



CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2022-1  
BY THE MAYOR

WHEREAS, opioid use disorder is a leading cause of preventable death in the United States and has caused significant mortality and morbidity in the City of San Diego; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated mental health conditions and economic stressors, which are common risk factors for unsafe opioid use; and,

WHEREAS, fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid that can quickly cause respiratory depression and is often mixed with substances to increase euphoric effects; and,

WHEREAS, fentanyl can be mixed with many types of substances and is especially dangerous when the person using drugs does not realize that fentanyl may be present as an additive; and,

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cites the prevalence of illicitly manufactured fentanyl, also known as non-pharmaceutical fentanyl, including fentanyl analogs, as contributing to the rise in overdose deaths nationwide; and,

WHEREAS, according to preliminary 2021 data from the San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office, 47% of the countywide deaths involving fentanyl (385 of 812) occurred within the jurisdiction of City of San Diego; and

WHEREAS, "Accidental Overdose" was the leading cause of death in the City of San Diego according to preliminary Medical Examiner data for 2021, and of these cases, 70% (385 of 549) involved fentanyl; and,

WHEREAS, out of 245 deaths involving people experiencing homelessness occurring in the City of San Diego in 2021, 162 were classified as "Accidental Overdose" and 113 of those involved fentanyl; and,

WHEREAS, accidental overdoses as a cause of death for people experiencing homelessness in the City of San Diego have increased from 2017 to 2021 by 406% (32 to 162), and accidental overdoses involving fentanyl among this same population over that time period have increased by 5,550% (2 to 113);

WHEREAS, City of San Diego first responders and staff are committed to increasing awareness of the dangers of fentanyl to allow individuals to implement appropriate harm reduction strategies to reduce the risk of an overdose, including the life-saving use of naloxone; **THEREFORE;**



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By virtue of authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of San Diego pursuant to the provisions of Article XI of the California Constitution and sections 28, 260, and 265 of the City of San Diego Charter, to promulgate, issue, and enforce rules, regulations, and orders governing the administrative affairs of the City, I hereby declare the following orders to be necessary for the protection of life and property and I hereby order, effective at 11:59 p.m. on November 30, 2022:

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT** the San Diego Police Department:

1. Prioritize continuing to enforce fentanyl sales related crimes to the fullest extent permissible;
2. Prioritize booking into jail those arrested for fentanyl sales crimes, as permitted by law and applicable regulations;
3. Work with the San Diego City Attorney, San Diego County District Attorney, and regional partners to track cases filed, prosecuted, and convictions won on fentanyl sales crimes;
4. Prioritize continuing work with all regional, state, and federal task forces to share information as allowed by law and focus on combatting fentanyl trafficking and sales;
5. Work with the San Diego City Attorney and San Diego District Attorney to request the court to order geographic probation and stayaway orders for offenders with multiple drug sales convictions and seeking homicide or manslaughter charges when sales result in an overdose death.

**I FURTHER DIRECT:**

1. Mayoral Policy to work with the San Diego City Council and City Attorney to develop a community outreach plan and funding strategy for the City's opioid settlement funding, currently estimated to be \$30 million over the next eight years.
2. The City's Government Affairs Department to pursue legislation at the state and federal levels to address the rise in fentanyl overdoses, including rescheduling of non-pharmaceutical fentanyl and analogs, sentencing enhancements for trafficking

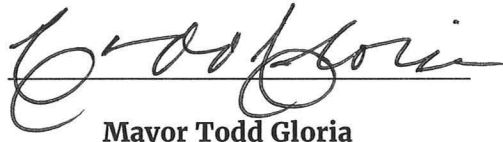


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and sales near schools, and funding for trafficking enforcement, education, and treatment programs.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022.

Dated: November 29, 2022



**Mayor Todd Gloria**