

# *Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act*

*Diversion Investigator  
George Lutz*

# Goals and Objectives

- Discuss methamphetamine background and the scope of the problem as related to manufacture and abuse
- Identify and discuss the pharmacology of methamphetamine
- Discuss the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Elimination Act
- Discuss smurfing and diversion of Small Capacity Production Labs
- Discuss methamphetamine manufacture and the dangers associated with methamphetamine production

# Questions to Discuss

- True or False....
  - The Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Elimination Act was passed to limit the amount of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and/or Phenylpropanolamine available to clandestine laboratory operators who manufacture controlled substances such as methamphetamine and amphetamine.

**True**

# Questions to Discuss

- Which of the following drugs are not covered under the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Elimination Act as Scheduled Listed Chemical Products?
  - A) Ephedrine
  - B) Pseudoephedrine
  - C) Phenylephrine
  - D) Phenylpropanolamine

**C) Phenylephrine**

- True or False....

- The easiest method of methamphetamine manufacture is through the “one-pot” method using pseudoephedrine or ephedrine.

**True**



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*Foreign vs. Domestic  
Methamphetamine*

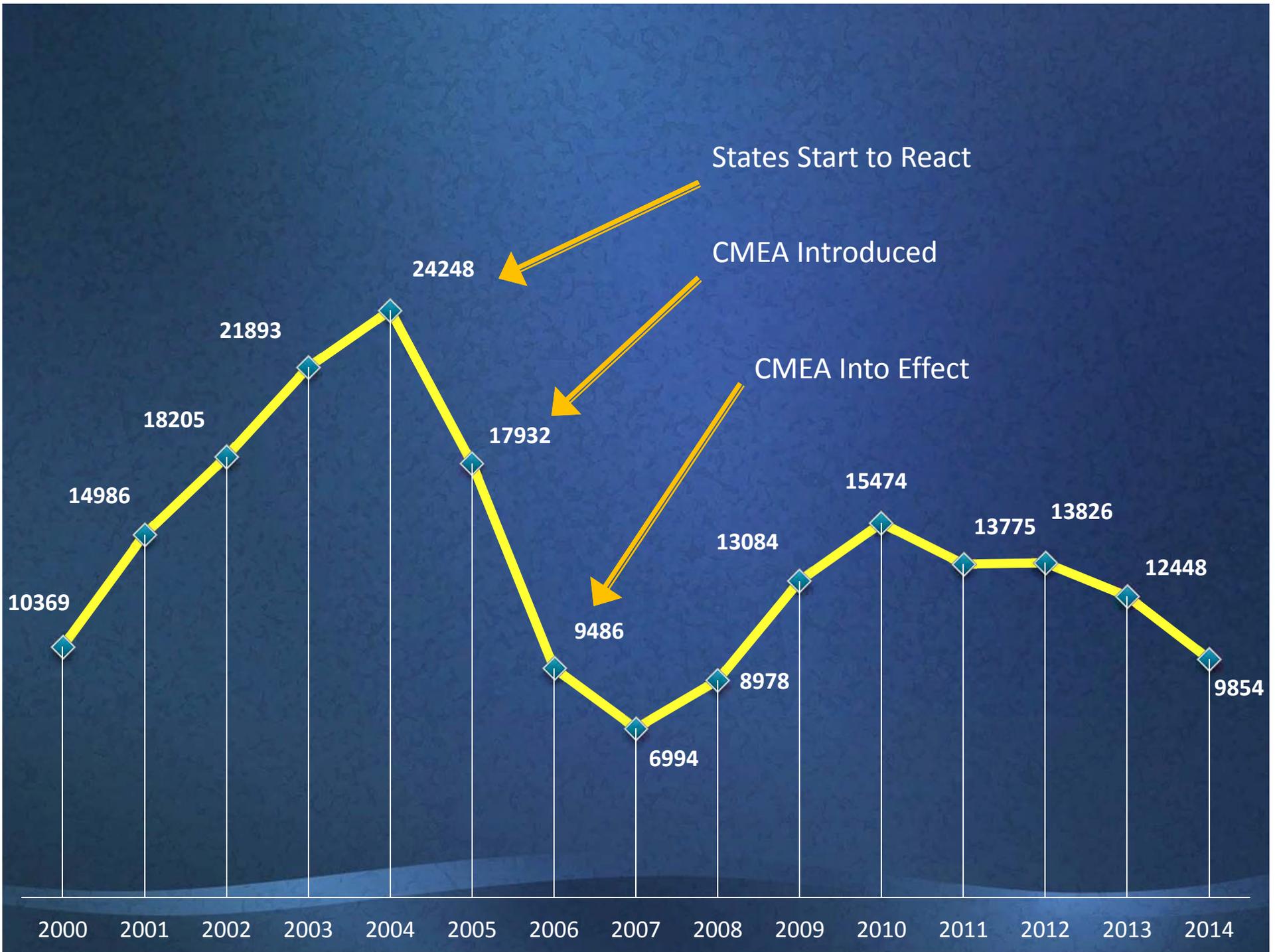
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# U.S. Methamphetamine Problem

- The U.S. methamphetamine threat is a two prong problem:
  - Methamphetamine manufactured by Mexican Trafficking Organizations (large “Super Labs” in Mexico & the U.S.)
  - Small Capacity Production Labs (SCPLs) (based in the U.S.)

