

ELECTRONIC MUSIC FESTIVAL (EMF) TASK FORCE

Meeting Summary – October 15, 2015

TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT: Roel Amara for Cathy Chidester (DHS), Stan Brawer (LACFD), Paul Capraro (Pomona PD), Phil Cocker (LACFD), Wesley L. Ford (DPH), Mark Gluba (Pomona Deputy City Manager), Clayton Kazan (LACFD), Kevin Klar (LACFD), Alexander Li (DHS), Byron Prewett (LACFD), and Glen Stanley (LAC Sheriff)

TASK FORCE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Vincent Amerson (CEO), Dardy Chen (CEO), Dennis Cross (LACFD), Michael Jordan (DPH-EH), and Sheila Williams (CEO)

GUEST REGISTER: Alexander Bear (EMA), Rose Belda (County Counsel), Brian Brooks, Allan Gelbard (EMA), Janine Jordan (Electronic Music Alliance), Benedict Lee, PhD (DPH), David Loomstein (Electronic Music Alliance), Debra Martin (Pomona City Counsel), Christine Nieto (DPH-SAPC), Myron Quon (NAPAFASA), Stephanie Raby (DHS), Cyrus Rangan (DPH), Gary Richards (Hard/Live Nation), and Mario Salcedo (DPH-SAPC)

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED: Meeting Agenda; Draft - EMF Task Force Meeting Minutes, dates: 9/23/15 and 9/30/15; 2010 Board approval of Task Force recommendations; 2010 Board Zero Tolerance amendment; Rave Act Summary; PowerPoint Presentation on 3 New Ways to put Harm Reduction in action at EDM events; and Medical Response Subcommittee Recommendations

Topic	Discussion/Finding	Recommendations, Response, Action, Follow-up
Call to Order	Chair Wesley Ford called meeting to order at 1:10 p.m., Quorum was present.	
Welcome and Introduction of Task Force Members and Guests	Chair Wesley Ford asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves and include what agency they are representing.	
Approval of meeting minutes from 9/23/15 and 9/30/15	Approval of minutes were originally pushed back towards the end of today's meeting, however due to time restraints, minutes will be posted on the SAPC program website for reviewing and will be approved at next meeting.	Minutes will be posted on SAPC internet website
Toxicology Presentation from Cyrus Rangan, M.D.	Dr. Rangan, is a Medical Toxicologist from the Department of Public Health. He also works with Poison Control and is a consultant to both USC and Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. The presentation today is given to clinicians that oversee the care, provide diagnosis and treatment to patients that suffer from	

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	<p>adverse reactions of overdoses from substance abuse. It entails information about: the effects and chemical toxicology of the various types of drugs, how these drugs are manufactured, and the habits and trends of people that take them. Many of the newer drugs are not found on standard toxicology screening. Because of increased dosages and unknown mixed substances being used, deaths have increased.</p> <p>With ecstasy, symptoms of concern are: dehydration, increased heart rate, increased blood pressure, and increased body temperature; hyperthermia. Body temperatures can reach as high as 111 degrees. May even be higher because the highest level of temperature that can be read is 111. Effects from the drug can be minimized/tempered, but the nerve damage can be long term.</p> <p><u>Q&A from Committee and Public after presentation</u></p> <p>Q: Hyperthermia is the most destructive side effect of taking ecstasy, how should this be handled onsite, from the medical point of contact?</p> <p>A: Taking a most accurate level of temperature, preferably rectal. Other methods of temperature readings such as from mouth, forehead, and ear are not exact. Critical signs are those that are altered and non-responsive, hot to the touch. Best way to treat the patient is by disrobing them completely so that the heat escapes.</p> <p>Q: What about active cooling, such as using ice packs?</p> <p>A: Active cooling under arms and around groin area, but using ice packs all over the body can be more dangerous because it constricts the blood vessels at the surface of the skin and the body core still remains hot.</p> <p>Q: What is the timeline for the onset of hyperthermia symptoms?</p>	

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	<p>A: It is dependent on the dosage and other variable factors such as increased muscle activity. It could be anywhere from 1 up to 8 hours from ingestion.</p> <p>Q: What about controlled airway?</p> <p>A: With stimulant type drugs, it doesn't usually cause respiratory issues, in fact they will have decreased fluids, so there are usually no issues with their airway.</p> <p>Q: How would you administer fluids?</p> <p>A: Again with ecstasy, there is not a lot of cardiac depression involved, so administering fluids is o.k.</p> <p>Q: Is there an issue with drop in sodium levels and giving them saline?</p> <p>A: Sodium levels will probably be low, so giving them saline solution is o.k. What is more important is resuscitation for those that are non-responsive.</p> <p>Q: With the issue on overheating, is providing more shade another option?</p> <p>A: Providing more shade will not stop the physiological condition that comes from the stimulants such as ecstasy, because it stops the body's ability to sweat and it will continue to heat up.</p> <p>Q: What do we know about powdered alcohol and GHB?</p> <p>A: Powdered alcohol cannot be measured the same way as traditional (liquid) alcohol. GHB can be used to treat narcolepsy. Recreational use can be used with alcohol as a short-term sedative. Dangerous use can include taking advantage of someone by secretly putting it in their drink and later</p>	

