

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

Maine, November 2021 - December 2022

Recent counterfeit medicine news out of Maine has centered on a limited number of fake pills made with fentanyl. One Bangor resident found himself on the wrong side of the law on two separate occasions in cases that involved these deadly pills. Senator Susan Collins sent a letter to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration seeking additional information on the danger that these deadly pills pose to children and young adults on social media. Additionally, powdered fentanyl has been causing devastation in communities throughout the state.

Dangerous fake medicine has found its way into Maine from places other than street corners or 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 eight doctors and medical practices across Maine warning them to stop buying medicine from known black market wholesalers. These letters were in reference to cancer medications and Botox.

Recent Fentanyl and Fentanyl Pill Incidents

December 2022

Two pounds of fentanyl powder seized in Aroostook County: [“One charged. 2 pounds of fentanyl seized in Aroostook County drug bust,”](#) *News Center Maine*, December 1, 2022.

November 2022

One kilo of suspected fentanyl seized in Corinna: [“MDEA seizes 1 kilogram of suspected fentanyl in Corinna drug bust,”](#) *News Center Maine*, November 30, 2022.

Sen. Collins asked DEA about the issue of fentanyl pills and youth: [“Senator Collins urges DEA to address ‘rainbow’ fentanyl & illicit pills that target teens & young adults,”](#) The office of Senator Susan Collins, November 10, 2022.

October 2022

Police arrested Etna residents found with fentanyl: Rosemary Lausier, [“2 arrested after more than 2 pounds of fentanyl were seized in drug bust,”](#) *Bangor Daily News*, October 2, 2022.

Scan the QR code or go to safedr ug/ME-page for more information on counterfeit incidents in Maine.



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

September 2022

Four pounds of fentanyl seized in Hancock and Somerset counties: Leela Stockley, "[Four arrested after nearly 4 pounds of fentanyl seized in multi-county drug bust](#)," *The Piscataquist Observer*, September 6, 2022.

July 2022

Police seized fentanyl, arrested five in Bucksport: "[Five arrested after fentanyl seized in Penobscot, police say](#)," *News Center Maine*, July 18, 2022.

June 2022

DEA agents seized suspected fentanyl in Enfield: KC Downey, "[\\$40,000 worth of fentanyl seized in Maine bust: 6 arrested, police say](#)," *WMUR*, June 6, 2022.

April 2022

Police found 3 pounds of fentanyl in Corinth: Lauren Silver, "[Drug agents seize nearly 3 pounds of fentanyl hidden in cans of beans](#)," *K99 Online*, April 1, 2022.

February 2022

Bangor, Portland and West Bath residents arrested in fentanyl pill case: "[Six arrested in multi-jurisdictional fentanyl takedown](#)," U.S. Department of Justice, February 24, 2022.

November 2021

Three Bangor residents allegedly arrested for selling drugs, including fentanyl pills: "[3 Mainers arrested for allegedly trafficking fentanyl, meth, and more](#)," *WGME*, November 8, 2021.

Scan the QR code or go to safedr ug/ME-page for more information on counterfeit incidents in Maine.

