

OVERDOSES NARCOTICS AND MEMPHIS

Detective Matthew Charles
Investigator
OCU-Heroin Opioid Response Team



AGENDA

- Introduction
- HORT Team
- What is an Overdose?
- Signs of an overdose
- Handling OD Cases
- Autopsy and Toxicology Reports
- Narcotics seen in City of Memphis
- Statistics of Overdoses in Memphis



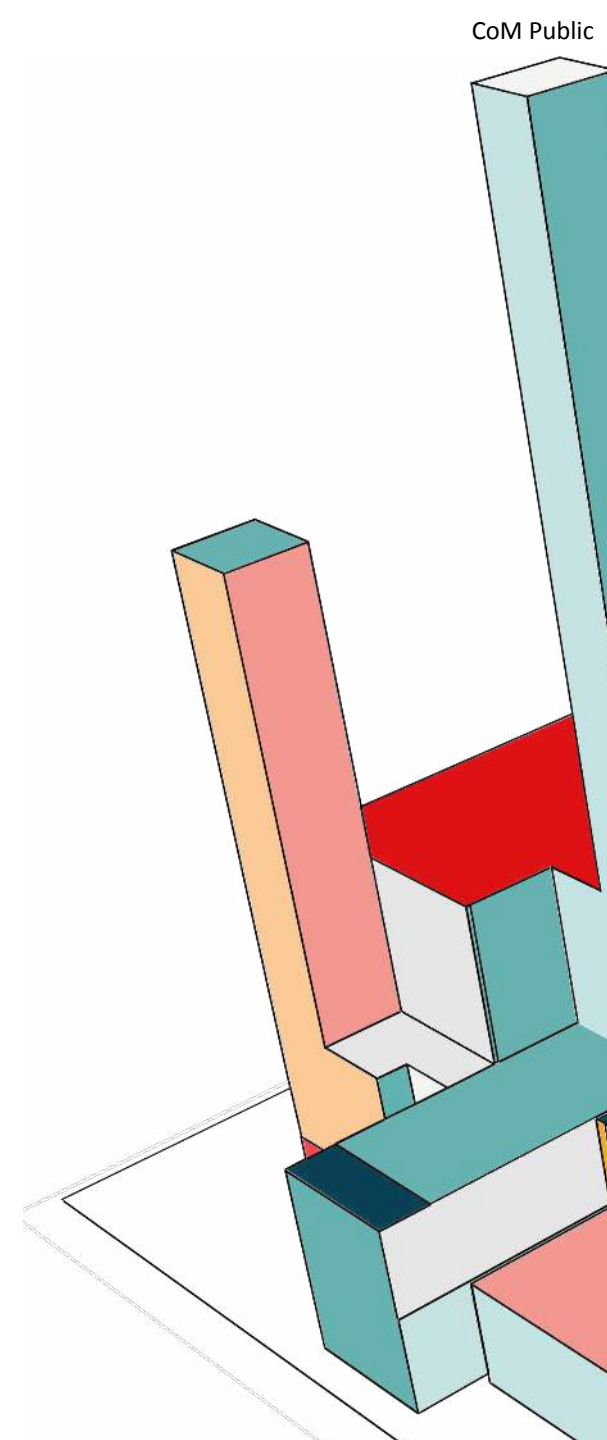
DETECTIVE MATTHEW CHARLES

- Native of Little Rock, Arkansas
- 2012-Graduated from Christian Brother's University
 - Biology and Chemistry
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital- Developmental Neurobiology- Intern
- Memphis Police Department- 2013 (Class 117)
 - Mt. Moriah, Raines
- Organized Crime Unit- 2016
 - CAT Team, Vice, HORT, Meth Lab Team
- Avid Motorsports, Soccer, Gaming fan



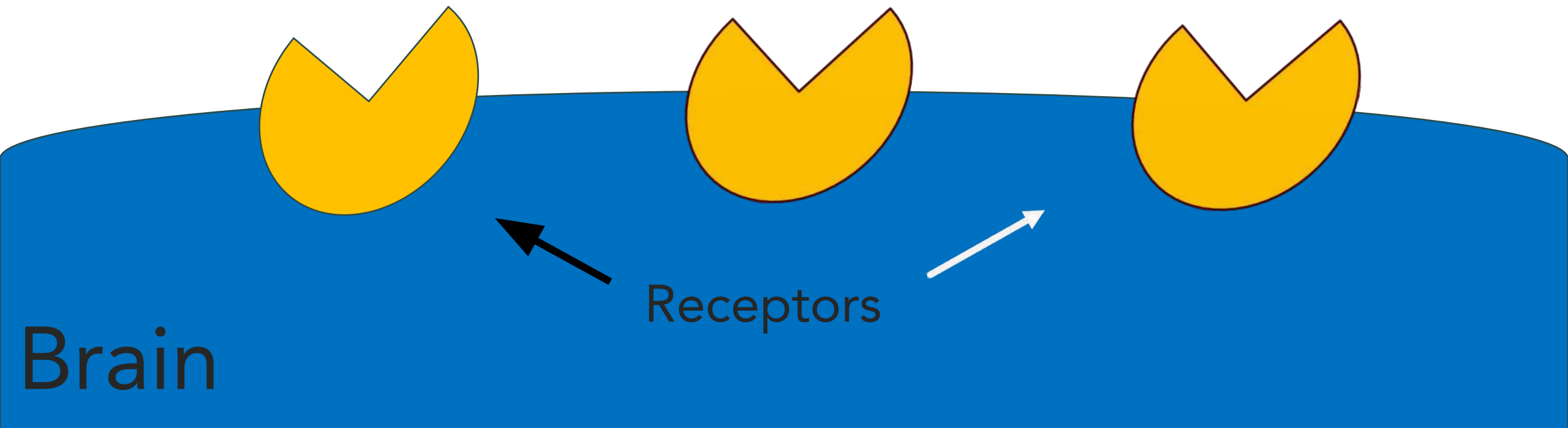
HORT- HEROIN OPIOID RESPONSE TEAM

- Organized Crime Unit
- Primarily responsible for investigation of both Fatal and Non-Fatal Overdoses.
 - Providers of illegal narcotics- Drug Dealers, maybe.
 - Repeat Overdoses
- Issuance and tracking of Narcan.
- Pill Take-back receptacles.
- Narcotic cases.
- Clandestine Lab Investigations.



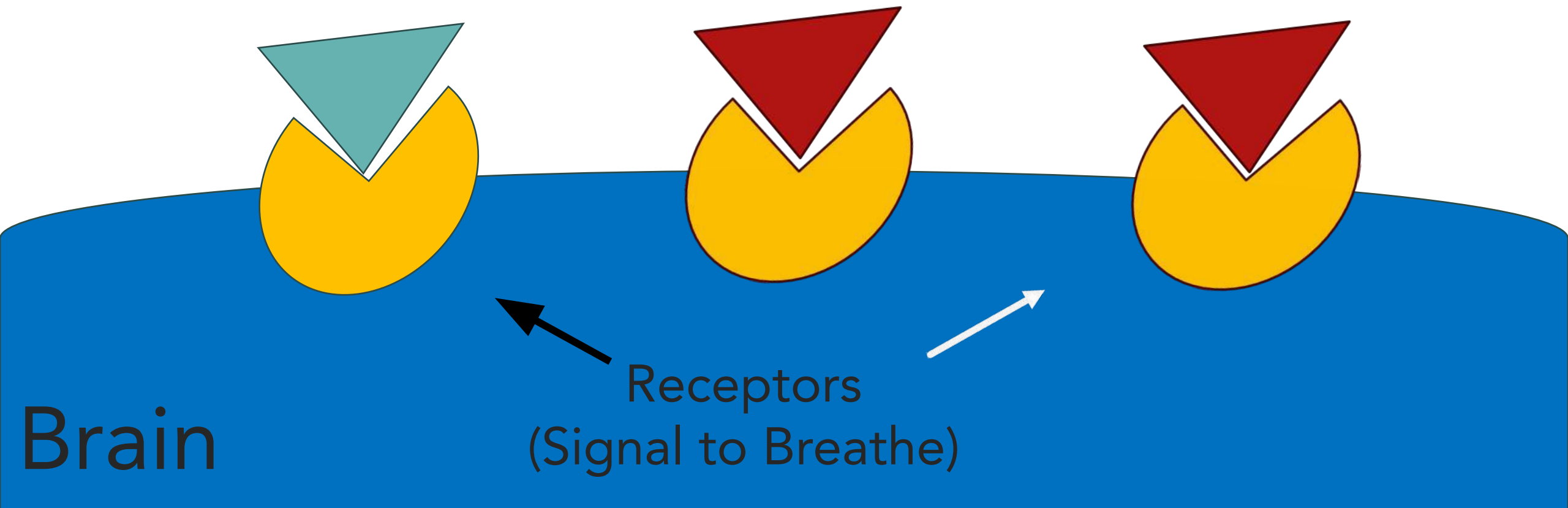
WHAT IS AN OVERDOSE?





