

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

## Connecticut, February 2022 – January 2023

Connecticut saw a steady stream of prosecutions and drug seizures related to counterfeit pills made with fentanyl or alprazolam (the active ingredient in Xanax) over the course of 2022. Federal courts sentenced counterfeit pill traffickers from five cities, including two men who ran a high-volume manufacturing operation in Stamford. Law enforcement seized pills in Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor.

In the past, 25 medical practices in Connecticut were warned for buying black market cancer treatments or Botox. Pill press operations making a variety of counterfeit pills were busted in Norwich, Shelton, West Hartford, and Westport between 2013 and 2019, and three different illegal steroid suppliers were shut down between 2011 and 2017. In addition, two Connecticut suppliers were named in Gilead Sciences' lawsuit over the trafficking of [counterfeit HIV medicines](#) in 2021.

### Recent Incidents

January 2023:

**Winsted man pleads guilty to vending fentanyl pills on the dark web:** "[Winsted Man, 23, Pleads Guilty to Trafficking Fentanyl on the Dark Web](#)," *Hartford Courant*, January 18, 2023.

September 2022:

**Fentanyl pills seized in Wethersfield:** "[Two Maryland Men Charged with Trafficking Thousands of Fentanyl Pills into Connecticut](#)," U.S. Department of Justice, September 23, 2022.

**Bloomfield man sentenced for pill trafficking:** "[Bloomfield Man Sentenced to 87 Months in Federal Prison for Drug and Gun Offenses](#)," U.S. Department of Justice, September 23, 2022.

August 2022:

**Manchester fentanyl pill seller sentenced:** "[Manchester Man Sentenced to Prison for Distributing Fentanyl Pills](#)," U.S. Department of Justice, August 31, 2022.

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**Stamford fentanyl pill traffickers sentenced:** “[Stamford Men Sentenced for Trafficking Counterfeit Oxycodone Pills Containing Fentanyl](#),” U.S. Department of Justice, August 9, 2022.

July 2022:

**Stratford pill seller sentenced:** “[Stratford Man Sentenced to Prison for Fentanyl Distribution and Gun Possession Offenses](#),” U.S. Department of Justice, July 12, 2022.

June 2022:

**Fake oxycodone and Xanax pills seized in Windsor:** “[Four Windsor Men Charged with Trafficking Counterfeit Oxycodone Pills Containing Fentanyl](#),” U.S. Department of Justice, June 30, 2022.

March 2022:

**Fake oxycodone pills made of fentanyl and fentanyl powder seized in Hartford:** “[Hartford Residents Charged with Trafficking Massive Quantity of Fentanyl](#),” U.S. Department of Justice, March 24, 2022.

February 3, 2022:

**Waterbury man sentenced for pill trafficking:** “[Waterbury Man Sentenced to 5 Years in Federal Prison for Role in Heroin and Fentanyl Trafficking Ring](#),” U.S. Department of Justice, February 3, 2022.

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