
Sheriff's Drug Fund

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Olympic Peninsula Narcotics Enforcement Team is to target drug violators that have an impact on our communities and to reduce drug availability and trafficking in Washington State and Clallam County and Jefferson County, thereby improving the quality of life in our area of responsibility.

Functions:

- Identify, target, investigation and arrest mid to upper level drug traffickers for maximum impact of reducing drugs imported into our community.
- Respond to the needs of policy board member agencies not limited to drug investigations. Although our focus is narcotics and organized crime investigations, OPNET can and will provide equipment, technical assistance and experienced investigators to assist in the investigation of any major crime to those who request it.
- Maintain communication with all law enforcement agencies within our geographic area by providing a central intelligence collection location for drug trafficking and other crime incident information.
- Provide training to all peace officers who aspire to become investigators not limited to narcotics.
- Work with US Immigration and Customs Enforcement on international border security issues as they relate to smuggling and now, Homeland Security.
- Provide experienced investigators for public appearances to inform the community of the dangers of illicit drugs with an emphasis on clandestine methamphetamine laboratories.

Long Term Goals:

- Investigate, dismantle and prosecute drug trafficking organizations operating in our area of responsibility.
- Work with our communities to make them aware of OPNET and its mission through public presentations, presentations, successful completion of high profile cases and being available to assist all local agencies with major investigations.
- Assist local agencies and their officers in drug related investigations through training of street officers, making OPNET detectives available for assistance and by providing technical equipment to help with surveillance or other matters.
- Continue to enhance the safety of officers and investigators assigned to this unit by providing regular training.
- Increase the safety of our community by reducing drug-related crime and violence through proactive narcotics enforcement cases.
- Work with Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies to protect our shores from the introduction of illegal drugs from other nations.
- Identify sources of funding that are sustainable for the continuation of the program.

Short Term Objectives:

- Successful prosecution of pending cases.
- Continue the established communication with member agencies including Jefferson County, Clallam County, Port Angeles Police, Sequim Police, and the Washington State Patrol and extend this communication to non-participatory jurisdictions.
- Make special efforts to impact drug availability to area Native American Communities.
- Conduct regular public appearances to acquaint citizens with the OPNET presence and the important role it plays in area law enforcement services.
- Identify the structure of drug trafficking organizations in Clallam and Jefferson Counties through intelligence reports received from officers and citizens in those communities for analytical direction and the identification of legitimate targets.
- Establish monthly in-service training in a variety of subject matters not limited to tactical issues.
- Continue development of a public accessible web page for citizens to visit to learn about the OPNET program and receive information about illegal drugs in our neighborhoods.
- Aggressively apply for funding to continue the OPNET program.
- Increase the number of intelligence report submission from patrol divisions of participating agencies.

Accomplishments in 2006/2007

- OPNET initiated and presented a plan to area tribal entities to fund and provide a detective OPNET to represent the interests of our Native American Communities. In January, 2007, four local tribes committed to funding such a position and a detective was placed with OPNET.
- In April of 2007, Sequim Police Department began participating in the OPNET program by providing a detective.
- OPNET received the Justice Assistance Grant from the State of Washington with funding returned to 90% of 2004 funding levels. The 2007 award is expected to last for two consecutive years.
- The OPNET Policy Board was re-established with new leadership. With the change in participating agency administrations, new officers were elected to the program. Chief Robert Spinks of the Sequim Police Department was elected as Chairman and Chief Rod Charles of the Lower Elwha Tribal Police Department as vice and regular meetings were conducted.
- New OPNET agents attended and graduated from the DEA Basic Narcotics Investigations Program in Boise Idaho.
- Sheriff William Benedict was named representative of State and Local agencies for the Pacific Region. The Sheriff joins federal and local representatives from the United States and Canada whose duties include the facilitation of training and communication between all agencies on both sides of the border and coordination / hosting of semi annual workshops for narcotics investigators from both nations.