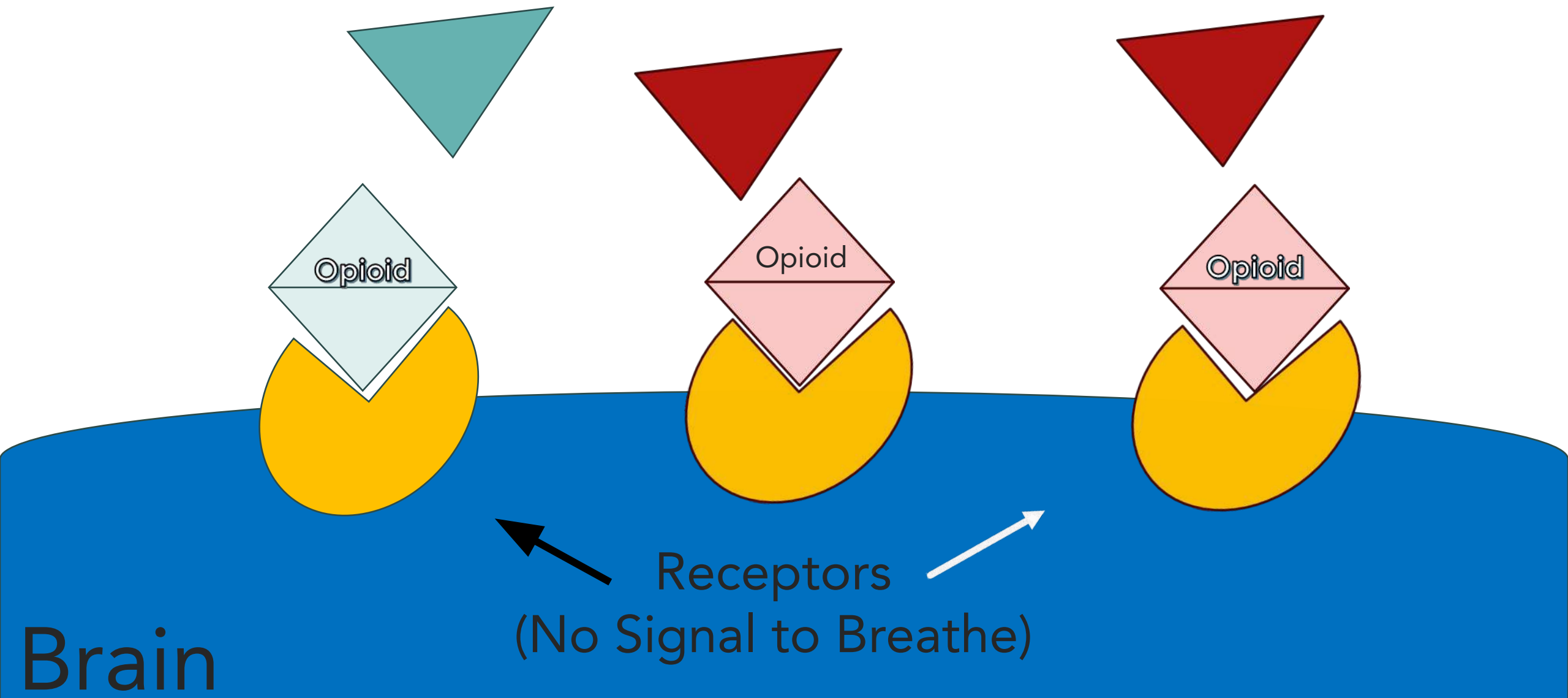
Brain

Receptors



Brain

Receptors
(Signal to Breathe)



00 WINS

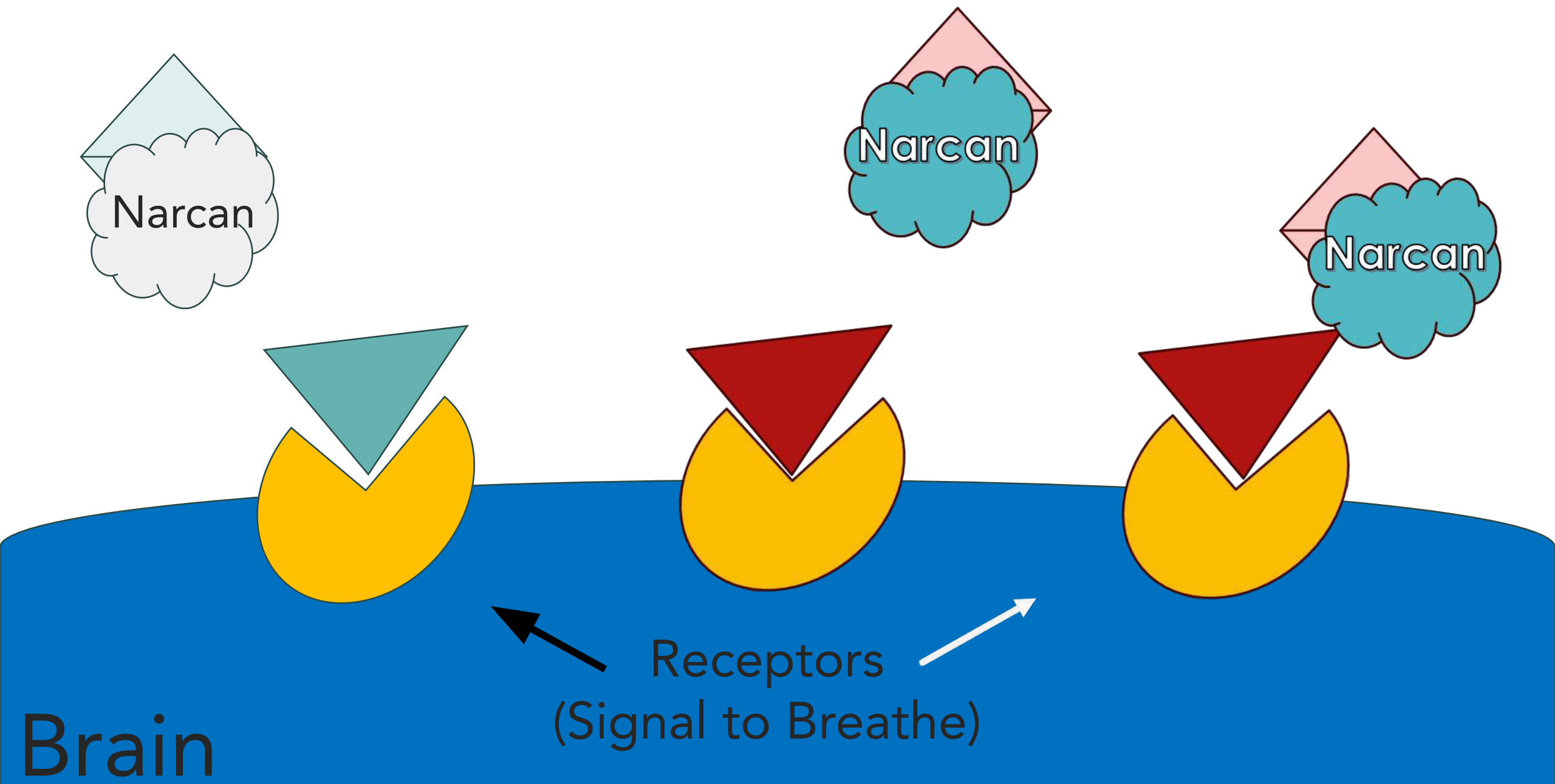
CAGE

38

00 WINS

REPTILE





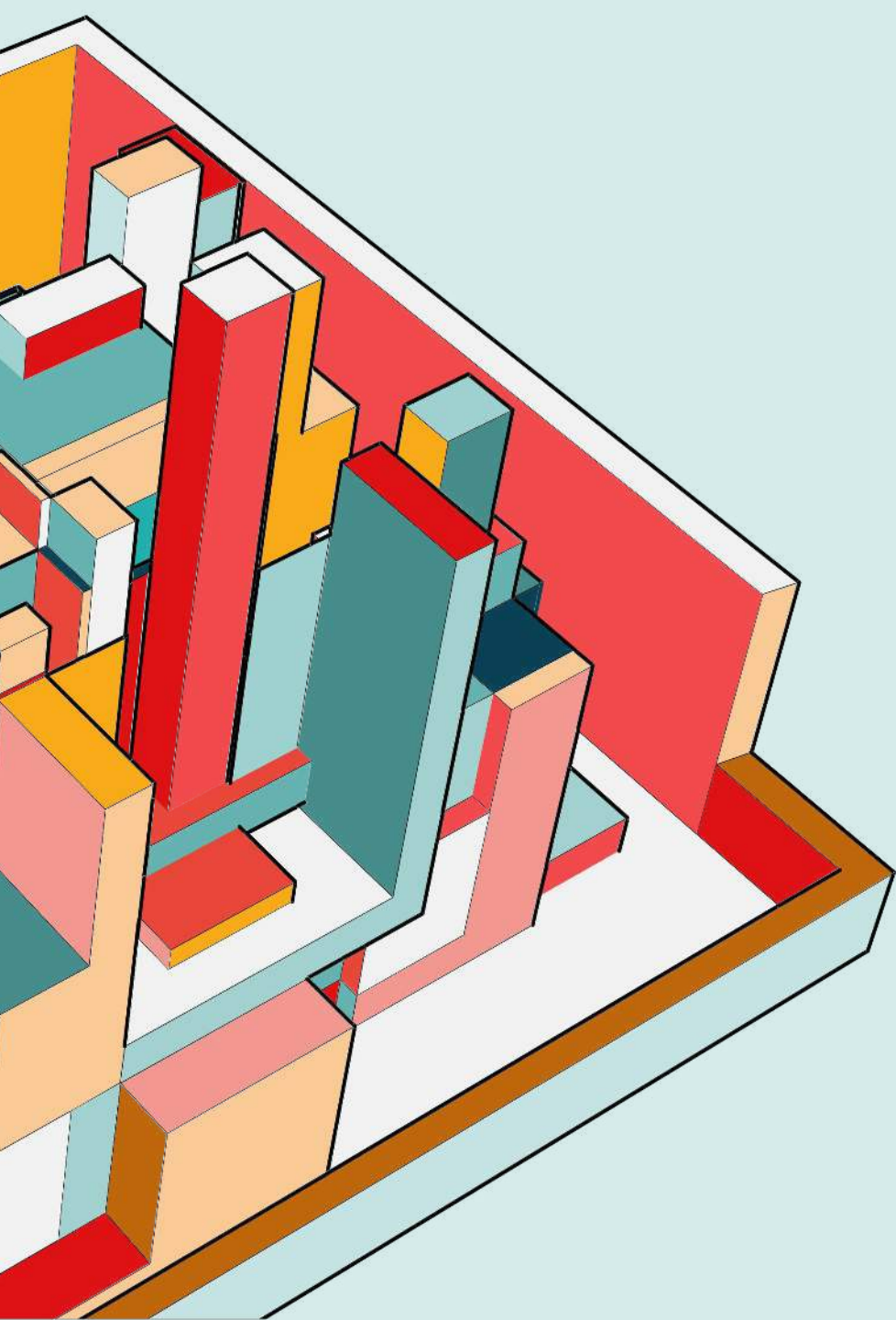
Narcan

Narcan

Narcan

Brain

Receptors
(Signal to Breathe)



MPD NARCAN PROGRAM

NARCAN

- Responsible for the issuance of Narcan to each officer and precinct.
- Collection of Narcan Reporting Forms that are filled out each time Narcan is administered.
- Since 2018, MPD has assisted approximately 892 individual in City of Memphis.







MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT NALOXONE (NARCAN) REPORTING FORM



REPORT TO BE COMPLETED BY PRIMARY OFFICER

Date of Occurrence: _____ Report #: _____ CAD #: _____
 Reporting Officer (Name/IBM): _____ Naloxone Kit #: _____
 Affected Officer/Civilian: _____ Administering Officer: _____
 Witness Officer: _____ Scene Supervisor: _____
 Location of Occurrence: _____ MFD Unit #: _____
 Emergency Care Facility: _____

- When did the overdose/exposure occur?
Date: _____ Approximate Time: _____
- Where did the overdose/exposure occur?
 Residence
 Work facility
 Street
 Hotel/Motel
 Other, explain: _____
- Gender of the officer or civilian:
 Male Female
- Ethnicity of the officer or civilian:
 Caucasian/White
 African American/Black
 Asian
 Hispanic/Latino
 American Indian
 Other: _____
- How did you know the officer/civilian overdosed? (Check all that apply)
 Victim looked blue
 Victim wouldn't wake up
 Victim stopped breathing
 No response to sternal rub or painful stimuli
 Witness statement
 Other: _____
- What drugs (present at scene or suspected) were involved in the overdose? (Check all that apply)
 Heroin Oxycodone Alcohol
 Codeine Methamphetamine GHB
 Morphine Methadone Benzodiazepines, 'benzos' (eg. valium)
 Fentanyl Cocaine/Crack Other: _____

NALOXONE (NARCAN) REPORTING FORM

- Did the officer or civilian who was administered Naloxone (Narcan):
 A. Experience any symptoms of withdrawal?
 None
 Mild
 Severe
 B. Display aggression because of these symptoms?
 Yes No
- How long did it take for Naloxone (Narcan) to work? (Check one answer)
 Immediately
 30 Seconds
 One minute
 90 Seconds
 2 minutes
 3 minutes
 More than 3 minutes
 Did not appear to have an affect
- How many milligrams of Naloxone (Narcan) were administered?
 Four
 Eight
 Twelve
 Sixteen
 Other: _____
- Did the officer or civilian survive the overdose/exposure?
 Yes
 No
 Unknown
- Did you experience any problems carrying or deploying Narcan?
 No
 Yes, please specify: _____

Attached a copy to the Incident Report and take a photo in Watson Reporting.

Please forward the completed form(s) to the Organized Crime Unit Naloxone (Narcan) Coordinator.

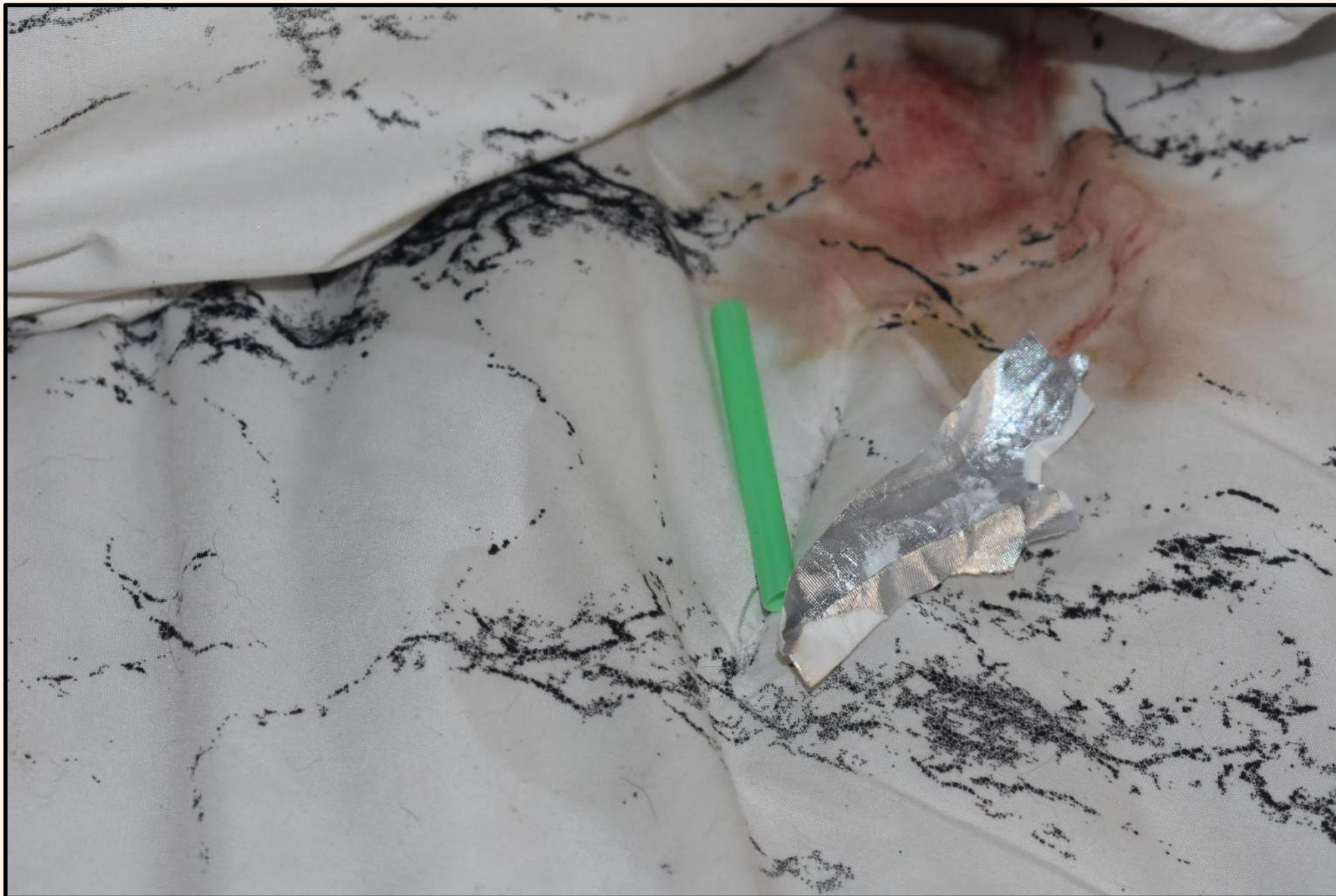
CC: Duty Station/Health and Safety Office/Organized Crime Unit