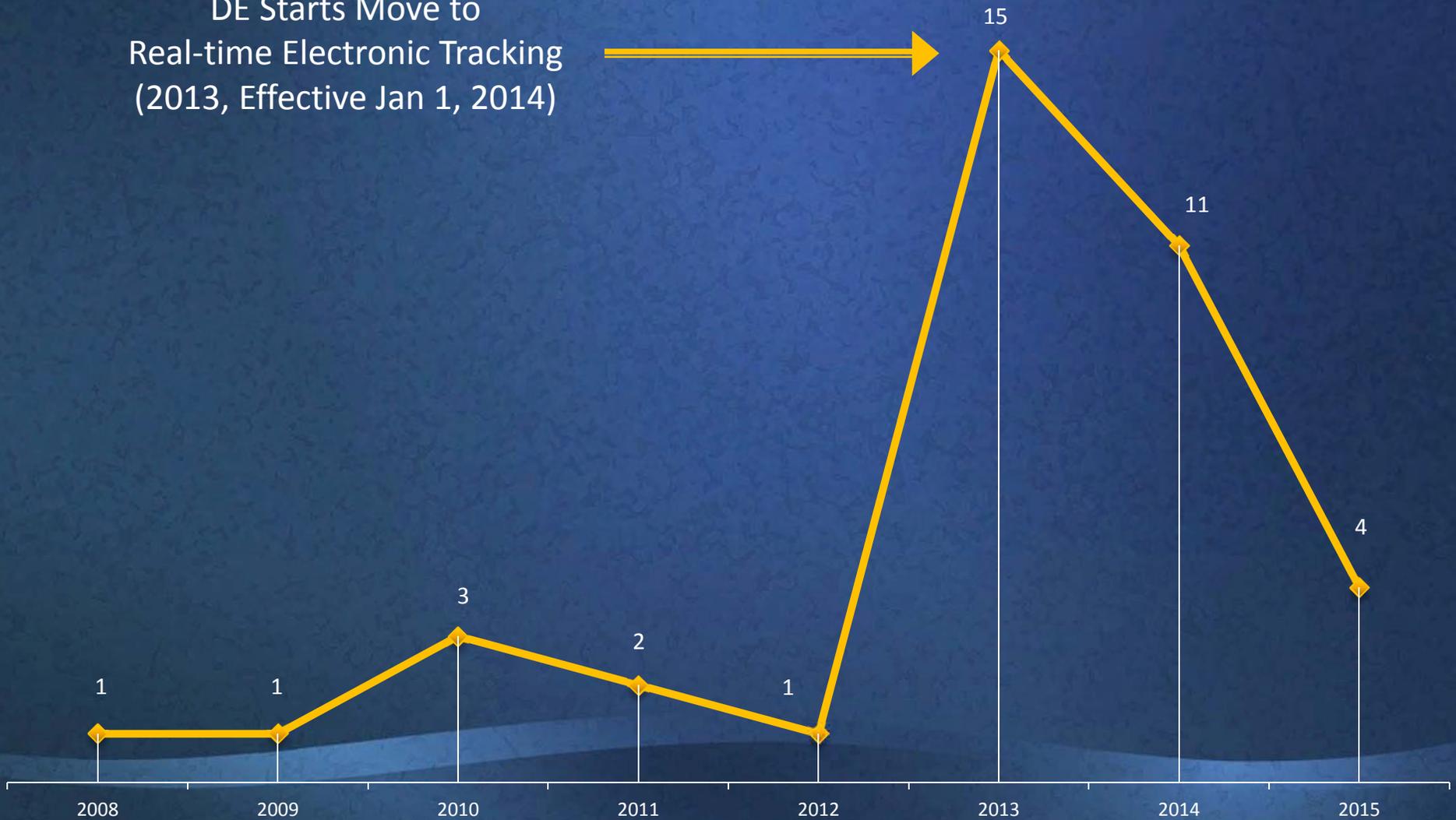
# EPIC SOUTHWEST BORDER METH STATS (CA, AZ, NM, TX)

YEAR	KILOGRAMS SEIZED
CY 2001	1,879.41 KG
CY 2002	1,217.69 KG
CY 2003	1,965.56 KG
CY 2004	2,436.97 KG
CY 2005	3,041.42 KG
CY 2006	2,875.07 KG
CY 2007	1,885.96 KG
CY 2008	2,236.74 KG
CY 2009	3,534.19 KG
CY 2010	5,513.76 KG
CY 2011	8,589.12 KG
CY 2012	12,541.87 KG
CY 2013	14,576.80 KG
CY 2014	16,139.68 KG
CY 2015	17,884.53 KG



# Delaware Meth Lab Incidents

DE Starts Move to  
Real-time Electronic Tracking  
(2013, Effective Jan 1, 2014)



# Domestic Meth

- Today's Home-Grown Methamphetamine
  - 3 to 4 times easier to make and 3 to 4 times more potent than the old drug
  - Common chemicals purchased over the counter
  - 1 to 4 hours to cook a batch (old method took 20+ hours)
  - Accounts for 98% of all reported clandestine labs.

EPIC 2004



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*Why do we have the  
CMEA?*

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# Domestic Chemical Trafficking



To limit the domestic manufacture of methamphetamine by placing restrictions on the sale of Pseudoephedrine, ephedrine and phenylpropanolamine at retail outlets.

# What information must be in the logbook?

- You must keep a logbook which contains a written or electronic list of sales of drug products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine.
- You must write or enter in the logbook the name of the drug product and the quantity sold.
- Your customer must write or enter in the logbook their name and address, and the date and time of the sale.
- Your customer must also sign the logbook (signature).

# Identification and Verification

- Your customer must show you a photo identification issued by a State or the federal government.
- Alternate Forms of Identification are allowed by 8 CFR 274a.2(b)(1)(v)(A) and 274a.2(b)(1)(v)(B) and include but are not limited to:
  - United States passport (unexpired or expired).
  - Alien Registration Receipt Card or Permanent Resident Card, Form I-551.
  - An unexpired foreign passport that contains a temporary I-551 stamp.
  - An unexpired Employment Authorization Document issued by the Immigration And Naturalization Service which contains a photograph, Form I-766; Form I-688, Form I-688A, or Form I-688B.

