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Chuyển Ngữ hoặc Phiên Dịch
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Письмовий або усний переклад
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الترجمة التحريرية أو الشفهية
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翻译或传译
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翻訳または通訳
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ການແປພາສາ ຫຼື ການອະທິບາຍ
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Письменный или устный перевод
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City of Portland

Illegal Drug Activity - Recognize & Report

Illegal drug activity includes drug possession, sales and/or manufacturing. This also includes misuse of prescribed medications, know as drug diversion, which includes consuming more pills than are prescribed, selling them or using someone else's prescription.

Drug sales can occur at homes, businesses, or in a public places, such as a street or park. Properly identifying the behavior which indicates drug activity can help in reporting and potentially stopping future occurrences. Some illegal drug activity can take place in locations which are deemed "drug houses". A drug house is a location where illegal drugs are being sold, made or heavily used. There are different levels of activity at drug houses, which will impact response. Proper reporting of drug activity can help bring resolve to potential issues before they grow too difficult to handle.

Identifying illegal drug activity

When identifying illegal drug activity look for some of the following signs:

- Suspected dealer repeatedly approaches parked vehicles, pedestrians or bicyclists to engage in brief encounters with the driver, passenger or pedestrian exchanging money or small packages.
- Numerous short visits by various people in vehicles, bicycles or on foot.
- Cars frequently drive slowly by various common locations.
- Shades or blinds are constantly drawn.
- Visitors frequently park their cars a few blocks away and walk to the location.
- Unusually extensive security measures are taken at the location.
- Visitors bring personal property such as electronics and leave without them.
- Drug paraphernalia frequently found at or outside of the location (e.g. Small bundled or twisted pieces of cellophane and/or hypodermic needles).
- People appear to be acting as lookouts (e.g. one person may wait outside, while another enters the home).
- The neighborhood is experiencing elevated levels of crime.
- Occupants and/or visitors frequently display behaviors that may include aggression, hyperactivity, paranoia, irritability, etc.
- There appears to be a suspicious accumulation of property at the location (e.g. lots of scrap metal, bikes and/or equipment).
- Verbal or physical altercations about drugs or money are observed.

Note that identifying one or two of these items may not indicate illegal activity. Observance of multiple at a single location could be an indicator illegal activity may be occurring.

Working with Partners

If you think you are seeing drug sales or manufacturing on your street, there may be a number of problems associated with the house besides criminal activity. Working with multiple agencies may be an effective approach to help reduce the number of issues at the location. Associated stakeholders can be, but are not limited to landlords, property managers, police, housing inspectors, crime prevention coordinators, and neighbors.

Working with property owner(s) / property manager(s): The involvement of the owner/manager can be the most effective and expedient way to address the issue. They are often unaware that their tenants are causing problems. In other cases, they may suspect issues, but are not witnessing the problem activity, which makes it difficult to enforce lease violations. You can find out who the owner is by calling the Multnomah County Division of Assessment, Recording, Taxation at 503-988-3326, and portlandmaps.com. If you have concerns about reporting directly to the landlord and/or property owner/manager or find them uncooperative, seeking support from community partners can prove more effective. Some tips for appropriate communication with landlords and/or property owners include:

- Communicate in a cordial and respectful tone.
- Describe who you or the group are (e.g. the Neighborhood Watch, neighbors living on the street, etc.).
- Detail what is happening (be descriptive and specific).
- State changes you would like to see at the problem location.
- List any efforts done to fix the problem if any (e.g. reporting, discussions, etc.).
- Provide recommendations for addressing the problem.
- Request a meeting.
- Write the landlord a letter requesting a response and course of action.
- Ask the landlord/manager if there is any way that you can assist them.

Working with Police: For crime in progress and immediate threat to life or property call 9-1-1. When reporting a drug deal note that the length of the call report and police response time is not fast enough to catch the event as it occurs. The best way to report dealings or chronic drug problems is non-emergency or online reporting and to be as descriptive as possible. Working on drug houses requires a significant amount of time and resources; the police must triage cases based on severity, potential outcome and resources available. Other units within the Portland Police Bureau that may assist on chronic locations include Neighborhood Response Teams (NRT) and Drugs and Vice Division (DVD).

Working with the Crime Prevention Program: Your Crime Prevention Program can help communities organize, including forming a Neighborhood Watch. As well as, provide crime prevention resources and training on how to document and report illegal and suspicious activity; discuss the problems at the location; and/or refer you to agencies that can best help you resolve your situation.

