

# **COUNTERFEIT MEDICINE REPORT**

# Wyoming, February 2022 – January 2023

While Wyoming reported its first counterfeit pill death in February 2021, it has since had a wave of six more known fentanyl-pill related deaths, the most recent in January 2023. Hundreds of pills are often found on suspects during searches, but thousands have been found in several cases including a multi-state distribution ring and an intrastate conspiracy.

Between 2013 and 2016, medical practices in Wyoming were warned for buying black market cancer treatments and Botox from unsafe sources. In 2018, a Torrington resident was arrested after receiving a package of counterfeit tapentadol, oxycodone and fentanyl pills from India and two Riverton men were charged after receiving a year's supply of steroids in the mail from China.

#### Recent Incidents

### January 2023:

Cody man killed by fake pill: "Testimony: alleged dealer admitted selling fentanyl-laced drugs that killed Wyoming man," Cowboy State Daily, January 11, 2023.

#### September 2022:

Gillette men sentenced in case involving fentanyl pills: "Gillette man gets 24 years for intent to deliver meth and fentanyl," Buffalo Bulletin, September 26, 2022. "Gillette man found with 7,000 fentanyl pills and 10 pounds of meth sentenced federally," Gillette News Record, August 13, 2022.

#### March 2022:

Billings resident pleaded guilty to trafficking more than 9,000 fentanyl pills: "Billings woman admits trafficking meth, fentanyl," U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Montana, March 22, 2022.

CA and NV residents pulled over with more than 1,000 pills: Two accused of carrying 8 pounds of meth, 1,000 fentanyl pills near Gillette," Powell Tribune, March 24, 2022.

## February 2022:

Fentanyl pill ring across Casper, Douglas, Glenrock, Cheyenne and Denver, CO: "Eight month DEA, DCI, and CPD investigation into fentanyl dealer ring yields felony arrest," Oil City News, February 16, 2022.