# Identification and Verification

- You cannot sell Scheduled Listed Chemical Products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine to customers unless they present appropriate identification.
- You must verify that your customer's name on the photo identification matches the name your customer wrote in the logbook.
- You must verify that the date and time of the sale that your customer wrote in the logbook are correct.

## When is my customer NOT required to sign the logbook?

- If your customer buys a single package containing not more than 60 milligrams of pseudoephedrine\* (one 60 mg tablet or two 30 mg tablets)
  - Your customer does not have to sign the logbook.
  - Your customer does not have to show identification.

\* Note: does not apply to ephedrine or phenylpropanolamine

# Who can see the logbook information?

- You must keep the logbook secure.
- You may share information in the logbook:
  - To comply with the law; and
  - For a product recall.
- Logbook information may only be shown to local, state and federal law enforcement.
- Information in the logbook may be copied, inspected only, or turned over entirely.
- Ask your supervisor for further information about sharing information.

# How do I store these drug products?

- You must store drug products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine either behind the counter or in a locked cabinet.
- You must give the drug product directly to the customer who signed the logbook.

# How much of these drug products can I sell to each customer per day?

- You cannot sell more than 3.6 grams per day to each customer of Scheduled Listed Chemical Products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine or phenylpropanolamine.

# How much of these drug products can my customer buy in a 30-day period?

- Your customer cannot buy more than 9 grams in a 30-day period of Scheduled Listed Chemical Products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine.

Does not apply to products dispensed pursuant to a valid prescription



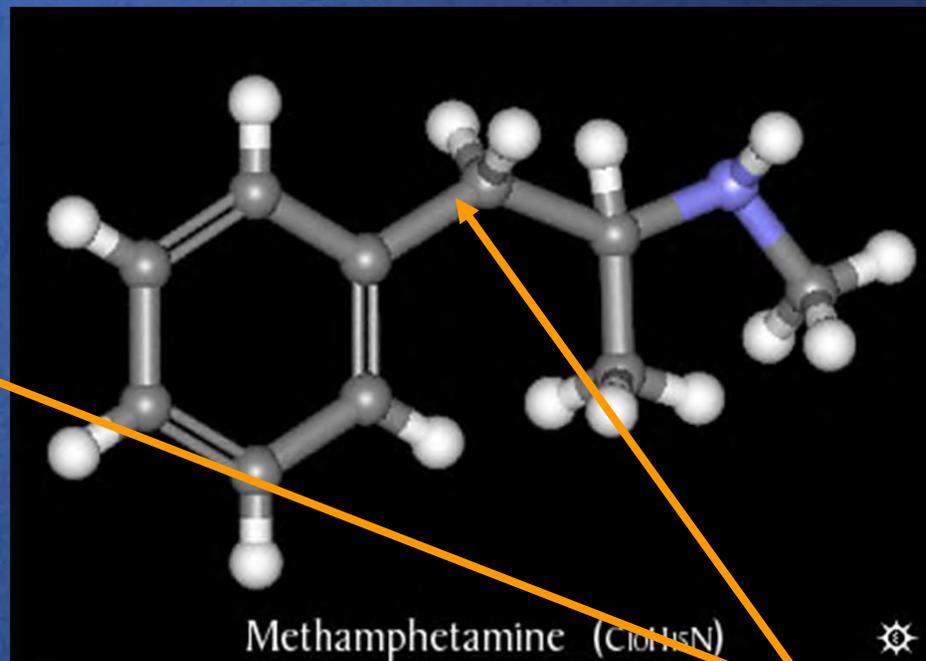
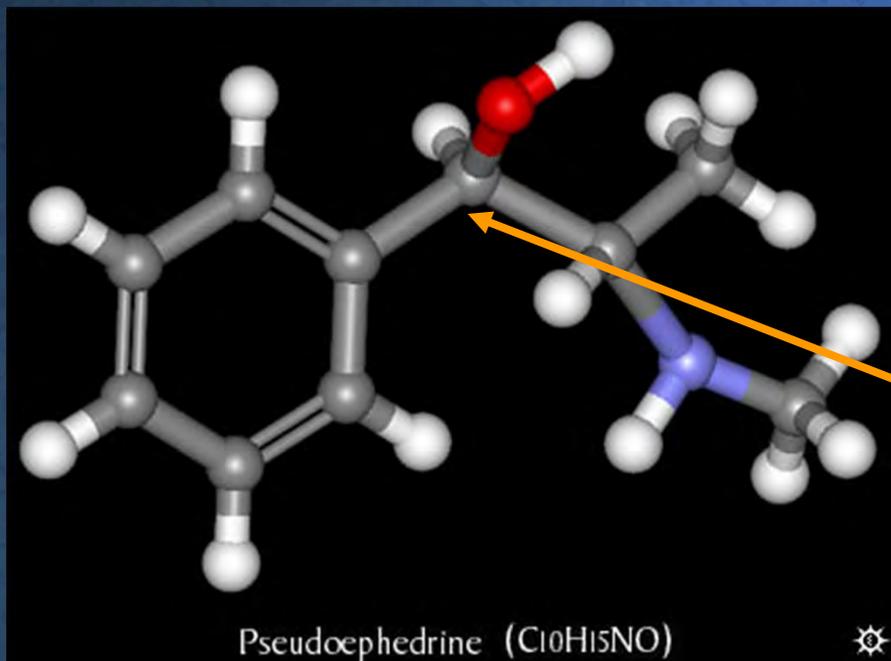
*Why Pseudoephedrine  
or Ephedrine to Make  
Methamphetamine?*



# A Molecular Comparison

Pseudoephedrine

Methamphetamine



What's the big deal with Pseudoephedrine? The answer is basically **One Oxygen Molecule**. The molecular similarity of pseudo to meth is so close that using today's common methamphetamine manufacturing methods ("Shake & Bake" Red-Phosphorus or Anhydrous / Nazi method) simply reduce the molecular structure of pseudoephedrine/ ephedrine by one Oxygen molecule to create Methamphetamine.



