

 *The Partnership for*
SAFEMEDICINES[®]
COUNTERFEIT MEDICINE REPORT

Kentucky, August 2022 – January 2023

As with the entire country, incidents involving counterfeit pills made with fentanyl continue to affect Kentucky. This month a woman was charged with selling the pills that killed a Richmond resident in 2022. Two men and a juvenile were treated for pill-related fentanyl poisonings. Law enforcement seized counterfeit pills made with fentanyl including Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in Louisville intercepting five bottles of fentanyl pills shipped from India. CBP also reported the seizure of ketamine and illegal steroids.

Fake medicines are not new to Kentucky. Between 2012 and 2016, 50 of the state's medical practices were warned to stop buying black market cancer treatments or Botox; two medical staff pleaded guilty to importing and treating patients with non-FDA approved medicines and a third admitted he inserted illegally imported IUDs in patients. Authorities seized pill presses, fake Adderall pills made of methamphetamine, fake Percocet made with heroin, and black market tramadol capsules.

Recent Incidents

January 2023:

Lexington woman charged in counterfeit pill death: "[Lexington Woman Charged with Manslaughter after Allegedly Selling 'Pure Fentanyl' Pills to Richmond Man](#)," *Lex18*, January 9, 2023.

Pill poisoning in Bowling Green: Allie Hennard, "[Bowling Green Man Charged with Trafficking Fentanyl After Juvenile Found Unconscious](#)," *WBKO ABC13*, January 3, 2023.

December 2022:

Pill seizure in Bowling Green: Will Whaley, "[POLICE: Suspected Fentanyl Residue 'Accessible' to 2-year-old During Bowling Green Arrest](#)," *WBKO ABC13*, December 28, 2022.

November 2022:

Fentanyl pill poisonings in Paducah: Charity Blanton, "[Deputies Treat Two Men Suffering from Overdoses in the Same Night, Charge Paducah Man with Fentanyl Trafficking](#)," *WPSD Local 6*, November 28, 2022.

Scan the QR CODE or go to safedr ug/Kentucky-page for more information about counterfeit medicine incidents in Kentucky.



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October 2022:

Fentanyl pill seizure in Bardwell: “[Graves County Grand Jury Returns Indictments Against Five \(5\) for Engaging in Organized Crime](#),” *Marshall County Daily*, November 17, 2022.

Steroid seizure by Louisville CBP: “[Customs Officers Seize More Than 2,200 Pounds of Illicit Drug in Louisville During Month of October](#),” *Northern Kentucky Tribune*, November 8, 2022.

September 2022:

Steroid seizure by Louisville CBP: “[Over 220K Lethal Doses of Fentanyl Intercepted by CBP Louisville](#),” U.S. Customs and Border Protection, September 28, 2022.

August 2022:

Fentanyl pills seized in Madisonville: “[Authorities Seize Large Amount of Suspected Fentanyl-Laced Pills, Man Arrested](#),” *WABI 5*, August 26, 2022.

Fentanyl pill seizure by Louisville CBP: Eric Levenson, “[Over 50,000 Lethal Doses of Fentanyl Seized by CBP Louisville](#),” U.S. Customs and Border Protection, August 4, 2022.

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