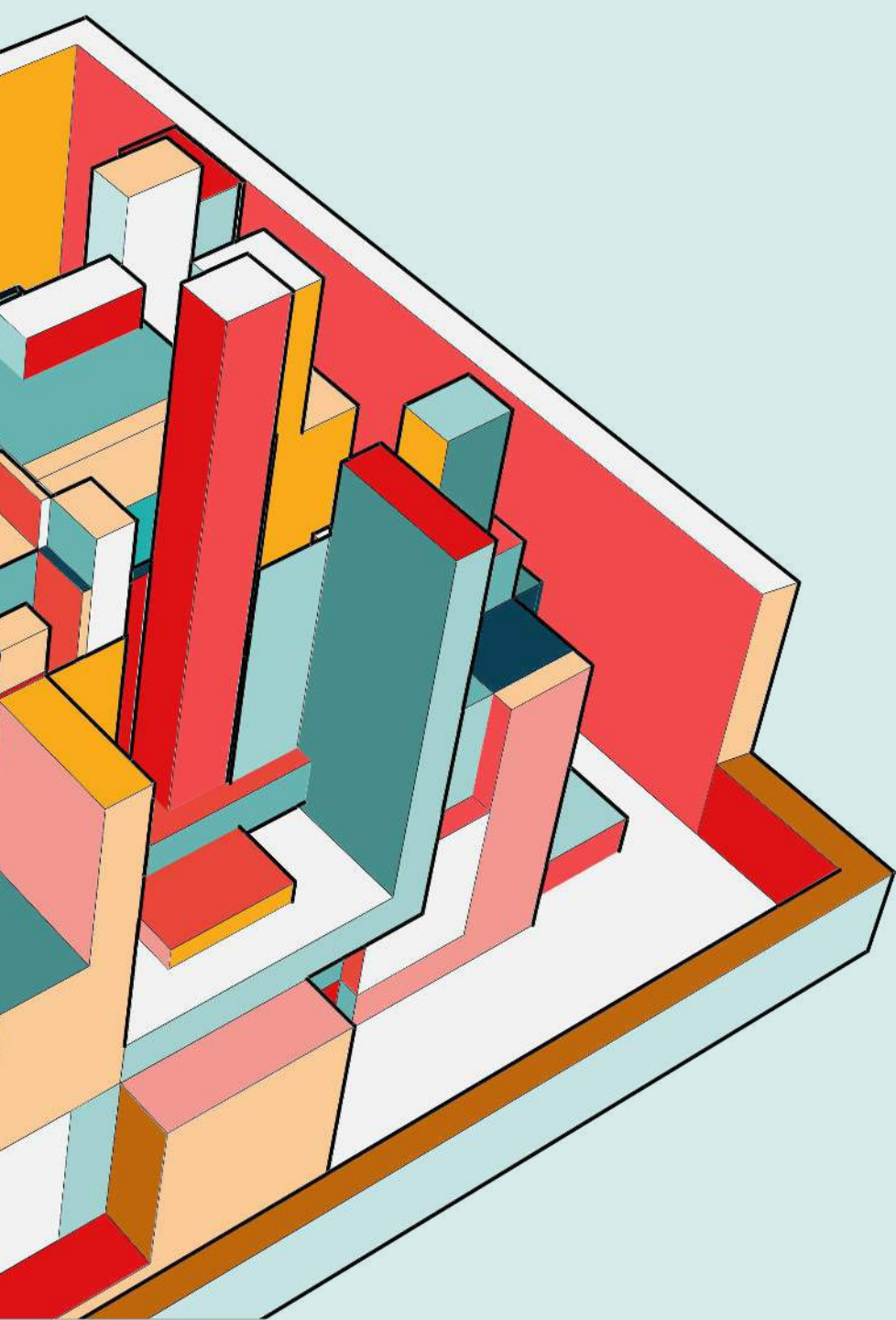


SIGNS OF AN OVERDOSE

TYPES OF OVERDOSE SIGNS

- Blue Lips or skin (Cyanosis)
- Breathing complications
 - Diaphragm
 - Snoring
- Foam Cone
 - Discharge from Lungs
- Loss of consciousness
- Syringes
- Plastic baggies with powders
- Powders
- Ligatures
- Burned aluminum foil
- Cut plastic straws
- Fentanyl testing strips





HANDLING OF OVERDOSE CASES

SECOND DEGREE MURDER (TCA)



39-13-210. Second degree murder.

(a) **Second degree** murder is:

- (1) A knowing killing of another;
- (2) A killing of another that results from the unlawful distribution of any Schedule I or Schedule II drug, when the drug is the proximate cause of the death of the user; or
- (3) A killing of another by unlawful distribution or unlawful delivery or unlawful dispensation of fentanyl or carfentanil, when those substances alone, or in combination with any substance scheduled as a controlled substance by the Tennessee Drug Control Act of 1989, compiled in chapter 17, part 4 of this title and in title 53, chapter 11, parts 3 and 4, including controlled substance analogs, is the proximate cause of the death of the user.

(b) In a prosecution for a violation of this section, if the defendant knowingly engages in multiple incidents of domestic abuse, assault or the infliction of bodily injury against a single victim, the trier of fact may infer that the defendant was aware that the cumulative effect of the conduct was reasonably certain to result in the death of the victim, regardless of whether any single incident would have resulted in the death.

(c)

(1) **Second degree** murder is a Class A felony.

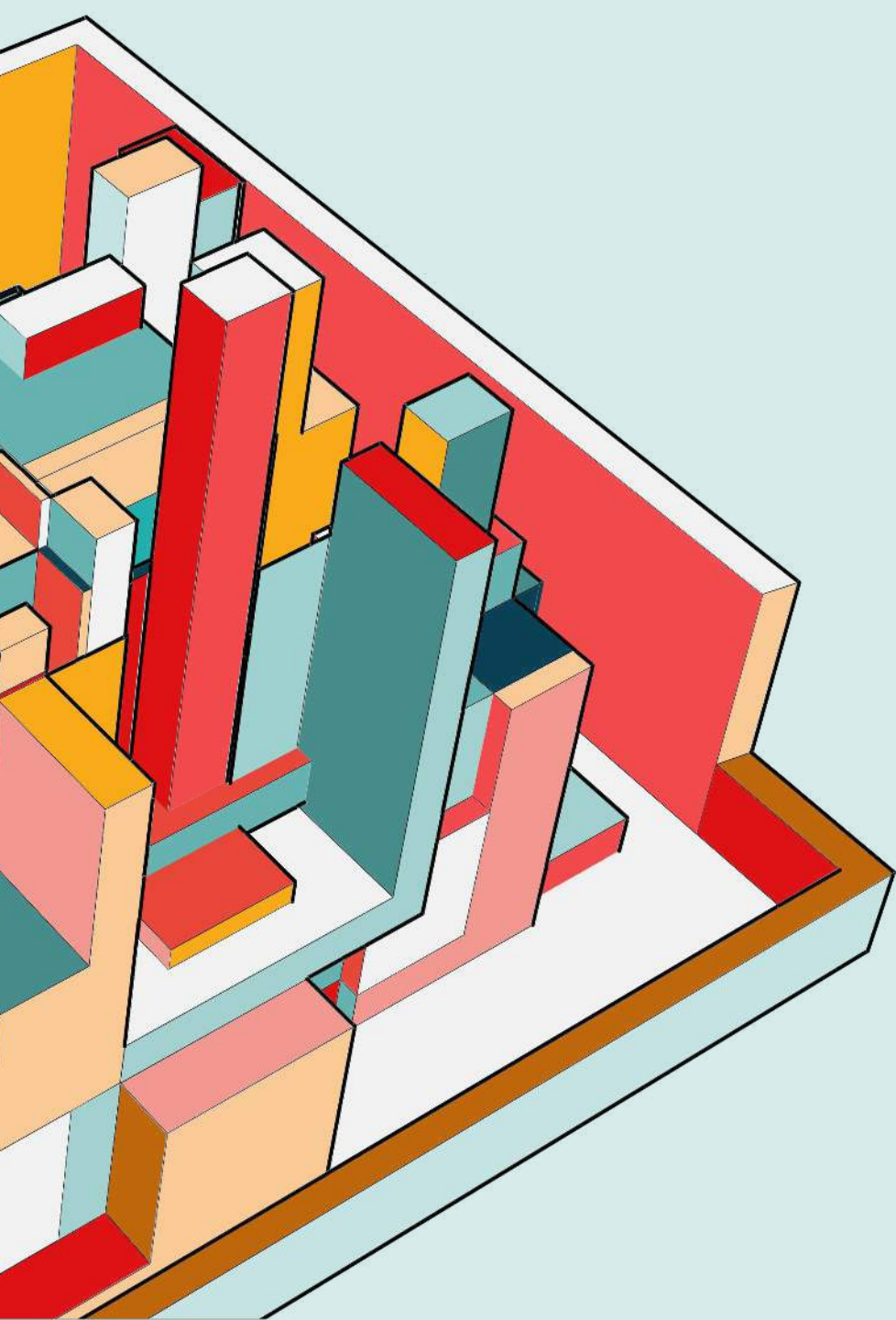
(2) Notwithstanding the Tennessee Criminal Sentencing Reform Act of 1989, compiled in title 40, chapter 35, a person convicted of a violation of subdivision (a)(2) where the victim is a minor shall be punished from within one (1) range higher than the sentencing range otherwise appropriate for the person.

WHAT ABOUT NON-FATAL OVERDOSES?

- It depends.
 - What was located at the crime scene?
 - History of the individual.
- Referred to Drug Court- When Possible.

(a) It is an offense for a defendant to knowingly:

- (1)** Manufacture a controlled substance;
- (2)** Deliver a controlled substance;
- (3)** Sell a controlled substance; or
- (4)** Possess a controlled substance with intent to manufacture, deliver or sell the controlled substance.



AUTOPSY & TOXICOLOGY REPORTS

**OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER
WEST TENNESSEE REGIONAL FORENSIC CENTER
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION BY COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER**

Shelby County Medical Examiner: Marco Ross M.D.
Judicial District Number: 30
District Attorney: Honorable Amy Weirich

State Number: 21-79-3799
Case Number: MEC2021-2411

Name of Decedent [REDACTED]		Age 32 Years	Race Black	Date of Birth 12/19/1988	Sex Male
Address					
Date of Death 10/22/2021 6:53 AM	Type of Death Suspected Overdose	Investigating Agency/Complaint #: Memphis Police Department, Complaint #: 2110009876ME			
Place of Death 803 Nonconnah Rd, Memphis 38109, TN					
Narrative Summary Reportedly on 10/22/2021 at approximately 0600hrs this 32 year old black male tentatively identified as Ronald Brown was discovered unresponsive at his residence located at 803 Nonconnah Rd by his girlfriend. 911 emergencies was contacted. Memphis Fire Department unit 36 arrived on the scene and asystole was confirmed at 0653hrs by Paramedic T. Nelson. Officer Sandlin of the Memphis Police department advised there were no signs of trauma however believes the death to be a possible overdose due to the decedent's girlfriend admitting they were using cocaine and fentanyl earlier this date. Jurisdiction was accepted by the Medical Examiner's Office. Investigator A. Beene responded to 803 Nonconnah Rd to perform a brief body examination and to document the decedent and the scene with photographs. Allen Beene 10/22/2021					
Jurisdiction Accepted Yes	Autopsy Ordered Yes	Toxicology Ordered Yes			
Physician Responsible for Death Certificate Ashly Cordero Rivera, M.D.					
Cremation Approved Yes	Funeral Home Anthony Funeral Home (West Memphis, AR)				
Cause of Death Fentanyl, Cocaine and Alcohol Toxicity					
Contributory Cause of Death					
Manner of Death Accident					

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL

[Signature]

Shelby County Medical Examiner



NMS Labs
200 Welsh Road, Horsham, PA 19044-2208
Phone: (215) 657-4900 Fax: (215) 657-2972
e-mail: nms@nmslabs.com
Robert A. Middleberg, PhD, F-ABFT, DABCC-TC, Laboratory Director

