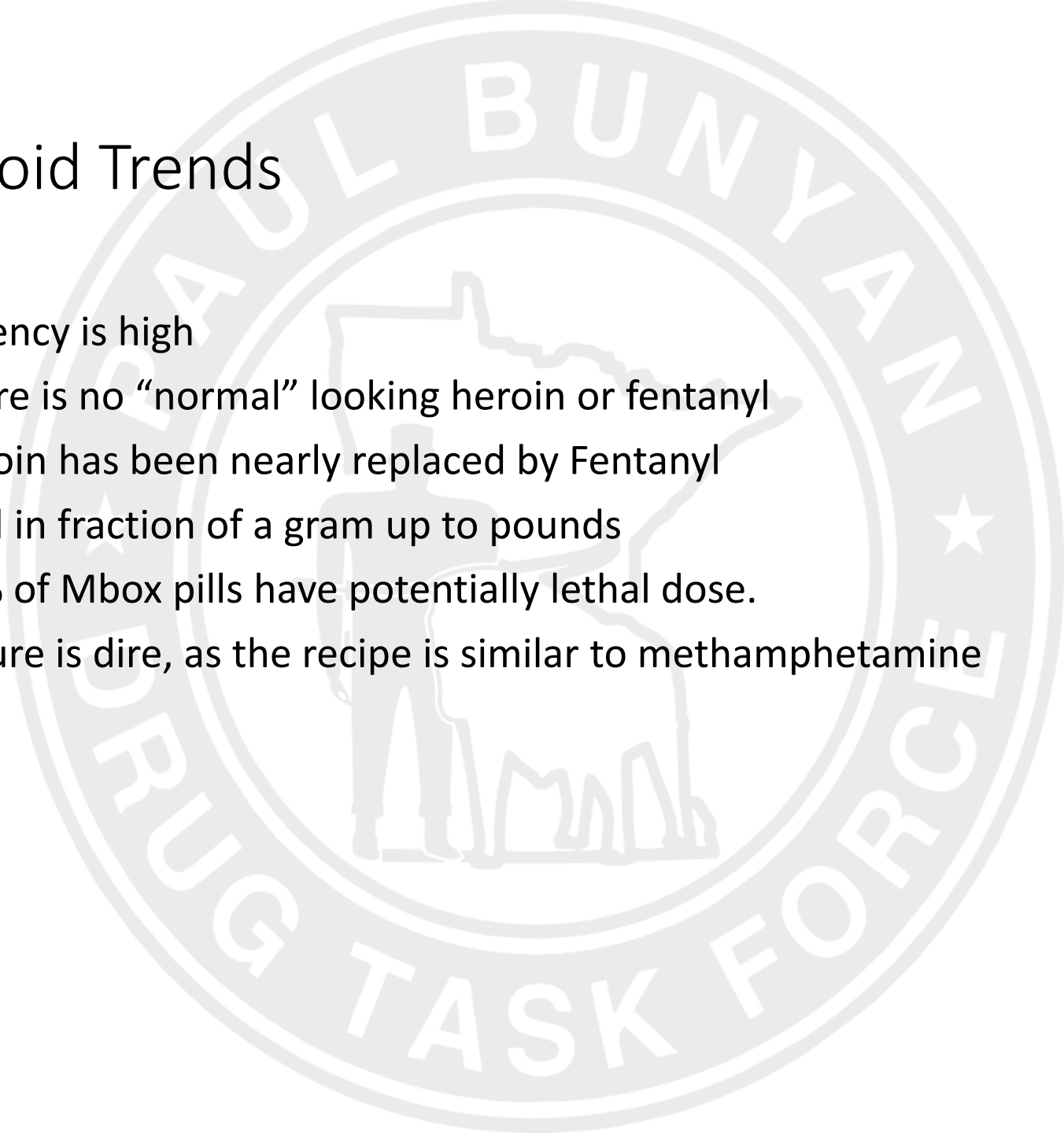
# Fentanyl Pills



*Left: Authentic oxycodone M30 tablets (top) vs. counterfeit oxycodone M30 tablets containing fentanyl (bottom). Center: Authentic Adderall tablets (top) vs. counterfeit Adderall tablets containing methamphetamine (bottom). Right: Authentic Xanax tablets (white) vs. counterfeit Xanax tablets containing fentanyl (yellow).*

