

Video Script: "A Message from the Inspector General: Audit of the Drug Enforcement Administration's Community-Based Efforts to Combat the Opioid Crisis," September 2020

Hello, I'm Michael Horowitz, Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Justice.

Today, my office released a report on the Drug Enforcement Administration, or DEA's, community-based efforts to combat the opioid crisis.

At the time of our audit, DEA had deployed its 360 Strategy, a program intended to combat opioid abuse, in 20 communities across the United States. We found that the program helped to increase awareness of opioid-related issues, provide training, build anti-drug coalitions, and create online resources available to the public at no charge.

We also identified areas for improvement

- First, we found that by expanding the data used in selecting cities to participate in the 360 Program, the DEA could better ensure its resources are deployed to the communities most in need of assistance.
- Second, we found that DEA lacks outcome-oriented performance metrics for both its overall 360 strategy, and for its media efforts.
- Third, we found that DEA should better coordinate with DOJ grant-making agencies, which award millions of dollars to community and local law enforcement organizations across the United States to combat opioid-related issues.

To read the report and see all of our recommendations, please visit our website oig.justice.gov, or go to Oversight.gov.

Thank you for joining me today.

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