



# K2 Spice Awareness II

On-The-Job Training



**Watertown County, New York:** Prisons in the north country of New York are battling a surge of synthetic drugs leaking through to inmates. Chief Assistant District Attorney Kristina S. Mills from Jefferson County mentioned several incidents where the dangerous chemical substances called “K2” or “Spice” has been discovered in local prisons. The following counties had overdoses:

- Gouverneur Correctional Facility: An inmate injured four guards during an argument while he allegedly was high on K2. He was taken to the Gouverneur Hospital where he reported to a physician that he used synthetic marijuana.
- Auburn Correctional Facility: Paramedics responded to eight overdose calls in two days, all of which were suspected to have been the result of synthetic marijuana.
- Westchester County Jail: More than a dozen of inmates were hospitalized within two weeks due to reported synthetic marijuana overdoses.

K2 or Spice is entering onto prison grounds during visitations and by packages sent via mail.

**Jackson County, Florida:** Jackson County Sheriff’s Deputies were dispatched to Apalachee Correctional Institution. Staff received information that a subject was attempting to bring contraband into the facility through visitation. Narcotics Detection K9 was deployed to perform a “Free Air Sniff,” in the visitor parking lot. The K9 alerted to the odor of illegal narcotics emanating from the interior of a vehicle and a probable cause search was conducted. A quantity of suspected Synthetic Cannabinoids (marijuana) also known as “K2” or “Spice” was located inside the vehicle.

The subject was located inside visitation and was escorted out by staff into an office where she was interviewed about the items. She told staff she was in possession of three more packages hidden inside her body cavity. Subject was escorted to another location to retrieve the packages and substance tested positive for Synthetic Cannabinoids. Staff seized 89.6 grams as evidence during the course of investigation.

**Harnett County, North Carolina:** A law enforcement official said eight inmates from Harnett Correctional Institution were hospitalized due to suspected drug overdoses. One returned to prison, four have been admitted to the hospital, and three more remained under treatment and observation in the emergency department. The Lillington Police Department is helping with the investigation and believes synthetic marijuana called K2 is involved, as some inmates have admitted to using.

**Akron, Ohio:** The Oriana House, a private company; operates the Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) and houses inmates and others going through court-ordered drug treatment programs. Six inmates in this program were transported by ambulance to Cleveland Clinic Akron General Medical Center and Summa Akron City Hospital. Oriana House officials stated the inmates had overdosed on synthetic marijuana also known as K2 or spice. Two inmates were treated and released, but the other four inmates remain at the hospital for further evaluations.

**DOM 52010.21:** Types of Urinalysis Requests— Staff shall request a Basic Drug Panel analysis of the urine sample unless the inmate’s behavior provides reasonable suspicion of other drug use. The Basic Drug Panel will detect the presence of the following substances: Alcohol, Barbiturates (short and long acting), Amphetamines, Cannabinoids, Cocaine, Codeine, Methamphetamines, Opiates Morphine heroin) and Phencyclidine (PCP). Additional urinalysis may be requested to detect the use of Synthetic Tetrahydrocannabinol (Spice).

The following are updated side effects than the first K2 Spice Awareness: extreme anxiety, confusion, rapid heart rate and can reduce blood supply to the heart, vomiting and suicidal thoughts.