# Opioid Trends

- Potency is high
- There is no “normal” looking heroin or fentanyl
- Heroin has been nearly replaced by Fentanyl
- Sold in fraction of a gram up to pounds
- 45% of Mbox pills have potentially lethal dose.
- Future is dire, as the recipe is similar to methamphetamine



2022 Drug Arrests by Charge

	1 <sup>st</sup> Degree	2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree	3 <sup>rd</sup> Degree	4 <sup>th</sup> Degree	5 <sup>th</sup> Degree	Federal Charges
Total						
Total 165	69	19	12	0	92	16

Narcotics Seizures & Purchases

**For the year ending December 31, 2022**, the PBDTF seized and purchased:

A combined total of 25,452 grams (56 pounds) of Methamphetamine, having a street value of \$1.9 Million

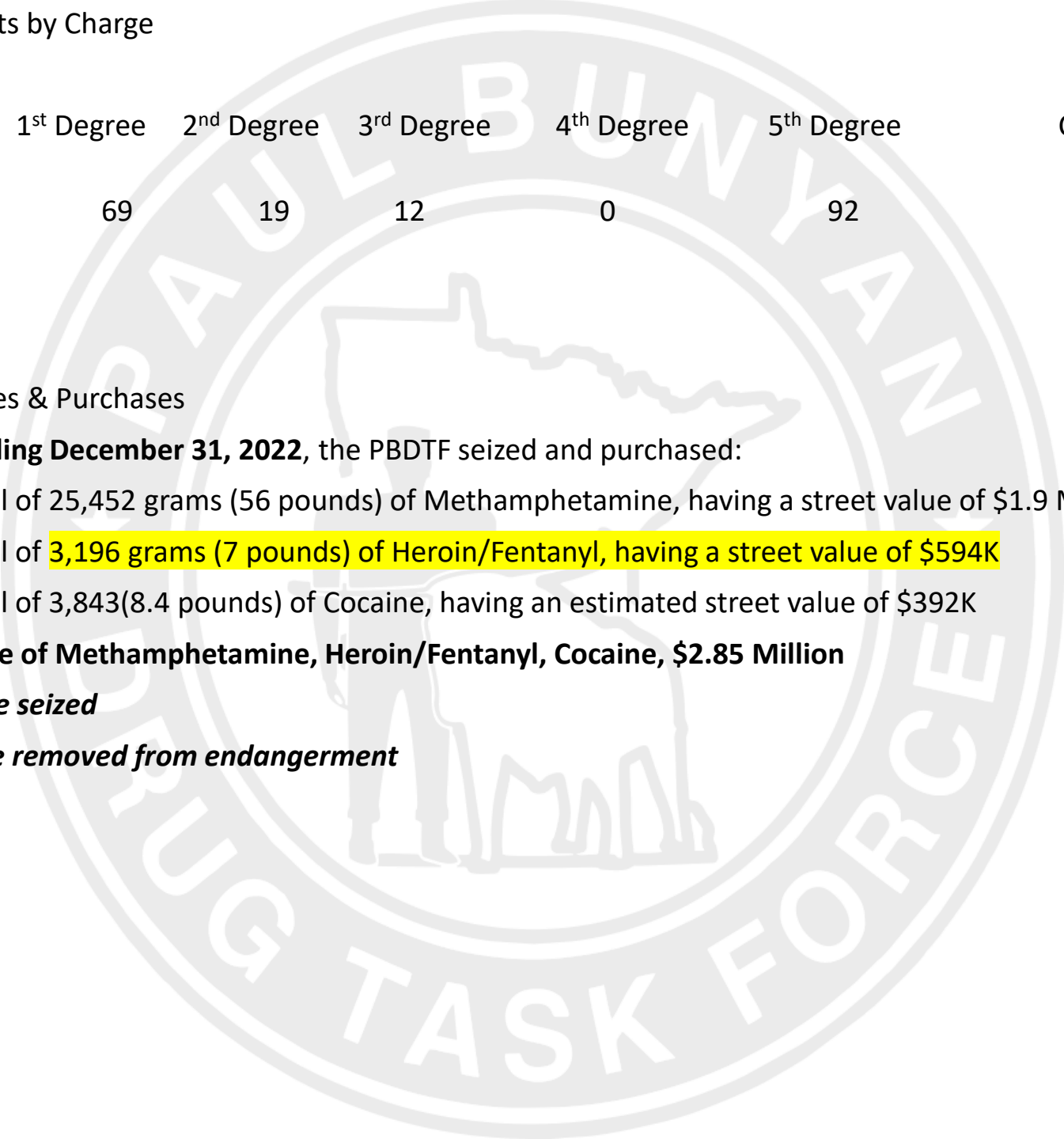
A combined total of **3,196 grams (7 pounds) of Heroin/Fentanyl, having a street value of \$594K**