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# *Meth's Effects*

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# Psychological Effects

- Delusions
- Extreme paranoia
- Hallucinations
- Increased alertness
- Sense of well-being
- Prolonged depression
- Excessive excitation and talking
- Panic
- Anxiousness and nervousness
- Moodiness and irritability

Cheri

# Meth Addiction

- When compared to Alcohol and Cocaine:
  - A group of 100 people given a drink of alcohol every day for 3 weeks, 8 of the 100 will become addicted.
  - A group of 100 people given meth or cocaine orally or as snuff every day for 3 weeks, 14 of the 100 will become addicted.
  - A group of 100 people given meth by smoking or injection just 2 times, 90 of the 100 will become addicted.
  - If a recovering meth addict, who has been clean for 11 months, has a hit of meth in placed in front of them, the desire to use it will cause the addict to use it, 100% of the time.





◀ An individual suffering from "crank bugs", a condition sometimes seen in cases of heavy methamphetamine abuse. A similar condition, called "coke bugs" or "snow bugs", is also seen in heavy cocaine users. This is a drug induced hallucination or sensation that bugs are crawling on or under the skin. The abuser picks at the skin in an attempt to remove the bugs. The individual pictured had similar marks on his legs, face, chest and back.

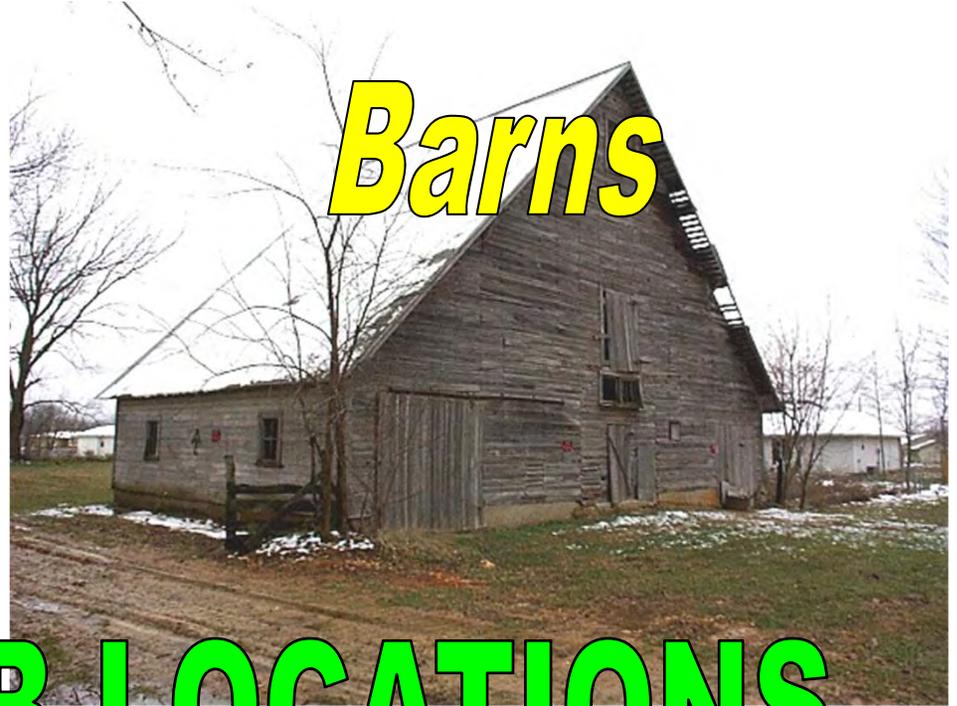




## *Lab Locations*



*Houses*



*Barns*

**POSSIBLE LAB LOCATIONS**



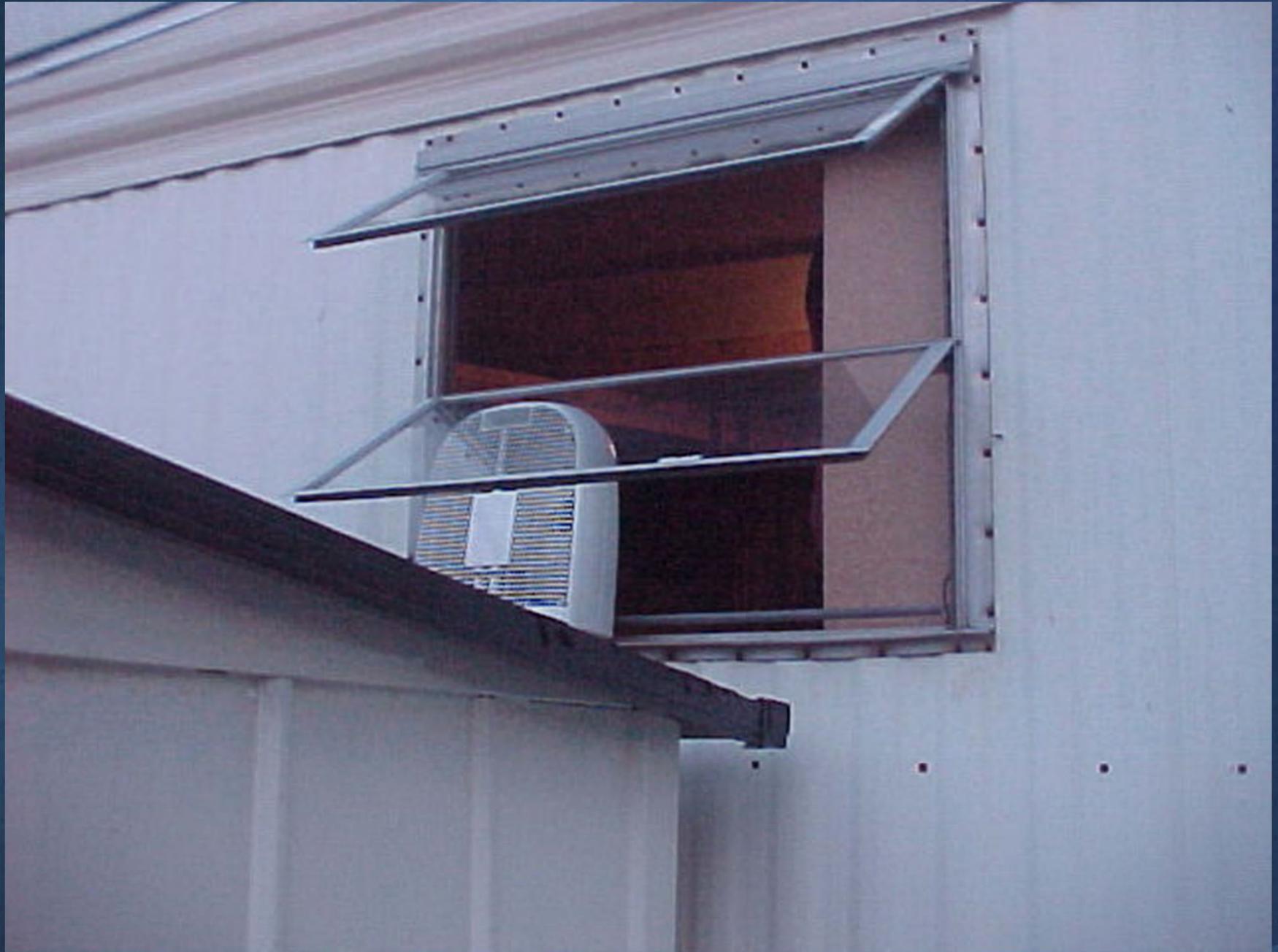
*Storage Units*



*"Vacant" Buildings*

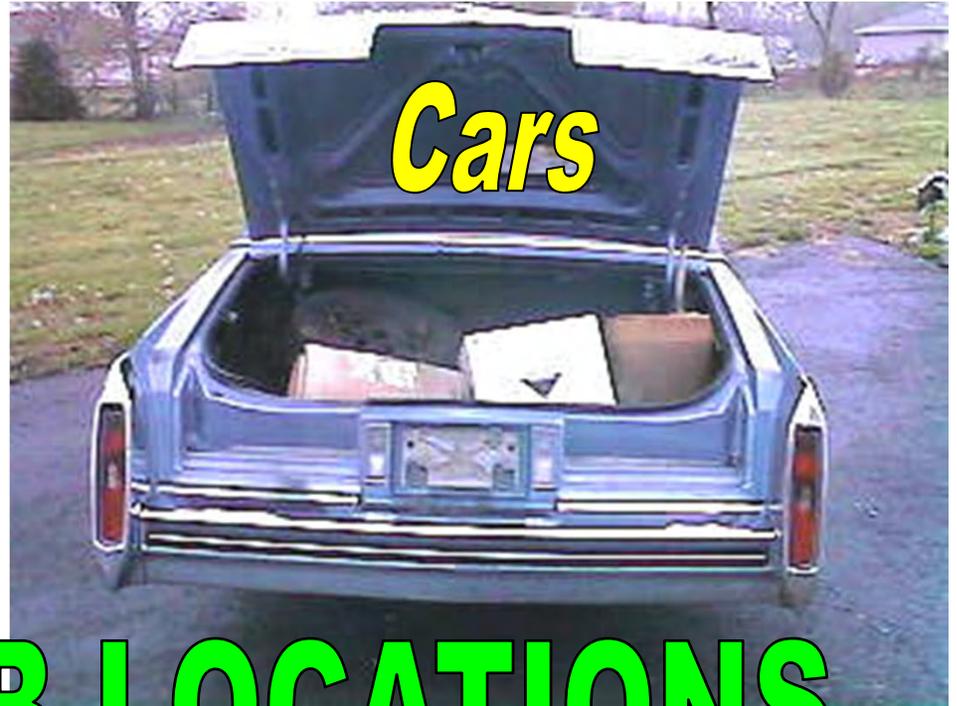








*Camper*



*Cars*

**POSSIBLE LAB LOCATIONS**



*Trailers*



*Motels*





Mobile Meth Lab found  
inside of truck during a  
traffic stop.





