

Attorney General Pam Bondi News Release

September 27, 2016
Contact: Whitney Ray
Phone: (850) 245-0150

Attorney General Bondi Outlaws Deadly Synthetic Drug

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Pam Bondi today announced an emergency rule outlawing a new psychoactive substance, U-47700. Since October 2015, the substance has been identified in multiple deaths in Florida. According to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, U-47700 has a high potential for abuse and does not currently have an accepted medical use in the United States.

“Synthetic drugs are ruining lives and destroying families and we must do everything in our power to protect Floridians from these dangerous substances—that is why today I have emergency scheduled U-47700 and will continue to work with law enforcement to identify and outlaw harmful synthetic drugs as they appear,” said Attorney General Bondi.

“As the Sheriff of Marion County, it is my duty to ensure the safety of our citizens,” said Sheriff Emery Gainey. “We are seeing more and more dangerous synthetic drugs affecting our communities here in North Central Florida. Even though we have not had a case of U-47700 reported in Marion County, we will work with our local and state law enforcement partners to further prevent its usage and educate our citizens on this new drug.”

Attorney General Bondi, standing with Marion County Sheriff Emery Gainey, Gilchrist County Sheriff Robert Schultz and Levy County Sheriff Bobby McCallum, signed the emergency rule that designates this new drug as a Schedule I controlled substance. Side effects of opioid use include decreased blood pressure, intestinal bleeding, loss of consciousness, vomiting and more.

U-47700 is usually found in powder or granular form, and when pressed into pill form, it takes on the appearance of a prescription drug. U-47700 may also be found in liquid form and as a nasal spray.

Since taking office, Attorney General Bondi has worked with state lawmakers to outlaw 136 individual chemical compounds. In 2016, Attorney General Bondi put forth comprehensive legislation outlawing several categories of synthetic drugs in Florida. However, U-47700 is structurally different from any currently scheduled opioid, precluding it from regulation under current law.