Working with Housing Inspector(s): Often drug activity is not the only problem at a drug house. The City of Portland's Neighborhood Inspections Team (NIT) enforces housing and nuisance code, Portland Property Maintenance Regulation Title 29, and can issue citations and liens for violations of the housing code on the exterior of the house. Call 503-823-2633 (CODE) if you think your problem location might have housing code violations. Be sure to warn them that you think the location is a drug house so they can take proper safety precautions.

Working with neighbors: Credible, valid reporting by groups of neighbors will improve responses and reduce the chances of retaliation. Contact the neighbors you trust and set up a meeting to discuss the problem and make a plan. Work with your neighbors to make improvements to the neighborhood so that it is clear the community has taken ownership over the shared space and are invested in what happens. Contact your Crime Prevention Team to get training and resources on how to organize your neighbors and community.

Recording & reporting illegal drug activity

Describing people: Take note of sex, race, age, height, weight, hair, complexion, piercings, scars, tattoos, glasses, facial hair, clothing, and anything that would help police identify the person. These details will be important to relay to the police to describe the person(s) involved in suspicious activity, but shouldn't be used as the basis of determining whether something is suspicious. Pay the most attention to things the person cannot change such as a tattoo or scar. If you know the person's name who committed the crime(s) be sure to tell the call taker or responding officer.

Describing vehicles: The license plate is the most important piece of information. Use the C.Y.M.B.O.L.S. method when identifying a vehicle. Color - Year - Make - Body style - Other marks - License - State. Also take note of the direction in which the vehicle was traveling.

Describing activities: Give as much detail as possible. For example: "I saw a person take a small orange-colored object out of their mouth and hand it to another person. The second person handed the first person money, which the first person put in their pants pocket," as opposed to "I saw a person dealing drugs."

If you see anything dangerous or life-threatening, or you have strong suspicions of either, call 9-1-1 immediately.

Reporting Drug Activity

Is it an immediate or life-threatening emergency?

YES

Dial 9-1-1. Be prepared to provide information (e.g. location, suspect details, involved persons). Do not hang up until instructed to do so.

NO

Are you seeing suspicious activity (e.g. small bags and cash exchanged; multiple people coming and going for short periods of time)?

YES

Call 503.823.3333 for reasons such as: potential drug dealings, suspicious activity at a house indicating drug sales, hearing verbal disputes about drugs and money. Be prepared to answer a series of questions. Do not hang up until instructed to.

If you have no known or named suspects report online: portlandoregon.gov/police/cor/
Do not report stolen vehicles, vehicle accidents, or vehicle hit and run online.

NO

Are you calling to report drug paraphernalia and/or drug use within a homeless camp/establishment?

YES

Report campsites, abandoned vehicles and other livability issues/concerns on PDX Reporter and find camp clean up reports through One Point of Contact:
[PDX Reporter tool online: pdxreporter.org/](http://pdxreporter.org/)
[Report using the online form: portlandoregon.gov/campsites](http://portlandoregon.gov/campsites)
[View campsite cleanups at: portlandoregon.gov/toolkit/71771](http://portlandoregon.gov/toolkit/71771)
For further assistance or help in filing a report related to homeless camps and clean-ups, call 503.823.4000.

**PDX Reporter tool is not for reporting crimes. In the event of a life-threatening emergency, call 9-1-1. For non-emergency call 503.823.3333 or report online at portlandoregon.gov/police/cor/.*

Reporting Toolkit

Is it an immediate or life-threatening emergency?

YES

Dial 911 - Be prepared to provide information (i.e. location, suspect details, involved persons). Do not hang up until instructed to do so.

NO

Are you calling to report a crime or suspicious activity?

YES

Does the incident involve any of the following:

- Known suspect(s)
- Stolen vehicles
- Domestic violence
- Vehicular accidents
- Firearms
- Hit and runs
- RX Medication
- Require police presence

NO

NO

YES

Report online:
portlandoregon.gov/police/cor/

Call Portland Non-Emergency
at (503) 823-3333.

Are you reporting livability issues and violations (e.g. campsites, potholes, illegal/abandoned vehicles)?

YES

NO

Go to pdxreporter.org and file a report (you will need a portlandoregon.gov account to login).

Do you need help and/or training for your business, neighborhood or residence, but don't know where to start?

YES

To get more training and connect with your Crime Prevention Team go online to:
portlandoregon.gov/civic/cp

Your Crime Prevention Team's mission is to organize and support community partnerships to prevent crime and the fear of crime. You can also find online resources and training tools on the Office of Community & Civic Life, Crime Prevention Program website portlandoregon.gov/civic/cpadvice.



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