<http://atom.smasher.org/construction/>



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## *Lab Dangers*

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# Meth Labs are Endangering our Communities Florida & Alabama

“Meth lab explodes inside South  
Jacksonville apartment”



August 17, 2011 The Florida  
Times Union

“Janitor finds meth lab in Walmart  
bathroom”



WHNT April 11, 2012  
Boaz, Alabama

# Meth Labs are Endangering our Communities Washington, D.C & Nation

“Meth Lab Explosion Rocks Luxury  
Apartment in Dupont Apartment”



February 2, 2012  
[inthecapital.com](http://inthecapital.com)

“AP Exclusive: National Meth Labs  
Busts up in 2011”



February 22, 2012  
Associated Press

# Meth Labs are Being Found At & Near Our Schools Indiana & Michigan

“Two meth labs found at Elementary School”



ABC57news April 4, 2012  
Plymouth, Indiana

“Meth Lab Next to Elementary School”



9 & 10 News April 2, 2012  
Luther, Michigan

# Meth Labs are Being Found At & Near Our Schools Georgia

“Police bust meth lab next to elementary school”



WTOC.com March 29, 2012  
Kingsland, Georgia

“Meth lab found in truck at South Effingham Middle School”

“Lawrence Lanier, 34, had two small children in his truck within arm’s reach of a meth lab when he was arrested at South Effingham Middle School, Effingham County Sheriff’s Office spokesman David Ehsanipoor said.”

Savannahnow.com April 10, 2012

# Meth Labs are Harming Our Environment Tennessee & Kentucky

“Man Dumped Meth Waste  
Into Trout Stream.”



“My concern is this is a trout stream,  
there are kids that fish this area,” said  
Sheriff Hensley”

April 25, 2012 WCYB.com

“Dumping meth labs – Materials pose  
threat to environment, including water  
supply, fish and wildlife”



“The bad news is for the public Loving said,  
because the chemicals left behind are now in the  
river where people fish and swim.”

BG DailyNews.com August 19, 2011

# are Dangerous







“Two men plead guilty in meth lab-lab fire that heavily damaged Kalamazoo apartment building”

Kalamazoo Gazette March 31, 2010





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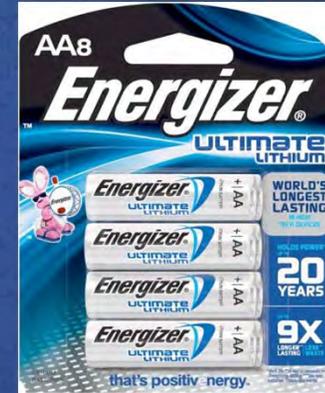
*Today's Lab*

*One Pot/Shake and Bake*

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# Production

How many of these are in your store?



# One Pot Meth Production

- Combine

- PSE tablets – whole or ground up
- Solvent – ether, camp fuel
- Lithium (Batteries)
- Sodium Hydroxide
- Ammonium Nitrate (cold packs)
- Water

- Burp, Wait, Repeat

- Filter off liquid
- Use HCl generator to crash out Meth





# Extremely Dangerous One-Pot labs

- One-Pot labs newest trend extremely Dangerous
- Clan lab stats increase in many states
- Reactive to water/moisture
- Meth labs catching fire at a higher rate
- 50% Failure (if it hasn't – it will catch fire)





Pampa, Texas















3:43:34PM  
MAY 24 2010





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*AVAILABILITY OF  
MANUFACTURING  
MATERIALS!!!!!!!!!!!!*

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“BlackFriday”  
&  
“Cyber Monday”

Tweaker Tuesday”

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 • 20 ct. Allegra-D 12 Hour  
 Limit 1 Allegra-D.



**\$4 off**  
 with card **Zyrtec Allergy Relief** • 25 or 30 ct. 24 Hour  
 • 24 ct. 12 Hour Zyrtec-D  
 Limit 1 Zyrtec-D.



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 Excludes \$5, \$7 and \$9 multipacks.

**buy 1 get 1 50% off**  
 with card \*Of equal or lesser price on same brand



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 with card **Support Braces and Elastic Bandages**  
 Walgreens by Ace.



**buy 1 get 1 50% off**  
 with card **First Aid** • Cortaid, .5 to 1.5 oz. • 8 to 80 pk. select Band-Aid Bandages • Neosporin Antibiotic, .26 or .5 oz. • J&J Dressings, Pads, Gauze, Tape or First Aid Kits

\*Only available on in-store purchases. Card and Sunday paper coupon required for pricing.

10,11,24,26,40,41,53,54,64,67

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- 3.99** with card Bathroom Tissue or Laundry Products
  - 6 double rolls Charmin Bathroom Tissue • Downy Liquid, 40 loads or 80 pk. Sheets • 70 or 80 pk. Bounce Sheets • 10 pk. Tide Stain Release
- 9.99** with card Gain Laundry Detergent, 48 or 64 loads.
- 4.99** with card Bounty Paper Towels, 6 rolls.
- 2/\$3** or 1.69 ea. with card Puffs Facial Tissue, 124, 180, 200 or 216 sheets.
- 99¢** with card Dawn Dish Liquid, 9 oz.
- 20% off** with card Febreze, Swiffer and Mr. Clean Household Cleaning Products

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**2.99**  
 Nice!™ Trash Bags, 15 to 36 pk., 13 or 30 gal. Limit 2. No limits in NM. Good Sun. 12/2 thru Sat. 12/8/12

good at Walgreens with **COUPON** and **CARD**

**2/\$3**  
 Reynolds Wrap Aluminum Foil, 30 sq. ft. Limit 2. No limits in NM. Good Sun. 12/2 thru Sat. 12/8/12

**5.99** with card Viva Paper Towels, 6 rolls.

**4.99** with card Household Cleaners  
 Items shown, plus: Pine-Sol All Purpose, 16 or 17 oz. • Tilex Mold & Mildew, 16 oz. • Clorox Toilet Bowl, 2 pk., 2.99 ea.

