

Police

KC/MO

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Congressman Mark Alford
328 Cannon House Office Building
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Congressman Alford,

As Chief of Police for the Kansas City Missouri Police Department, and a member of the local Executive Board of the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), I respectfully urge the Subcommittee to oppose the proposed transfer of the HIDTA Program from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) to the Department of Justice (DOJ), specifically under the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), as outlined in the Administration's FY 2026 Budget Proposal.

As a member of the Executive Board it allows me to have a localized voice in assessing and responding to the evolving drug threats that not only affect the communities in Kansas City, but also in our surrounding communities here in Missouri. This proposal would dismantle a proven, regional approach in favor of a centralized model with an uncertain ability to have the same flexibility.

Over 90% of the Midwest HIDTA's \$15.9 million budget is allocated directly to state and local law enforcement entities. A proposed 35% reduction in HIDTA's national budget would result in an approximate \$5 million reduction for the Midwest HIDTA. Missouri accounts for a large portion of this allocated funding and this loss of revenue would have a negative impact on our ability to finance our initiatives not just here in Kansas City, but other agencies in the state as well.

I respectfully urge the Subcommittee to preserve the HIDTA Program under ONDCP, where it can continue to operate with the flexibility, autonomy and accountability that have made it a vital tool in our nation's fight against drug trafficking.

I personally want to thank you for your commitment in supporting law enforcement and your work to keep our communities safe.



Stacey Graves
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