

## La Plata Police Department – General Order

	Title: <b>Narcan (Naloxone)</b>		Order #: <b>639</b>	
	Effective Date: June 26, 2015	Review Date:		
	Original Date: √ <b>New</b>	o Amends	o Rescinds	
Approved by: <b>Chief Carl Schinner</b>			CALEA 5 <sup>th</sup> Edition	
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| <p><b>01 POLICY:</b> It is the policy of the La Plata Police Department to preserve human life whenever possible. Thus, the Department will enter into a partnership with the Charles County Sheriff's Office and the Charles County Department of Emergency Services (DES) to equip patrol officers with the lifesaving drug Narcan.</p> <p><b>02 NARCAN (Naloxone):</b> Is an opiate antidote. It is a prescription medicine that blocks the effects of opiates, which include heroin, morphine, codeine, Oxycontin, methadone, Percodan, and Vicodin. Narcan is intended to reverse the effects of an opiate overdose, including restoring breathing that has stopped or slowed down. Death typically does not occur until several hours after an opiate overdose, which provides an opportunity for first responders to intervene and administer a dose of Narcan. It cannot be used to make a person high, and will not have any effect on a person who has not taken opiates. La Plata officers will utilize and administer the nasal form of this drug only.</p> <p><b>03 PURPOSE:</b> This policy will establish guidelines and procedures governing the utilization of the Nasal Narcan administered by officers. The objective of administering Nasal Narcan is to treat opioid overdoses and minimize overdose deaths caused by opioids.</p> <p><b>04 LIMITATIONS:</b> Only officers trained in the use of nasal Narcan are authorized to administer nasal Narcan in the field.</p> <p><b>05 TRAINING:</b> Training will be conducted by the Charles County Health Department. Certification of training is good for two years.</p> | <p><b>06 ISSUE AND REPLACEMENT:</b> Nasal Narcan will be dispensed through DES; DES will handle the issuance and replacement of this substance.</p> <p><b>07 INSPECTION OF NARCAN:</b> Officers authorized to use nasal Narcan kits are responsible for inspecting the kit prior to each shift. Missing or damaged nasal Narcan kits will be reported directly to DES, which will replace the kit as soon as practicable. An Admin Report shall be completed when a Narcan Kit is replaced.</p> <p><b>08 INDICATIONS AND USE:</b> Authorized officers shall utilize nasal Narcan on subjects believed to be suffering from an opioid overdose. Indications that a subject is suffering from an overdose include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>A.</b> Blood-shot eyes;</li> <li><b>B.</b> Pinpoint pupils, even in a darkened room / area;</li> <li><b>C.</b> Depressed or slow respiratory rate;</li> <li><b>D.</b> Difficulty breathing (labored breathing, shallow breaths);</li> <li><b>E.</b> Blue skin, lips, or fingernails;</li> <li><b>F.</b> Decreased pulse rate;</li> <li><b>G.</b> Low blood pressure;</li> <li><b>H.</b> Loss of alertness (drowsiness);</li> <li><b>I.</b> Unresponsiveness;</li> <li><b>J.</b> Seizures;</li> </ul> |
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**K.** Evidence of ingestion, inhalation, injection (needles, spoons, tourniquets, needle tracks, bloody nose, etc.); and,

**L.** Past history of opioid use / abuse.

**09 PROTOCOLS:** Officers shall follow the protocols outlined in their nasal Narcan training.

**10 UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS:**

**A.** When using the nasal Narcan kit, officers will maintain universal precautions against pathogens, perform patient assessment; determine unresponsiveness, absence of breathing and/or pulse.

**B.** Officers will update Communications that the patient is in a potential overdose state. Communications personnel will promptly notify EMS and a paramedic unit.

**11 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

**A.** Upon completing a medical assist with nasal Narcan use, the officer shall complete an incident report detailing the nature of the incident, the care the patient received, and the fact that nasal Narcan was deployed and whether the use was successful.

**B.** The incident report will be forwarded through the chain of command to Records Section, which will forward a copy to DES and the Health Department of its use, for their documentation purposes.

**12 NOTIFICATION:** If Narcan is administered, the officer shall contact The Poison Control Center prior to the end of his/her tour of duty. 1-800-222-1222.