**2/\$5** with card  
 less coupon savings on 2 in most Sunday papers\*  
 final cost **2/\$4**

**Ziploc Bags**  
 • 15 to 25 pk. Freezer or Storage • 100 pk. Sandwich • 2 to 5 pk. Containers

**free** Scrubbing Bubbles One Step or Fresh Brush Refill (3.99 VALUE)  
 with card and purchase below.

**7.99** with card Scrubbing Bubbles Toilet Cleaner Kits

**balance rewards**  
 buy 2 or more get **1,500 points** or 1 got 500 points

**4.49** with card Gade Air Fresheners  
 Items shown plus: Lasting Impressions Refill • Automatic Spray Refill, 6.2 oz. • Plug-in Warmer Kit • Scented Oil Candle Holder with 3 Refills

\*Only available on in-store purchases. Card and Sunday paper coupon required for pricing.

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**balance rewards** | **2,000 points** with purchase of participating products below.



**19<sup>99</sup>**

**with card** Living Solutions™ or Sylvania Appliances  
• 12 Cup Digital Coffee Maker • Cord Reel Iron • 10 Speed Blender • Personal Blender, 28 oz. • 4 Slice Toaster Oven



**9<sup>99</sup>**

**with card** Blankets or Pillows • Comfy Critters Hooded Blanket Living Solutions™; Sherpa or Fleece Throw, 50x60 or 60x90 in. • Neck or Memory Foam Pillow



**7<sup>99</sup>**

**with card** Living Solutions™ Coffee Accessories • 6 piece Stoneware Cappuccino Mug with Rack • Thermal Travel Set • 18 or 24 Cup Coffee Pod Rack • Coffee pods not included.



**9.99 with card** Twin Size Air Bed

**29<sup>99</sup>**

**with card** Queen Size Air Bed

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\*Of equal or lesser price



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2/\$4  
 or 2.19 ea.  
 with card Wet Ones Wipes, 40 pk.



99¢  
 with card Aluminum Foil Loaf Pan • 2 pk. Standard • 4 pk. Mini



buy 1 get 1  
**free**  
 with card Playtex Gloves • 10 pk. Disposables • 1 pair HandSaver  
\*Of equal or lesser price



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 with card Towel Holder with FingerTip Towel

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 • 4 pk. C or D • 2 pk. 9 volt



**10<sup>99</sup>**

**with card Duracell Batteries**  
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 Ultra Power: 12 pk. AA or AAA  
 • **11.99** Coppertop: 4 pk. 9 volt or 8 pk. C or D



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- Includes double minutes
- Bluetooth, camera and web access



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**with card Tracfone Cellphone Samsung EX431.**

Phone type and carrier may vary by store. Phones not available in all stores. Prepaid cellular phone card must be same brand as phone provider. Phone and service card sold separately. \*Shrink reduces your monthly payment by \$5/mo. for every \$ on line payments, up to \$15/mo. in total.

- Monthly unlimited with SHRINKAGE<sup>™</sup>
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**49<sup>99</sup>**

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buy 1 at 10.99 get 1 **free**

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 One-Time-Use. 800 speed, 27 exp.

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after rebate **499**

Accu-Chek Nano or Aviva Blood Glucose Monitor

buy 1 get 1  
**50% off\*** with card  
Children's Ibuprofen or Acetaminophen Walgreens Suspension, Infants' Drops, Meltaways or Suppositories. Select varieties.  
\*Of equal or lesser price

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• 5 or 10 ct. Wal-Itin<sup>®</sup>-D or Wal-Fex D<sup>™</sup>  
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• 20 ct. Mucus Relief D Limit 1 D Product

coupon savings  
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final cost **399**

Coricidin or Afrin  
• 16 or 20 ct. Coricidin  
• Afrin Nasal Spray, .5 oz.

\*Rebate form in package. See form for terms, exclusions, expiration, restrictions and details. Rebate offered by manufacturer.  
†Only available on in-store purchases. Card and Sunday coupon required for pricing.

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*Time To Gather*

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# What is a Smurf?

A smurf is someone who buys small quantities of ingredients (e.g., PSE, ice packs, lithium, matches, iodine), from several different locations, in order to manufacture, or more likely, assist in the manufacture of methamphetamine.





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# *Tracking vs Scheduling*

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# Tracking

- Logbooks electronically connected to database
- Database determines if individual can make purchase
- Permanent electronic record of purchase
- Stop sale ability
- Helps LE identify smurfers
- Leads to identification of lab operators and labs
- More arrests and seizures....maybe
- Great tool for LE ..... If all retail outlets are involved and the database is not corrupted by false IDs
- In Place - KY, MO\*, AR\*, CA\*, ++++++

# (Associated Press) “Analysis Finds Meth Flourishes Despite Tracking Laws”

“Electronic systems that track sales of the cold medicine used to make methamphetamine have failed to curb the drug trade and instead created a vast, highly lucrative market for profiteers to buy over-the-counter pills and sell them to meth producers at a huge markup.”

“The pharmaceutical industry has spent several million dollars to fund the tracking systems. For drug makers, that is far cheaper than one alternative -- making the medication available only by prescription. If more states do the same, it could be devastating for makers of cold and sinus pills. The pseudoephedrine market is estimated at more than \$550 million annually. “

Associated Press – January 11, 2011

# Schedule III Prescription Only

- PSE and EPH can only be obtained pursuant to prescription from a physician or practitioner
- Cannot freely purchase from retail outlets - ends unrestricted availability and smurfing
- If a CS, PDMP may be utilized for tracking purposes (if authorized by state law or regulation)
- In place in Oregon – 96% lab seizure reduction
- In place in Mississippi – 67% reduction
- Decrease in labs leads to a decrease in resources expended – LE and local/city/state funds (OT, lab cleanups, environmental issues, children/defs/citizens/cops health care, foster care etc)
- LE can restructure resources to handle other LE issues instead of providing cleanup service and chasing smurfers
- Prevents labs – is not a reactive tool, but a preventative measure



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## *Final Thoughts*

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positive for meth



# Meth Labs are Harming Our Children Oklahoma

“OKLAHOMA CITY - A judge was told Friday that Del City fire investigators found evidence that methamphetamine was made inside the burned motorhome where three young children died Jan. 4.” [July 23, 2011 newsOK.com](http://newsOK.com)



[Tulsa World & Newson6.com](http://TulsaWorld.com) January 5, 2011

# Harming Our Children Florida

“Meth Lab Baby; A child’s fight for life.”



