



CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

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**FLPD OFFICERS TO BE
TRAINED AND EQUIPPED
WITH NALOXONE**

In response to the increasing occurrence of opioid-related drug overdoses in the City of Fort Lauderdale and throughout the state, the Fort Lauderdale Police Department has begun training its officers on the effective use of naloxone (Narcan) nasal spray. The goal is to provide officers, as first-responders, with a method to safely and effectively treat and reduce injuries and fatalities due to opioid-induced overdose.

The first phase of training includes Patrol Supervisors, Special Investigations Supervisors, Narcotics Detection Canine Officers, Criminal Investigations Forensics Detectives, Field Training Officers, as well as Neighborhood Action Team Officers. Subsequent phases will include Patrol Officers. The initial deployment will include 25 naloxone nasal spray kits in the field, with more to follow.

Naloxone is a non-addictive, prescription medication with an almost immediate, although temporary, reversing effect of opiate-based narcotics. It only works if a person has opioids in their system; having no effect if opioids are absent. Using the kits, Officers will have the opportunity to stabilize overdose victims until emergency medical responders arrive and the patient can be transported for more advanced medical care.

The first naloxone kits will be available for use by Tuesday, May 23, 2017.

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