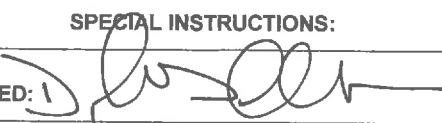


**Colchester Police Department  
General Order 45A Drug Take-Back**

**COLCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT**

		<b>SUBJECT Drug Take-Back</b>	
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> 07/24/2019	<b>NUMBER:</b> 45A		
<b>REFERENCE:</b> GO # 45	<b>SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:</b>		
<b>REEVALUATION DATE:</b> Annually	<b>APPROVED:</b> 	<b>NO. PAGES</b> 1	

**I. Policy:**

- a. Prescription drug diversion is an increasing threat, especially in light of our opioid crisis. This policy will assist in reducing access to and safely disposing of unwanted or expired prescription medication. It is the policy of the Police Department to accept for disposal all prescription medication turned in by the public.

**II. Procedure**

- a. The prescription drug take back program is for citizen use only. The police department will not accept prescription drugs from commercial entities for the purpose of destruction. Unwanted or expired prescription medication brought in by the public will be deposited into the drug disposal receptacle located in the police department lobby. The person turning in the medication may remain anonymous.
  - i. Receptacle – The receptacle for this purpose is a re-purposed metal mailbox. The opening allows for drugs to be deposited but not removed. The opening in the container section has a keyed lock in the door and a padlock on the exterior. The receptacle will be clearly marked for its purpose. The interior box will have a plastic bag liner.
  - ii. Periodically, the receptacle will be emptied. The receptacle is only to be opened and emptied in the presence of two officers. If the receptacle needs to be emptied, the liner bag will be removed and immediately placed in an evidence box and sealed. The sealed box will be brought to evidence and weighed for total content. An incident will be made for this purpose and the box labeled in the following manner – year, sequential number. (ex. – 2019-01). This number will be used as the control number and entered into critical evidence accordingly.
  - iii. Disposal – Drugs received in the Take-back program may be destroyed in a manner consistent with General Order #45 or may be disposed of in a common manner with other law enforcement at the direction of the Chief of Police.