November 13, 2009  
FoxTV.com Florida

# Meth Labs are Endangering our Children Indiana & Florida

“ Police believe a Muncie couple put the lives of hundreds of children – including three of their own – in danger by maintaining a meth lab in their southeast Muncie home near a school and a day care center.”

Muncie Star Press December 32, 2011

“Police seek person who made meth at SW IND school”

Wish TV 8 December 13, 2011



• “4 children escape meth lab fire

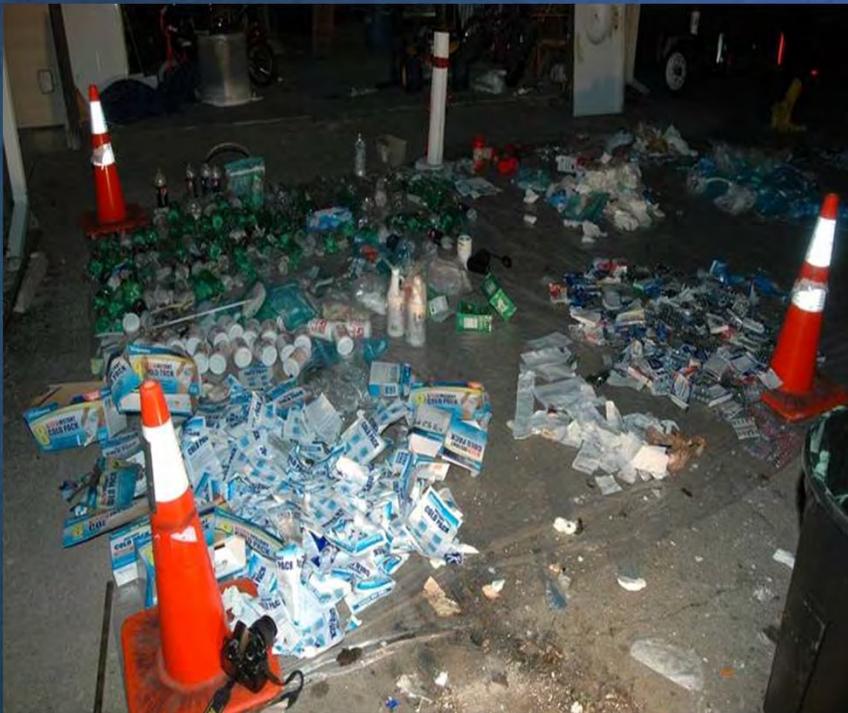


FoxTV.com Florida  
October 27, 2011

# Meth Labs are Endangering our Children

## Indiana & Georgia

- “Report: Chattooga Co. woman hides meth lab under children's play house”



July 22, 2011 WSBT-TV



The Summerville News April 16, 2012

# Meth Labs are Endangering our Children & Families

## West Virginia & Michigan

- “Meth lab explosion forces five families out of their apartments”

“The number of meth labs is on the rise in West Virginia, and more than half are happening in homes with children.”

WSZ3 November 22, 2011



Hillsdale.net April 6, 2012  
Cambria, Michigan

# Meth Labs are Endangering our Children & Families Ohio

**“Death of Akron toddler called suspicious; police say meth lab found in home.”**

**“Ohio toddler died from ingesting meth”**

Akron Beacon Journal Online  
February 27, 2012 & March 27, 2012



# Meth Labs are Endangering our Children & Families Georgia

**“3 Children Killed, Evidence Of Meth Found In Fire”**

**“GWINNETT COUNTY, Ga. -- Gwinnett County police charged a man with murder after firefighters said they found chemicals related to methamphetamine production in a house fire that killed three children.”**



Gadailynews.com February 18, 2011

# Meth Labs are Endangering our Children & Families Tennessee

## “Burned toddler found in Chattanooga meth lab”

“A Chattanooga woman has been arrested after police say her 2-year-old was severely burned at the family's residence -- where they also found a collection of meth labs.”

Chattanooga Times Free Press February 13, 2012



# Meth Labs are Endangering our Children & Families North Carolina



**“Sheriff Hubert Peterkin said Thursday his deputies raided a suspected meth operation near the Hoke/Cumberland County line where a 6-month-old child was burned. .”**

February 4, 2011 WTVD

Raleigh , N.C.

**“In Morgantown, a meth lab was discovered at a day-care center.”**

**[www.charlotteobserver.com](http://www.charlotteobserver.com) April 3, 2011**

# Meth Labs are Endangering our Children & Costly Missouri

Statewide, there were 547 substantiated reports involving 987 children exposed to meth labs from January 2006 to December 2010, according to the Missouri Department of Social Services. The state took custody of 507 of these children. DSS estimates the state has spent about \$3.4 million providing custodial care to children removed from meth homes from August 2005 to December 2010.

News leader.com February 25, 2012



# George J. Lutz Jr.

## Diversion Investigator

DEA Milwaukee District Office  
4725 West Electric Ave.  
West Milwaukee, WI 53219  
414-336-7372

Email: [George.J.Lutz@usdoj.gov](mailto:George.J.Lutz@usdoj.gov)