CONFIDENTIAL

Toxicology Report

Report Issued 12/29/2021 12:00

Patient Name
Patient ID
Chain
Age 32 Y
Gender
Workorder



Page 1 of 7

To: 10505
University of Tennessee Forensic Center
Attn: Marco Ross
637 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, TN 38105

Positive Findings:

Compound	Result	Units	Matrix Source
Ethanol	61	mg/dL	001 - Iliac Blood
Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)	0.061	g/100 mL	001 - Iliac Blood
4-ANPP	Positive	ng/mL	001 - Iliac Blood
Caffeine	Positive	mcg/mL	001 - Iliac Blood
Cotinine	Positive	ng/mL	001 - Iliac Blood
Benzoylcegonine	290	ng/mL	001 - Iliac Blood
Cocaine	44	ng/mL	001 - Iliac Blood
11-Hydroxy Delta-9 THC	1.2	ng/mL	001 - Iliac Blood
Delta-9 Carboxy THC	15	ng/mL	001 - Iliac Blood
Delta-9 THC	3.1	ng/mL	001 - Iliac Blood
Fentanyl	16	ng/mL	001 - Iliac Blood
Creatinine (Vitreous Fluid)	1.13	mg/dL	003 - Vitreous Fluid
Sodium (Vitreous Fluid)	129	mmol/L	003 - Vitreous Fluid
Potassium (Vitreous Fluid)	>20.0	mmol/L	003 - Vitreous Fluid
Chloride (Vitreous Fluid)	111	mmol/L	003 - Vitreous Fluid
Urea Nitrogen (Vitreous Fluid)	30.0	mg/dL	003 - Vitreous Fluid
Ethanol	35	mg/dL	003 - Vitreous Fluid
Cocaine / Metabolites	Presump Pos	ng/mL	004 - Urine
Cannabinoids	Presump Pos	ng/mL	004 - Urine
Fentanyl / Metabolite	Presump Pos	ng/mL	004 - Urine

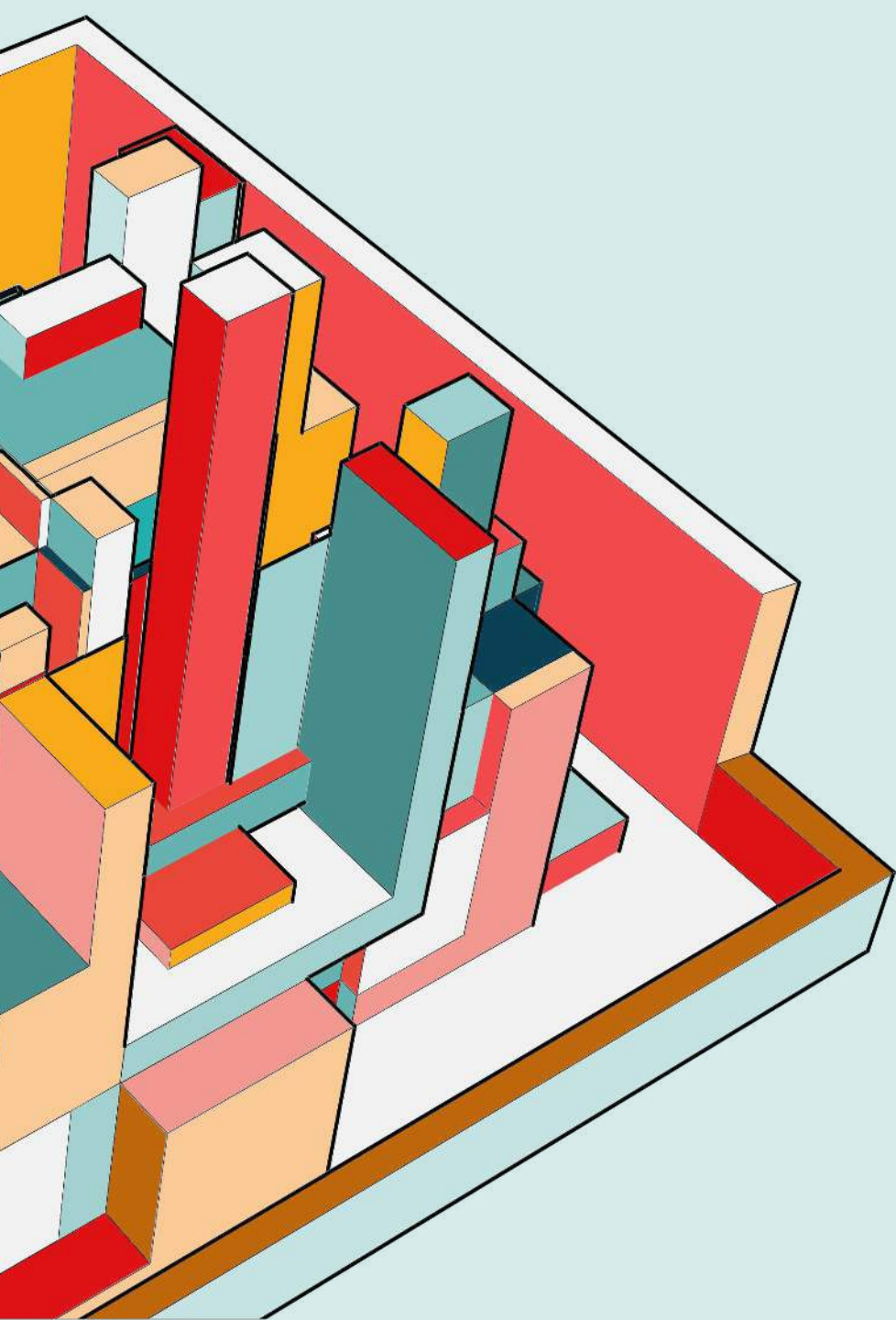
See Detailed Findings section for additional information

Testing Requested:

Analysis Code	Description
1919FL	Electrolytes and Glucose Panel (Vitreous), Fluid (Forensic)
8042B	Postmortem, Expanded w/Vitreous Alcohol Confirmation, Blood (Forensic)
8050U	Postmortem, Urine Screen Add-On (5-MAM Quantification only) (Forensic)

Specimens Received:

ID	Tube/Container	Volume/ Mass	Collection Date/Time	Matrix Source	Labeled As
001	Gray Top Tube	8.5 mL	10/25/2021	Iliac Blood	2021-2411
002	Gray Top Tube	9 mL	10/25/2021	Heart Blood	2021-2411



NARCOTICS IN MEMPHIS

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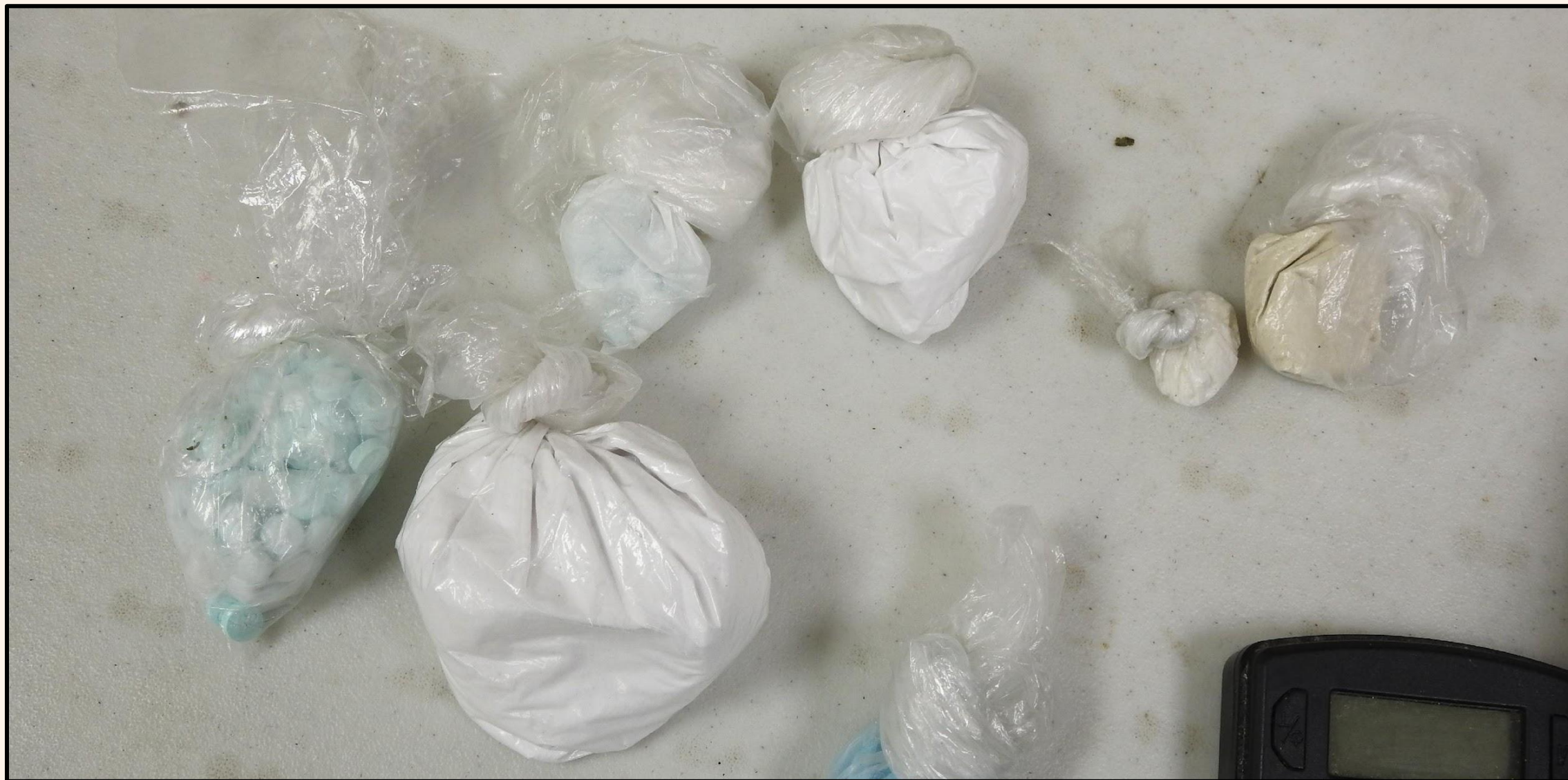
- Marijuana
- Cocaine & Crack Cocaine
- Fentanyl
- Methamphetamine
- MDMA
- Prescription pills



