

 *The Partnership for*  
**SAFEMEDICINES<sup>®</sup>**  
**COUNTERFEIT MEDICINE REPORT**

Colorado, October - December 2022

Fake pills made with fentanyl dominated the counterfeit medicine news out of Colorado in the latter part of 2022. Seizures happened in Mack, Colorado Springs, Firestone, Colorado City, Loveland, and Weld and Garfield counties. A 24-year-old woman in Fort Collins was poisoned and killed by a fentanyl pill in September, and [by early October, the state had already seen 20 children die](#) since the start of the year from fentanyl intoxication.

Dangerous fake medicine has found its way into Colorado from places other than street corners and social media apps. Sometimes, members of the medical profession have purchased medicine from unlicensed sources. Between 2012 and 2016, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration sent letters to 54 doctors and medical practices across Colorado warning them to stop buying medicine from known black market wholesalers. These letters referenced medicines to treat serious medical conditions such as cancer and osteoporosis. In 2021, three Colorado companies and two individuals were named in a lawsuit over the distribution of counterfeit HIV medicines to U.S. pharmacies. Additionally, Colorado is one of a handful of states looking to import medicines from Canada, [undermining the Drug Supply Chain Security Act](#), and risking exposing its citizens to unreliable medicines.

## Recent Incidents

December 2022

**Fentanyl pills seized in Garfield County:** "[Vehicle pursuit on I-70 leads to seizure of suspected fentanyl, other narcotics](#)," *CBS Colorado*, December 31, 2022.

**Colorado Springs fentanyl pill dealer pleaded guilty in 2021 death:** Kaia Hofmeister, "[Colorado Springs woman pleads guilty to death of high school student from fentanyl](#)," *NBC11 News*, December 3, 2022.

November 2022

**Fentanyl pills seized in Loveland:** Austin Fleskes, "[Loveland Police seize more than 800 suspected fentanyl pills in Nov. 30 arrest](#)," *Loveland Reporter-Herald*, December 8, 2022.

**Fentanyl pills seized in Colorado City:** Lindsey Grewe, "[Police: Man found sleeping outside old Colorado City gas station with 100+ fentanyl pills](#)," *KKTV*, November 2, 2022.

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Scan the QR code or go to [safedr ug/Colorado-page](https://safedr ug/Colorado-page) for more information on counterfeit incidents in Colorado.



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October 2022

**Fentanyl pill dealers charged:** Amber Delay, "[Two Craig women arrested in seizure of two pounds of methamphetamine, over 500 fentanyl pills,](#)" *Steamboat Pilot & Today*, October 26, 2022.

**Longmont fentanyl pill dealer convicted in 2020 pill death:** Carol McKinley, "[Longmont man convicted in Boulder fentanyl death case,](#)" *The Denver Gazette*, October 21, 2022.

**Fentanyl pills seized in Weld County:** "[Drug bust nets 1,000 fentanyl pills, 3 pounds of meth in Weld County,](#)" *CBS Colorado*, October 18, 2022.

**Firestone Police seized fentanyl pills:** Morgan McKenzie, "[Affidavit: Firestone Police uncover over 20 grams of meth, fentanyl on wanted woman,](#)" *Greeley Tribune*, October 17, 2022.

**Fentanyl pills seized in Colorado Springs:** Lauren Watson, "[Over 300 fentanyl pills recovered in Colorado Springs bust,](#)" *KKTV*, October 7, 2022.

**Children harmed by fentanyl and fentanyl pills:** Kelly Reinke, "[More children dying from fentanyl poisonings,](#)" *9NEWS*, October 3, 2022.

September 2022

**Charges filed after fentanyl pill death in Firestone:** Morgan McKenzie, "[Weld Judge sets \\$100,000 bond for mother charged with 12-year-old daughter's fentanyl-related death,](#)" *Greeley Tribune*, September 29, 2022.

**Fentanyl pills seized in Mack:** Lauren Watson, "[Man arrested on I-70 in Colorado with 90,000 fentanyl pills,](#)" *KKTV*, September 23, 2022.

**Fort Collins woman killed by fentanyl pill:** Kelly Reinke, "[Larimer County woman is first to face a state charge for providing a fentanyl pill that killed someone,](#)" *9NEWS*, November 16, 2022.

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