



## Sweeny Police to Participate in the American Medicine Chest Challenge

*SWEENY, TEXAS:* The Sweeny Police Department will be participating in the American Medicine Chest Challenge (AMCC). The event will take place on Saturday, November 14, 2015, in communities across the country. This initiative will challenge Sweeny residents to take the Five-Step American Medicine Chest Challenge:

- ✓ Take inventory of your prescription and over-the-counter medicine.
- ✓ Secure your medicine chest.
- ✓ Dispose of your unused, unwanted, and expired medicine at an American Medicine Chest Challenge Disposal site.
- ✓ Take your medicine(s) exactly as prescribed.
- ✓ Talk to your children about the dangers of prescription drug abuse.

To help combat this growing threat to our nation's children, Sweeny is hosting the American Medicine Chest Challenge (AMCC) on Saturday, November 14, 2015. Residents can find a local collection site on [www.americanmedicinechest.com](http://www.americanmedicinechest.com) (the Sweeny Police Dept. is the only drop location in Sweeny, Texas).

The most recent National Survey on Drug Use and Health shows prescription medicines to be the most abused drugs by Americans (other than marijuana) and found that 70% of people who abuse prescription pain relievers say they got them from friends or relatives. A recent study on drug use by of teens by the Partnership for a Drug Free America (PDFA) found that 1 in 9 children are abusing prescription pain relievers to get high.

"This Challenge will raise awareness about the dangers of abusing prescription drugs and reduce the availability of potent drugs that lead kids down a path to addiction," explained American Medicine Chest Challenge Chief Executive Officer Angelo M. Valente. "With the American Medicine Chest Challenge we are calling on residents to see their medicine cabinets through new eyes -- as an access point for potential misuse and abuse of over-the-counter and prescription medicine by young people," explained Valente.

The American Medicine Chest Challenge has gained the national support of PhRMA, the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), and Covanta.

For more information about the Sweeny Police Department Prescription Drop Box Program, please contact the Sweeny Police Department at (979) 548-3112, via e-mail at [admin@sweenypolice.org](mailto:admin@sweenypolice.org), or visit [www.sweenypolice.org](http://www.sweenypolice.org).