MARIJUANA



COCAINE



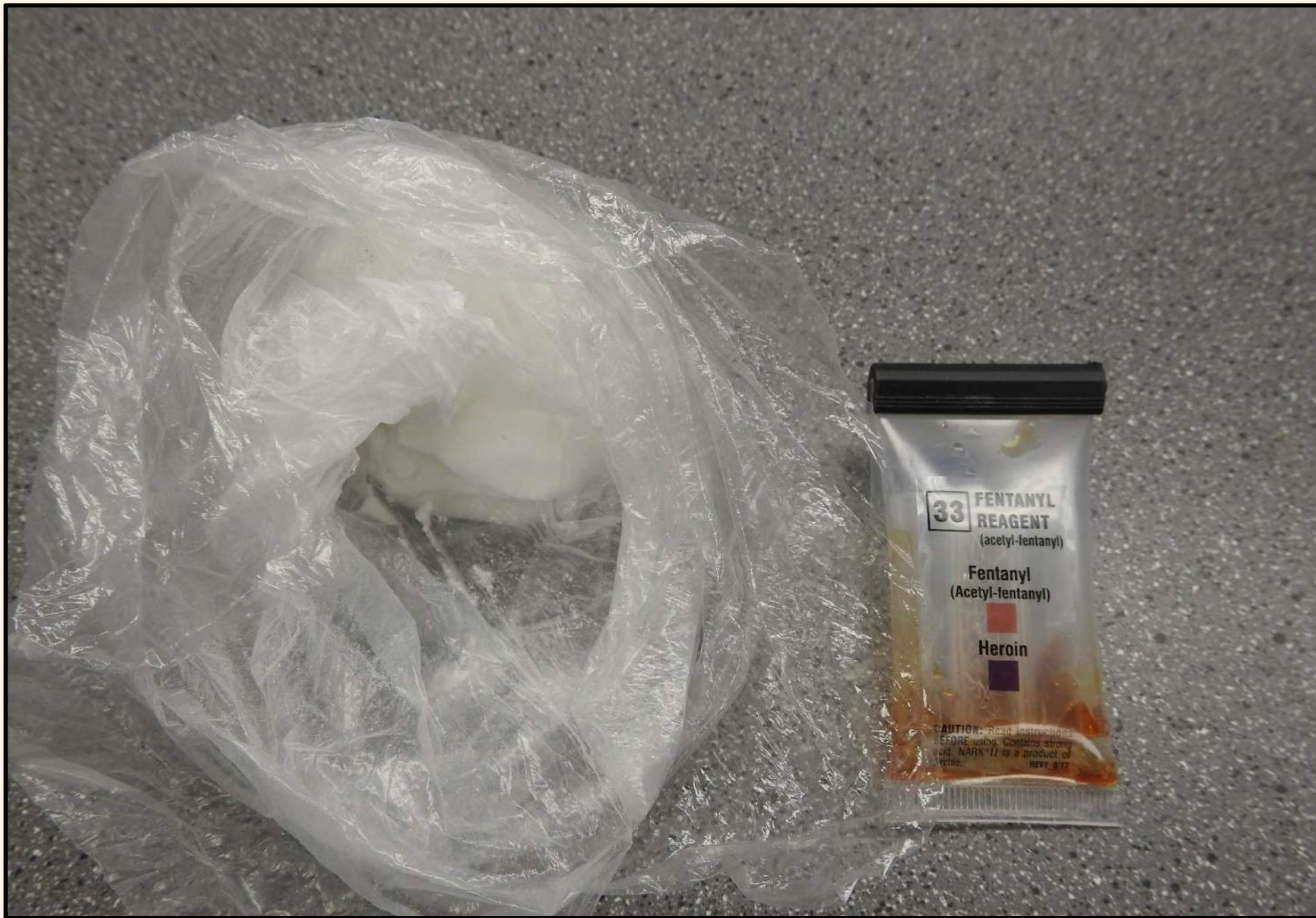


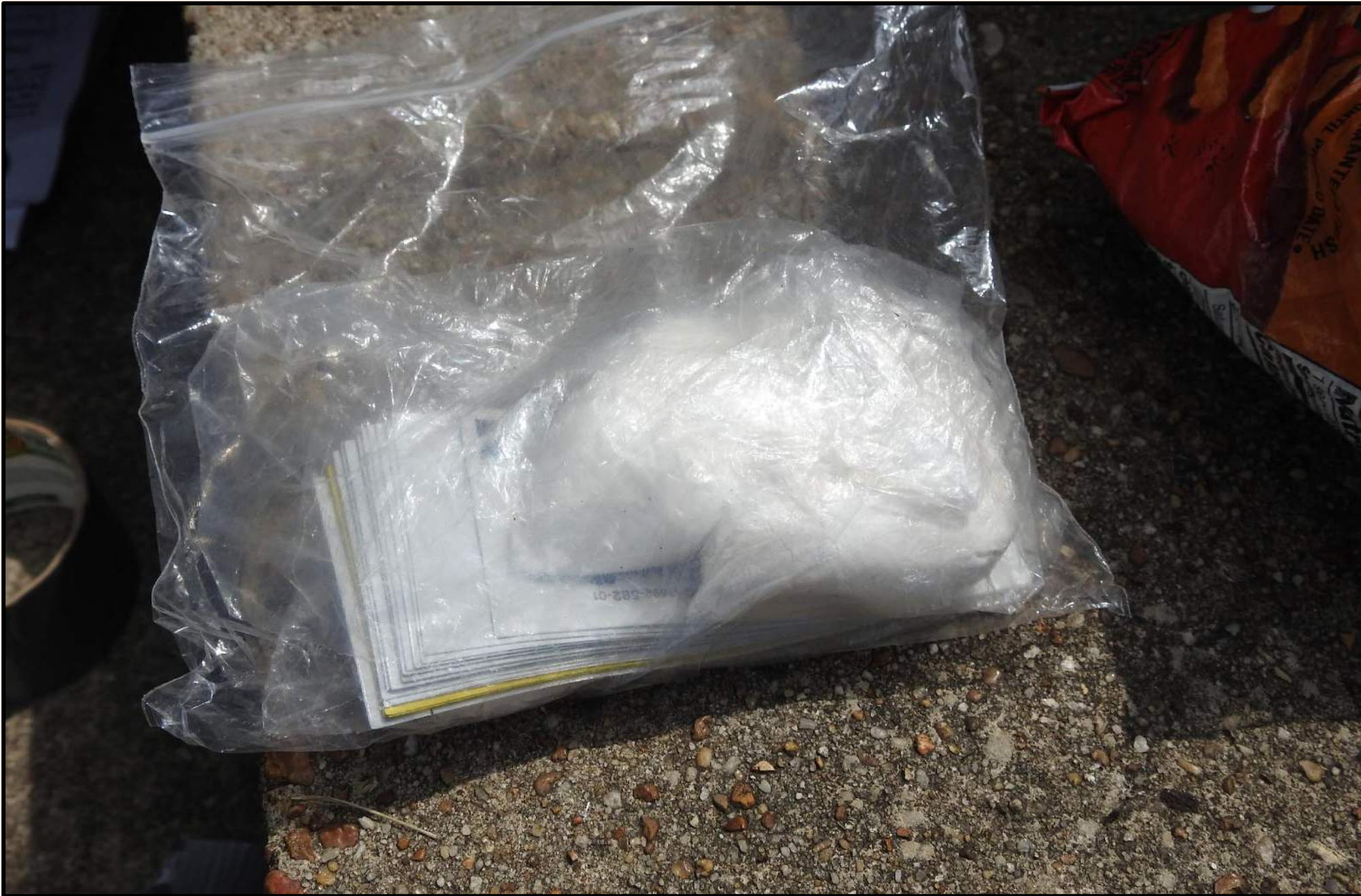
CRACK COCAINE



FENTANYL







METHAMPHETAMINE



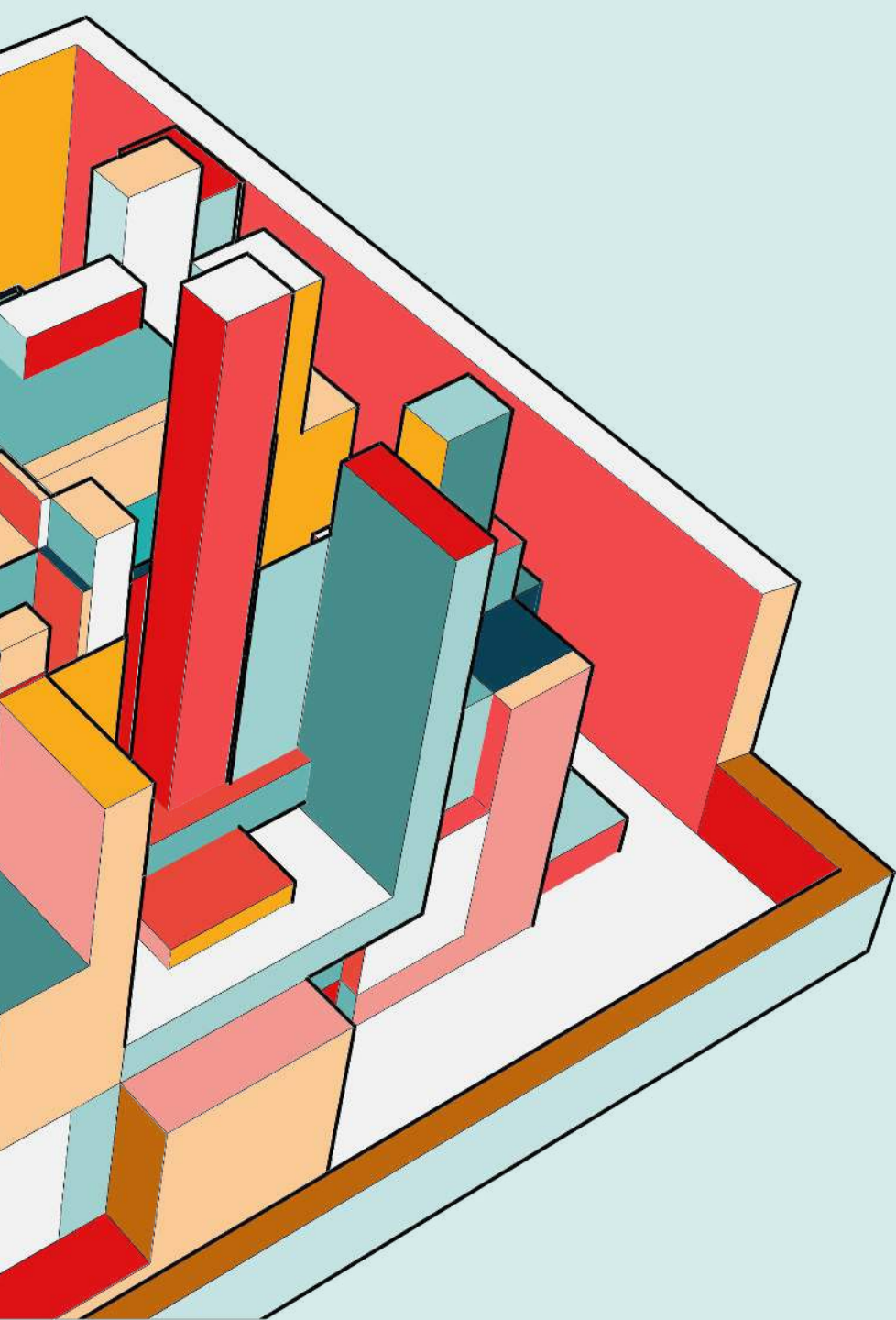




CHANGES IN MEMPHIS NARCOTICS

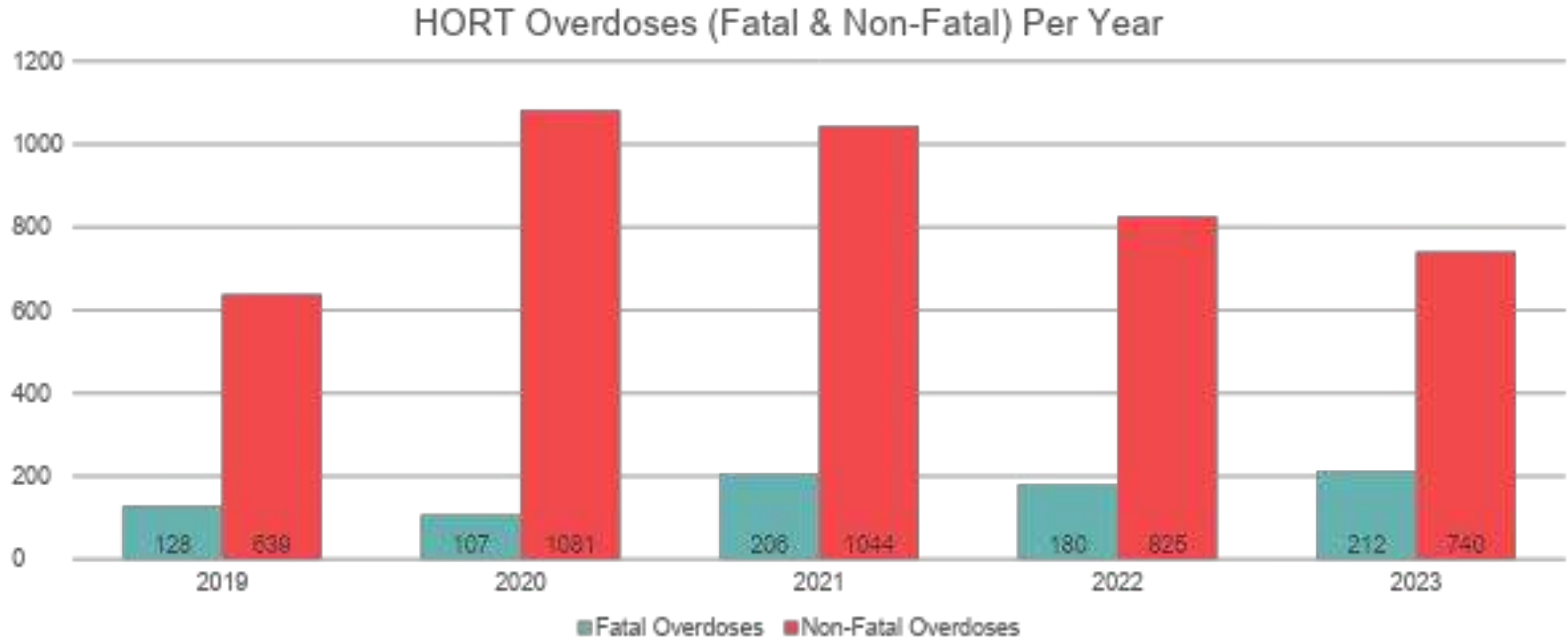


- Heroin and Fentanyl
- Crack Cocaine
 - Poor man's drug
 - Resilient
- Tranq (Xylazine)
