

Oregon, July 2022 - January 2023

Fake prescription pills have been flooding Oregon for years, and the last seven months are no exception. A Medford teen died in July after taking a fake oxycodone. Since then, law enforcement has seized hundreds of thousands of fentanyl pills across the state. Prosecutions were opened for pill dealing in Umatilla County, pill manufacturing and sales in Portland, and the counterfeit pill death of a Portland 17-year-old. A Portland man linked to a 2018 carfentanil pill death was convicted on drug, gun, and money laundering charges. A couple in Yoncalla was sentenced for dealing the fentanyl pills that killed a man.

The problem is not limited to fentanyl pills. A mother and daughter in Keizer were indicted for importing and selling controlled and sometimes counterfeit prescription pills from India in July. The state has also seen prosecutions for illegally imported ED drugs and counterfeit cosmetic injectables and counterfeits may have made their way into medical practices as well. Between 2012 and 2016 the FDA warned 39 Oregon doctors to stop buying cancer treatments and injectable medicines from unlicensed distributors who had been caught selling counterfeits.

Recent Incidents

January 2023

Multi-drug seizures in Klamath Falls, Portland, and Salem: "Meth, heroin, pills containing fentanyl found during traffic stop near Klamath Falls," Fox 12 Oregon, January 30, 2023; "Honduran man accused of moving fentanyl, firearms between Portland motels," KOIN, January 25, 2023; "Arizona Woman charged for trafficking fentanyl and heroin on I-5 in Oregon," Drug Enforcement Administration, January 19, 2023; and "Portland Police and DEA seize \$100,000 worth of fentanyl pills and powder," KATU, January 10, 2023.

December 2022

Multi-drug seizures in Salem and Bend: Michaela Bourgeois, "<u>Police seize 55K fentanyl pills, guns, money in Salem bust,</u>" *KOIN*, December 28, 2022 and Barney Lerten, "<u>C.O. drug agents arrest Bend man, accused of trafficking in fentanyl, meth on Hunnell Road," *KTVZ*, December 22, 2022.</u>

November 2022





Yoncalla couple sentenced for selling pills linked to a fentanyl death: "Drug dealing husband and wife sentenced to federal prison," Department of Justice, November 29, 2022.

Fentanyl pills seized near Albany: "OSP: 12 pounds of fentanyl pills found during traffic stop on I-5 near Albany," Fox 12 Oregon, November 18, 2022.

October 2022

Conviction in Portland carfentanil pill death: "Jury convicts Portland repeat offender on federal drug, gun, and money laundering charges," Department of Justice, October 26 2022.

Portland-area men charged with making and selling fentanyl pills: "Two Portland area men face federal charges for making and distributing hundreds of thousands of fentanyl pills," Department of Justice, October 13, 2022.

September 2022

Man charged with pill dealing in Umatilla County: "<u>Umatilla County drug dealer faces federal charges</u>," *Union-Bulletin*, September 29, 2022.

Seizures in Clackamas County and Eugene: "92K fentanyl pills, cocaine, meth seized by Multnomah County deputies," Fox 12 Oregon, September 22, 2022 and "Eugene man arrested with \$210k worth of illegal drugs," Fox 12 Oregon, September 5, 2022.

Gresham man charged for selling pills that killed Portland teen: "Gresham man faces federal charges after overdose death of Portland teenager," Department of Justice, September 7, 2022.

July 2022

Teen fentanyl pill death, Medford: Vickie Aldous, "<u>Arrests made after Medford teen dies of fentanyl overdose</u>," *The Mail Tribune*, August 25, 2022.

Keizer pair charged for trafficking imported, fake prescription pills: "Oregon mother and daughter face federal charges for role in international drug trafficking conspiracy," Department of Justice, July 29, 2022.