Major Events in 2006/2007

- In October of 2006, while conducting a proactive surveillance emphasis on the shores of our jurisdiction, agents of OPNET and Department of Homeland Security developed a criminal case and interdicted almost 750,000 tablets of "Ecstasy" an illegal designer drug. The interdiction led to the arrest of several Canadian

citizens attempting to smuggle their illicit product into the United States through our jurisdiction by pleasure craft from Canada. The arrests resulted in successful Federal Prosecutions of all defendants and the seizure/forfeiture of the pleasure craft to OPNET.

- In August of 2006, OPNET, working with the City of Port Townsend, developed a criminal case on a marijuana grow within the City of Port Townsend. This led to a search warrant where hundreds of marijuana plants were seized from a turn of the century Victorian home.
- In December 2006, OPNET developed a search warrant which led to the seizure of almost 1500 marijuana plants from a shop and residence in the Sequim Bay. The US Attorney is considering the prosecution of this case.
- OPNET received additional monies in 2007 in the form of DEA and High Intensity Drug Traffic Area Grants to aid in the funding of overtime and other expenditures.
- In May 2007, OPNET detectives arrested a subject from out of the area delivering about a pound of methamphetamine. It is believed this person may be part of a group that is responsible for a large portion of the methamphetamine supply to our area.
- In June, 2007, OPNET Detectives culminated a major marijuana grow investigation conducted jointly with other agencies including the DEA. Several arrests were made and marijuana plants seized in our area as well as Oregon allowing us to disrupt a major marijuana grow drug trafficking organization.

Performance Indicators:

	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	6/30/07 Actual	2008 Goals
Arrests	40	19	16	40
Convictions	10	7	6	20
Pending Prosecution	26	49	53	N/A
Conviction Rate	72%	63%	100%	90%

Workload Indicators:

	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	6/30/07 Actual	2008 Estimated
Intelligence Reports Processed	729	448	237	550
Total Cases Investigated included other agency assists and unfounded crimes	57	22	30	50
Public Presentations	10	20	9	20

Staffing Level:

	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	6/30/07 Actual	2008 Budget
Full Time Equivalents	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.00

Operating Budget

Revenues:

	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	6/30/07 Actual	2008 Budget
Beginning Fund Balance	152,120	331,422	164,802	152,040
Taxes	0	0	0	0
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	165,460	113,171	96,967	210,513
Charges for Goods and Services	275,391	0	0	0
Fines and Forfeits	0	67,636	18,991	65,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	6,803	12,412	0	410,000
Nonrevenues	113,297	6,858	3,294	0
Other Financing Sources	8,811	0	0	0
General Tax Support	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$721,882	\$531,499	\$284,054	\$837,553

Expenditures:

	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	6/30/07 Actual	2008 Budget
Salaries and Wages	109,453	100,889	53,044	102,415
Personnel Benefits	13,357	18,441	15,792	34,707
Supplies	25,401	12,085	7,280	38,192
Other Services and Charges	55,924	55,805	46,008	118,550
Intergovernmental Services	99,428	98,642	18,259	124,000
Interfund Payments for Services	80,764	80,837	48,230	59,676
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0
Ending Fund Balance	337,555	164,800	95,441	360,013
TOTAL	\$721,882	\$531,499	\$284,054	\$837,553

Agency Structure:

OPNET is led by a policy board made up of local law enforcement division heads. This includes Chiefs, Sheriffs and Prosecutors from each jurisdiction in Clallam and Jefferson Counties. Included in the policy board, is representation from area Native American Reservations, Washington State Patrol, and Dept. of Homeland Security. The Policy Board meets to make business decisions, budget recommendations and policy making determinations.

Below the Policy Board is the OPNET Task Force Commander. The Commander is the liaison between the OPNET staff and the Policy Board and is responsible for grant coordination / writing and other administrative duties.

OPNET is currently supervised by a Det. Sgt. from the Port Angeles Police Dept. He supervises the assigned detectives of this narcotics unit which are supplied by Sequim Police, Washington State Patrol, Clallam County Sheriff and the Lower Elwha Tribal Police Dept. Other participating agencies on a periodic basis are the US Coast Guard Investigative Service, National Park Service, Forks Police Department, Jefferson Co. Sheriff, and the Port Townsend Police Department. Many Federal agencies also participate in the program.