I. Policy

It is the policy of this Division that all employees issued Naloxone/Narcan will be trained in the use of the Naloxone/Narcan by a certified trainer.

II. Definition

Naloxone/Narcan: A prescription medication used to treat the side effects of opioids, opioid overdose, and septic shock. Naloxone hydrochloride is a narcotic antagonist, which works by blocking the effects of opiates in the body.

III. Deployment - The Maryland-National Capital Park Police will issue the Naloxone/Narcan kits as follows:

A. Holding cell area at Maryland-National Capital Park Police Headquarters
B. All trained Officers/Detectives
C. All Canines Teams (2 kits)

IV. Procedures

A. Officers will use universal precautions when responding to the scene of a potential overdose.

B. Naloxone/Narcan may be used when responding to a call of such nature, or while the officer is off duty, when the officer reasonably believes that a person is in an overdosed state based on the following observations/information;

1. When advised by Communications Section, or after being advised of a possible overdose upon arrival, or;

2. When observing drugs, drug paraphernalia or any other drug instruments associated with the subject and;

3. Where the victim is observed to be unresponsive, there is an absence of breathing and or the victim has no pulse. Other signs of overdose include lack of response to sternal rub, shallow breathing and bluish lips or nail beds.

4. Officers who are on duty will notify the Communications Section that the subject is in a potential overdose state and request Fire Rescue.

5. Officers who are off duty will request Fire Rescue for subjects in a potential overdose state and will report the use of Naloxone to the Division’s Communications Section.
6. Officers will deploy Naloxone in accordance with training protocol. Officers should use caution and be aware that a rapid reversal of opioid overdose may cause projectile vomiting by the patient and/or violent behavior.

7. Officers will continue to maintain universal precautions and continue to render first aid until relieved by rescue personnel.

C. Naloxone/Narcan Kits

1. The kits will include Naloxone/Narcan, gloves, disposable mask and a carrying pouch.

2. Kits will be distributed by the Property Specialist.

3. All employees in possession of Naloxone/Narcan will ensure it is stored safely consistent with the manufacturer’s guidelines.

D. Maintenance/Replacement

1. An inspection of the Naloxone/Narcan kit will be the responsibility of the personnel assigned the equipment and will be conducted prior to each shift.

2. Missing or damaged Naloxone/Narcan kit(s) will be reported in writing directly to the officer’s immediate supervisor. This information will then be forwarded to the Property Specialist for replacement.

3. Upon administering Naloxone/Narcan and submitting supporting documentation, Naloxone/Narcan will be replaced by the Property Specialist.

E. Reporting

1. Upon completing the medical assistance, the officer will submit an Incident Report detailing the nature of the incident, the care the patient received and that Naloxone/Narcan was deployed.

2. The use of Naloxone/Narcan will be reported whether it was used on duty or off duty by the officer who deployed it in a Maryland-National Capital Park Police Incident Report.

3. The Management Sergeant will track the use of the Naloxone/Narcan and report on Naloxone/Narcan deployments to the Support Branch Chief.

V. Training - The Training Coordinator will:

A. Develop a training curriculum, which meets the guidelines of the Maryland Alcohol & Drug Abuse Administration Department of Health & Mental Hygiene.

B. Ensure that officers of the Maryland-National Capital Park Police are qualified as trained overdose responders (TOR).
C. Ensure that all TORs are recertified every two years in conjunction with first aid and CPR training.

D. Maintain Naloxone/Narcan program records including trained overdose responder training records.

By Authority of  
Chief Darryl W. McSwain  
Maryland-National Capital Park Police  
Montgomery County Division  

Approved Park Police Document  
Signed Original on File  

End of Directive