



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Names Task Force of the Year**

**Bowling Green-Warren County Drug Task Force Awarded Task Force of the Year**

**London, KY:** The Executive Director of the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (AHIDTA) Vic Brown, has announced the Bowling Green-Warren County Drug Task Force (BGWCDTF) has been awarded the 2020 Appalachia HIDTA Task Force of the Year for Kentucky. The Bowling Green-Warren County Drug Task Force was selected from among sixteen HIDTA funded task forces in Kentucky.

The BGWCDTF is a joint effort with participation from the Bowling Green Police Department, Kentucky State Police, Warren County Sheriff's Office, Western Kentucky University Police Department, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Homeland Security Investigations.

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program is administered by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). A component of the Executive Office of the President, ONDCP was created by the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988. ONDCP advises the President on drug-control issues, coordinates drug-control activities and related funding across the Federal government, and produces the annual National Drug Control Strategy, which outlines administration efforts to reduce illicit drug use, manufacturing and trafficking, drug-related crime and violence, and drug-related health consequences.

Appalachia HIDTA is an important component of the President's National Drug Control Strategy, which provides additional federal resources to help eliminate or reduce drug trafficking and its harmful consequences. Law enforcement organizations within HIDTA assess drug trafficking problems and design specific initiatives to reduce or eliminate the production, manufacture, transportation, distribution, and chronic use of illegal drugs, as well as money laundering.

Director Brown said, "The Bowling Green-Warren County Drug Task Force has outstanding leadership and consistently produces highly impactful investigations. The task force exemplifies cooperation among Federal, State and Local law enforcement, which is a core requirement of the HIDTA Program. Undoubtedly, the Bowling Green-Warren County Drug Task Force has saved



many lives in Warren County by removing deadly drugs from its streets such as fentanyl, methamphetamine and cocaine. They make sure those who would damage our communities by trafficking in these lethal drugs are held responsible”.

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