 - Autopsy and Toxicology Reports.
- Juveniles and THC
- Increase in overdoses reports involving juveniles.
- Prescription pills
- Counterfeit



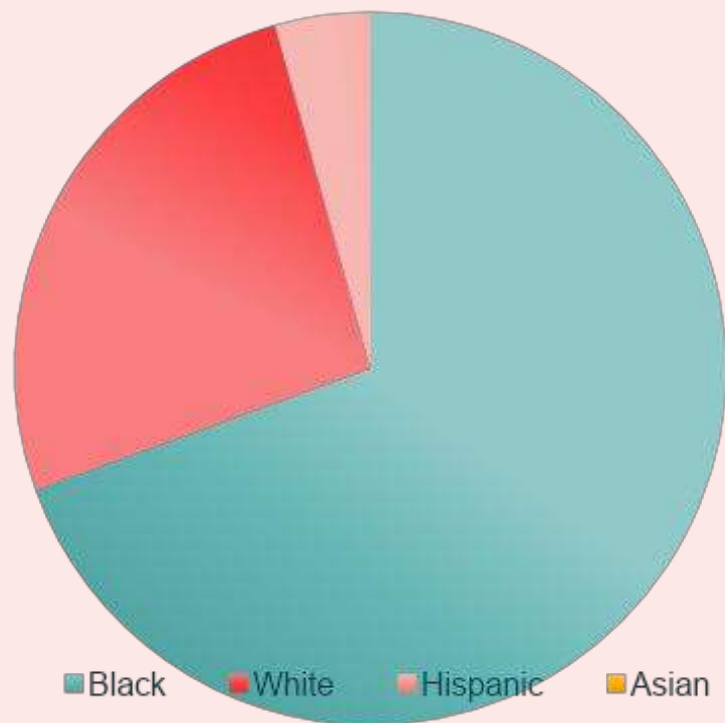
OVERDOSE STATISTICS COMPARISON

OVERDOSES STATISTICS PER YEAR (REPORTED MPD INCIDENTS)

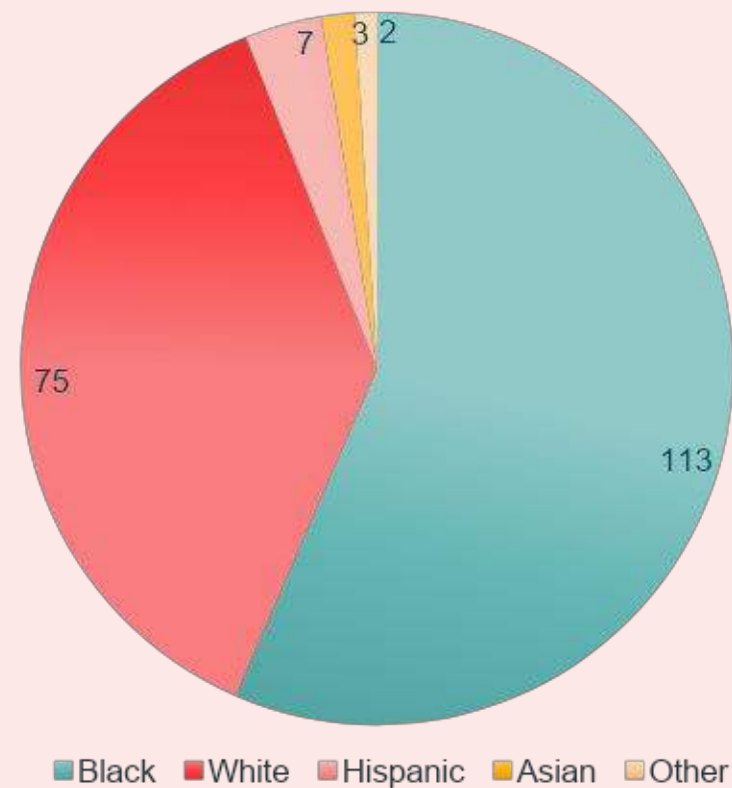


Overdoses Breakdown (By Race) (2023)

