

CITY OF RICHMOND

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF 1701 FAIRFIELD WAY RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23223 ANTIONETTE V. IRVING - SHERIFF



Primary Contact Email: <u>Stacey.Bagby@richmondgov.com</u> Phone: (804) 646-0089 **THE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE** *FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE* October 21, 2021

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA – On Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 10 am to 2 pm the Richmond City Sheriff's Office will be partnering with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration for the purpose of assisting the public to help prevent pill abuse and theft. To help rid their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. The public will be able to bring pills for disposal to the Richmond City Sheriff's Office located at 1701 Fairfield Way in Richmond, VA. The collection will include all pills and patches. We are unable to accept liquids, needles, or sharps within this collection effort. This service is free and anonymous to the community. No questions will be asked.

This is an epidemic that affects not only the individual but their families. In 2018 we partnered with CVS Health and installed a Medical Disposal Unit in our front lobby. This was installed to help provide the community with a safe and responsible way to counter drug abuse, and encourage safe drug disposal. The Medical Disposal Unit is available for our community's use daily. This was made possible and resourced by the grant received from CVS' Safer Communities Program. The Richmond City Sheriff's Office is committed to continuing our on-going efforts of promoting public safety and to reduce the spread of this epidemic.

In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines— flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the October 23, 2021 Take Back Day event, go to <u>www.DEATakeBack.com</u>