A combined total of 3,843(8.4 pounds) of Cocaine, having an estimated street value of \$392K

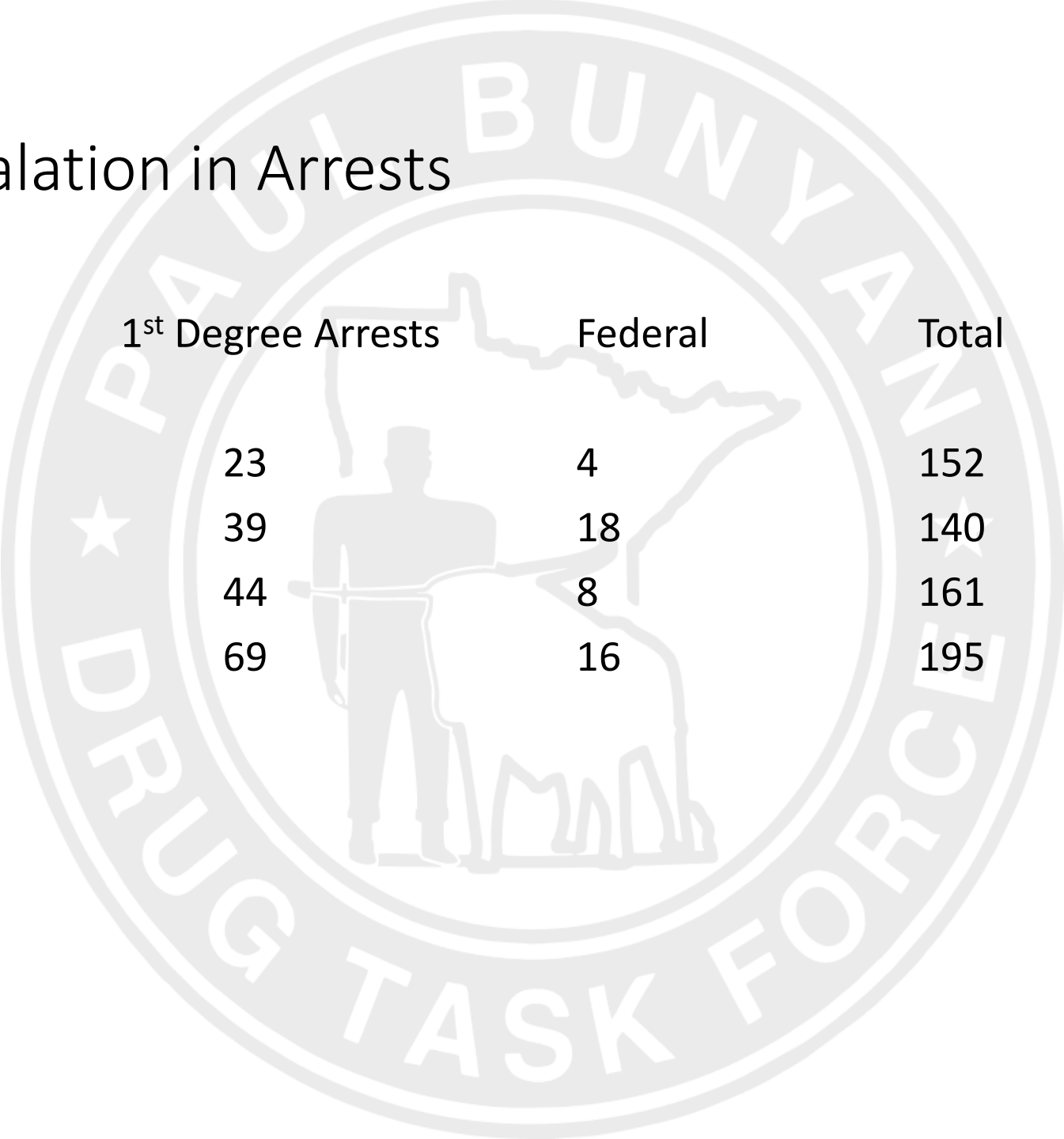
**Total street value of Methamphetamine, Heroin/Fentanyl, Cocaine, \$2.85 Million**