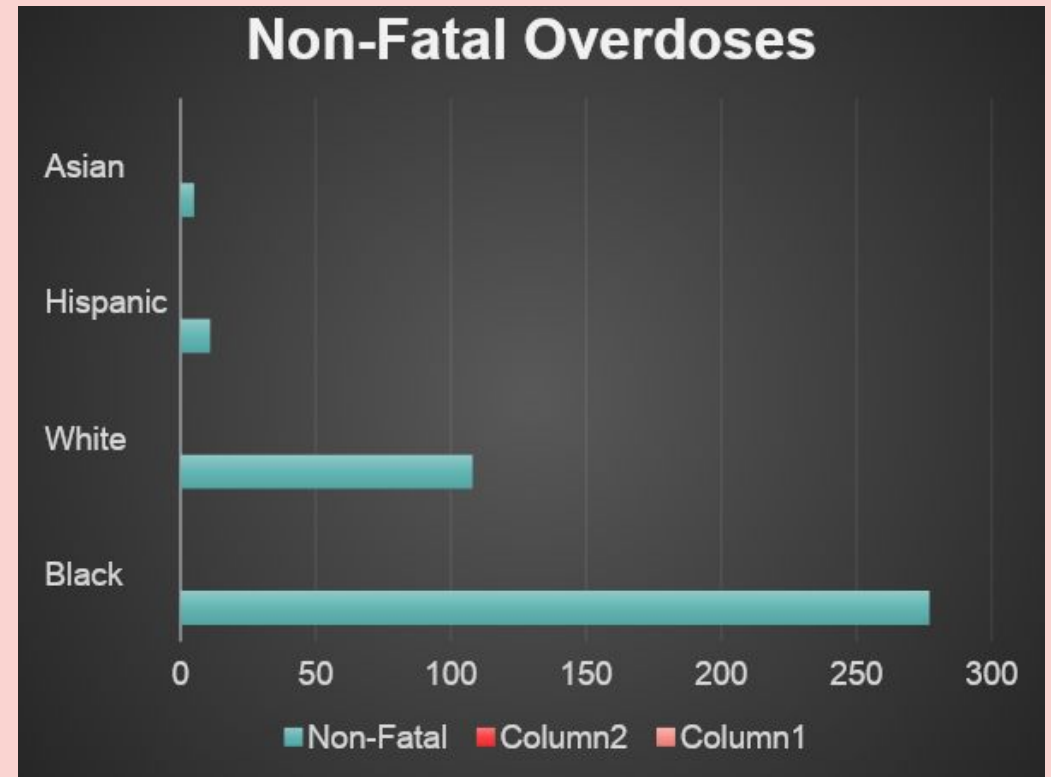
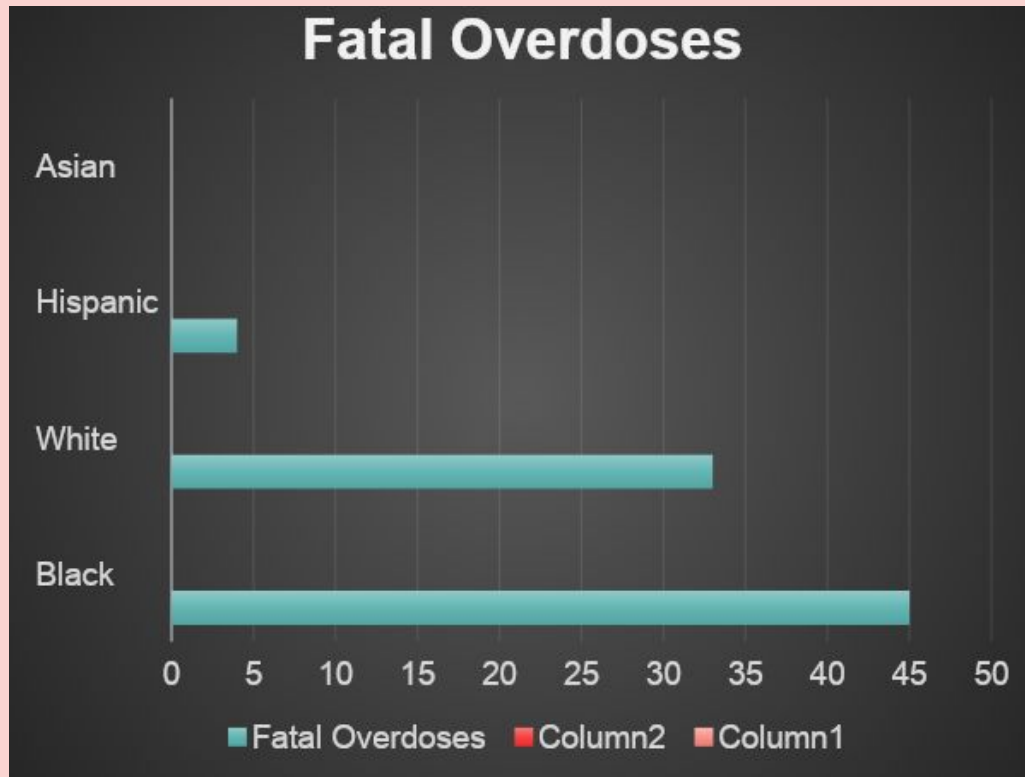
Non-Fatal Overdoses



Fatal Overdoses



Overdoses Breakdown (By Race) (2024)



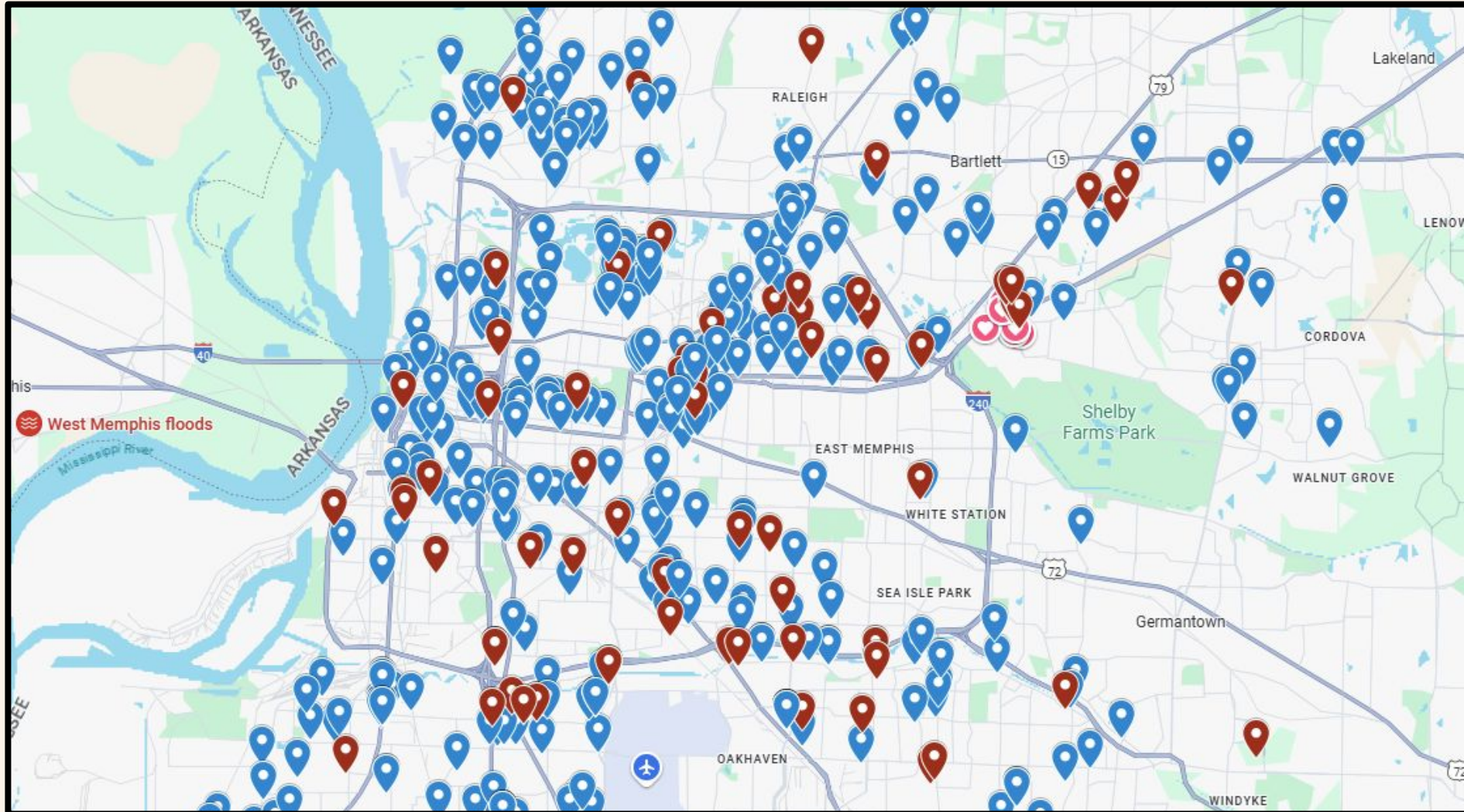
SO..... WHAT HAS CHANGED?



- 2019-2020
 - Fentanyl
- 2020-Covid Pandemic
 - Loss of the Buddy System
- 2021-Present
 - Narcan is more widely available



Reported Overdose Map (2024)





THANK YOU

Detective Matthew Charles

Email: matthew.charles@memphistn.gov

Phone: 901-598-7018

