A Resolution Encouraging Jurisdictions to Provide Drug Diversion Training to Law Enforcement Personnel, Establish Drug Diversion Prevention Programs and Establish Drug Diversion Investigation Units

WHEREAS, the purpose of the National Association of State Controlled Substance Authorities (NASCSA) is to provide a continuing mechanism through which states, federal agencies and others can work to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of state and national efforts to prevent drug abuse and drug diversion; and

WHEREAS, the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs across the United States is an acute public health problem; and

WHEREAS, the diversion of prescription drugs, specifically controlled substances, from legitimate manufacturing, distribution and healthcare channels, is a source of misused and abused drugs; and

WHEREAS, drug diversion often remains unreported or undetected because law enforcement officers and personnel often do not possess the requisite knowledge; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for law enforcement officers and personnel to be knowledgeable about drug diversion and identify it when it occurs with other criminal and non-criminal activity including armed robberies, burglaries and driving while impaired; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement personnel often lack formal training on drug diversion; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement personnel must recognize criminal versus non-criminal activity related to drug diversion to investigate such activities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NASCSA strongly encourages law enforcement agencies to train or provide access to sufficient training for their officers and personnel to identify and recognize drug diversion activity and to take appropriate action; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NASCSA also encourages jurisdictions to establish drug diversion prevention programs that:

a. Educate youth, parents, educators, and law enforcement personnel about controlled substances and drug diversion;

b. Deter drug diversion; and

c. Compile from, and share relevant data, including Prescription Drug Monitoring Program dispensing data, law enforcement reports, criminal records, etc., with appropriate federal, state and local authorities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NASCSA encourages each state, commonwealth, district or territory of the United States to establish drug diversion investigative units to enforce drug diversion laws, conduct drug diversion investigations and assist with the prosecution of healthcare professionals and others involved in the diversion of controlled substances.

ATTEST: __________________________
President

Date: October 24, 2014