***90 firearms were seized***

***26 children were removed from endangerment***



# Escalation in Arrests

The logo for the Paul Bunyan Drug Task Force is a large, light gray circular emblem in the background. It features a silhouette of a lumberjack standing next to a large tree, with a star on the left and the text 'PAUL BUNYAN' at the top and 'DRUG TASK FORCE' at the bottom.

Year	1 <sup>st</sup> Degree Arrests	Federal	Total
2019	23	4	152
2020	39	18	140
2021	44	8	161
2022	69	16	195

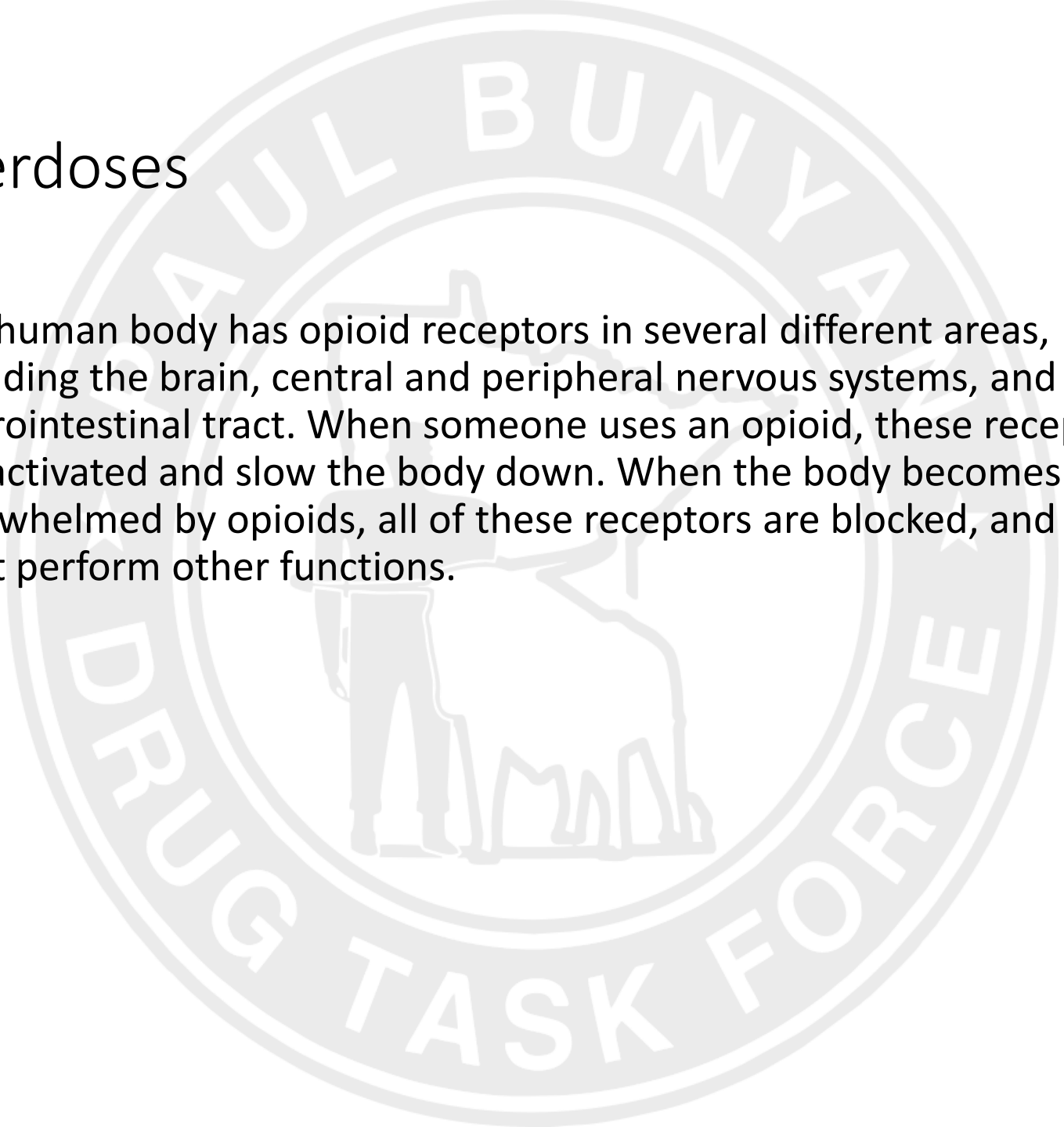
# Escalation in Seizures

	2012	2017	2022	2022	5-Year Increase	10-Year Increase
	Grams	Grams	Grams	Pounds		
Meth	197.55	1,981	25,452	56	1,184%	12,783%
Cocaine	34.25	223	3,843	8.4	1,622%	11,117%
Heroin/Fentanyl	9.85	552	3,196	7	478%	32,246%



# Overdoses

The human body has opioid receptors in several different areas, including the brain, central and peripheral nervous systems, and the gastrointestinal tract. When someone uses an opioid, these receptors are activated and slow the body down. When the body becomes overwhelmed by opioids, all of these receptors are blocked, and the it can't perform other functions.



# Opioid Overdoses

## PBTF Area

- 2019- 26 ODs, 5 Fatal
- 2020- 88 OD, 15 Fatal----- Started sounding the alarm in July
- 2021- 158 ODs – 24 Fatal
- 2022- 28 Fatal ODs (Beltrami 18)(RLPD 14)  
42 in PBTF area,32 in Beltrami County

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Murder Prosecution in Beltrami County

- In Minnesota, a person who causes the death of a human being by providing them with a controlled substance is guilty of 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Murder.
- Cases require a lot of time and resources, they are indeed a murder investigation and are treated as such.
- In 2023, there have been three individuals convicted of 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Murder in Beltrami County, two more are progressing through the court system.
- The last conviction for this prior top 2022 came in 2009.

Joe Kleszyk

Captain

Beltrami County Sheriff's Office

Desk: 218-333-8440

Cell: 218-766-7877

- Website: (through the Beltrami County website)
  - [www.co.beltrami.mn.us/Departmnets/LawEnforcement/taskforce.html](http://www.co.beltrami.mn.us/Departmnets/LawEnforcement/taskforce.html)
  - Website hosts anonymous email link