



Tennessee Narcotic Officers Association

PRESIDENT

Bill Doelle

June 06, 2025

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Joe Simonik

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn
357 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Jesse Pilote

RE: Urgent Concerns Regarding FY2026 Budget Changes to HIDTA and
ONDCP Oversight

TREASURER

Mike Hotz

Dear Senator Blackburn,

SECRETARY

Matt Moore

I am writing on behalf of the over 500 members of the Tennessee Narcotic Officers' Association to express our deep concern about the President's FY 2026 Budget proposal, specifically the proposal to move the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program from the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) to the Department of Justice and to cut the program funding by 35%. I respectfully submit that this proposal will have the unintended consequence of weakening the President's vision to build a coordinated national public safety strategy.

SERGEANT AT ARMS

David Stanfill
Jeff Wray
Tim Miller
Matt Moore
Brad Kessler
Richard Williams
Chris Burrell
Johnie Carter

The current structure of the 33 regional HIDTA's under ONDCP leadership is a proven model of collaborative policing that has saved lives, dismantled violent drug trafficking organizations, and built lasting partnerships among federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement. HIDTA provides a unique platform for federal, state, and local law enforcement agency partnerships throughout the nation.

TRAINING OFFICER

Tim Lane

Simply put, this is not the time to weaken the nation's most effective multi-agency framework for addressing the threats posed by cartel-driven drug trafficking. We urge Congress to preserve ONDCP'S authority over HIDTA and fully fund the HIDTA program.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

T. Gene Donegan

I respectfully request your leadership in advocating for a reversal of this budget proposal. Your support will help ensure that federal, state, and local enforcement agencies retain the tools, partnerships, and autonomy required to safeguard our communities.

Sincerely,

Michael Hotz
Treasurer, TNOA