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Press Release

DA Michael W. Morrissey provides training and overdose Antidote to every Norfolk County Police Department More than 80 first responders attend

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Every police department and most if not every fire department in Norfolk County has now received the needed training to use the opiate overdose reversal drug Narcan, and District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey bought and divided 300 doses among the police and fire departments to jump start their programs.

“There is not a single community in Norfolk County untouched by the opiate addiction epidemic that caused 61 confirmed fatal overdoses in our county last year,” District Attorney Morrissey said. “The Quincy Police Department has reversed more than 225 overdoses since it became the first department in the county to equip every cruiser with Narcan. Now every department is going to have this capacity. It can only save lives.”

Morrissey organized and hosted a training Wednesday, March 26, 2014, in the ballroom at the Blue Hills Country Club in Canton. Brockton Hospital Dr. Dan Muse, Quincy Police Lt. Pat Glynn, and Stoughton Police Sergeants Donna McNamara and Brian Holmes, as well as other medical and fire personnel, conducted the training and demonstrations. Every police department and almost every fire department attended.

“I cannot say enough about the police in Norfolk County, from the departmental training officers who attended and can now train fellow officers, to the chiefs who embraced the idea and dedicated the resources to making this work,” District Attorney Morrissey said. When the first responders broke into small groups for demonstrations, several of those presenting were fire personnel from departments already using Narcan who were there on their personal time to help. “Police, Fire, across the county we have had fantastic cooperation.”

“There is a great deal more that we are doing to prevent addictions from ever beginning, with prescription drug collection, education in schools, community coalitions, and enforcement. But we need to be working on this problem at every stage,” Morrissey said. “From preventing young people taking the first opiate pill that opens the door to later addiction to saving the lives of those who are overdosing so that they can find treatment and hopefully find their way back to the kind of life we would wish for them.”