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	<p>assaulting them.</p> <p>Q: Most popular term for MDMA is known as “Molly” which is ecstasy mixed with other unknown drugs. What often occurs is people will see the increased security and will go back to their cars and consume a large of amount of this drug and then enter the event. What should we do about that?</p> <p>A: It is difficult to define what is in the drug they are taking because the formulas are not consistent. The next step would be to treat the overdose.</p> <p>Q: It is understood that drugs are everywhere and are hard to stop, what is your recommendation for reducing drug use at Electronic Music Festivals?</p> <p>A: Greater law enforcement and education.</p> <p>Q: What about testing the drugs?</p> <p>A: It’s difficult to create testing kits that will capture an accurate reading. Current test kits cannot identify all substances that are being used and mixed into drugs. A negative response will not necessarily mean that it’s clean or pure, the substance could be unidentifiable. Tests can also either under or over assess the potency.</p>	
<p>Reports from subcommittee leads</p>	<p>Chair Ford moved towards reports from the subcommittees</p> <p><u>Medical Response</u> Stephanie Raby (DHS) and Kevin Klar (LACFD) reporting.</p> <p>From last meeting, the subcommittee has met one more time and continues to revamp the policy. Newest addition is a staffing guide for other departments or agencies that have never held these types of events before and not just this specific type of event (electronic music festival), but a more broad spectrum type</p>	

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	<p>of events and mass gatherings. A more comprehensive plan to reduce the impact on patient transport from the event to the hospitals and the overall EMS system.</p> <p><u>Safety and Security</u> Deputy Dan Whitten, who is representing Captain Holly Perez who has been out of town and unable to attend this meeting, is working to identify members who are supposed to be on the subcommittee and those who would want to be. Will report back once the information is obtained.</p> <p><u>Best Practices and Education</u> Ben Lee reports that the subcommittee will meet next Thursday (10/29/15), 1-3 p.m. They are working with Hard Nation, County Counsel, and Pomona PD on messaging at next event (Fairplex) and for other events thereafter. Other things they are looking into are testing the drugs that were seized at the event over the summer and from this upcoming one, to provide some hard data on what drugs are out in the community. Compiling other data from literary reviews. Looking into the possibility of having a short survey that will capture demographic information and drug use.</p> <p><u>Electronic Music Community</u> Janine Jordan reports that they are still working on the draft recommendations. One of the recommendations is an emergency exit plan. Advocating for the promoters provide free water. Providing a Compassion Booth where people could go to talk to peer counselors or possibly psychiatrists; to assist people who are having a difficult experience or hard time, without fear of getting in trouble or just to feel safe to talk to someone. Working on peer education and messaging. Increasing “chill” space by the stages that will also include water; where most high energy dancing takes place. Will finish up the draft and send in when completed.</p>	

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	<p>Chairman Ford reminds the Task Force members that the Board Motion maybe to not only include recommendations on how to safely hold these types of events on County property, but may be whether or not to hold them at all.</p> <p>Kevin Klar stated that one of the things that will be added to this upcoming event is to have about 15-16 peer roaming teams floating around the event and look for those that maybe at risk and either get them help or advise for them to seek help.</p> <p>Biggest changes from Summer event to upcoming, is the age limit is set at 21 years of age or older and reducing the occupancy.</p> <p>A Task Force member made a recommendation that the next Task Force meeting be moved from 10/29/15 until after the next event.</p>	<p>Chairman Ford moved to reschedule next meeting to the following Thursday, November 5th.</p>
<p>Public Comments (Comments from the public on Items of Interest within the Task Force Subject Matter Jurisdiction)</p>	<p>Chairman Ford moves towards public comments</p> <p>Resident from Pomona who lives across the street from the Fairplex commented he has concerns that “compassion” can easily trip over to “enabling”. He stated that the question of this task force is “How can you prevent drug use at these types of events?”, and “Is it too dangerous to have these events on County property?” Added that security needs to be in the parking lots as well.</p>	
<p>Adjourn to the next meeting</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled to take place:</p> <p>Thursday, November 5, 2015 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. 1000 S. Fremont Ave. Alhambra, CA 91803 A9 East Building, Ground Floor Conference Room G-2</p>	<p>Mario Salcedo to send out reminder of next meeting date and time.</p>