

**ANOTHER OPEN LETTER ABOUT THE DRUG EPIDEMIC TO
ALL BERGEN COUNTY PARENTS**
from the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office



In our last notice, we told you about how New Jersey's **STRICT LIABILITY FOR DRUG INDUCED DEATHS** law is playing a role here in Bergen County. It is a statute now being used more aggressively in the county by all law enforcement.

Here is another story:

YOU ARE A NICE, MIDDLE AGED COUPLE LIVING IN BERGEN COUNTY. BOTH OF YOU WORK AND HAVE PROVIDED WELL FOR YOUR CHILDREN, WHO ARE NOW IN THEIR LATE 20'S.

THEY ARE JUST STARTING THEIR LIVES. IN A FEW YEARS, THEY WILL MARRY AND HAVE CHILDREN OF THEIR OWN - YOUR GRANDCHILDREN.

BUT YOUR SON, WHO IS 27, STILL LIKES TO HAVE FUN AND WILL OFTEN GO OUT TO AREA NIGHT SPOTS. HE DOES NOT USE DRUGS. HE DOES NOT DRINK AND DRIVE. HE IS RESPONSIBLE. HE IS, AFTER ALL, YOUR SON.

AT ONE OF THE CLUBS, HE IS GIVEN AN ECSTASY PILL. YOU HAVE HEARD OF IT BUT YOU ARE NOT SURE WHAT IT IS.

IT IS A DRUG - A SERIOUS DRUG.

BUT YOUR SON IS A GOOD KID. HE WOULD NEVER TAKE ECSTASY.

SO HE GIVES IT TO ONE OF HIS FRIENDS. JUST FOR HIM TO HAVE A GOOD TIME.

HIS FRIEND TAKES IT. JUST TO HAVE A GOOD TIME.

BUT YOUR SON DID NOT KNOW THAT HIS FRIEND HAD BEEN TAKING OTHER DRUGS THAT DAY. OXY, SOME MARIJUANA AND DEFINITELY ALCOHOL. A HALF HOUR AFTER TAKING THE ECSTASY PILL, HE IS IN SEVERE DEHYDRATION. HIS BLOOD PRESSURE DROPS AND HE PASSES OUT. ON THE WAY TO THE HOSPITAL, THE FRIEND DIES.

***YOUR SON MAY BE CHARGED
UNDER NEW JERSEY'S DRUG INDUCED DEATH LAW.***

***UPON CONVICTION, HE MAY RECEIVE 20 YEARS IN PRISON, WITH A
17 YEAR PERIOD WHEN HE WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE.***

***20 YEARS IN PRISON
FOR ONE ECSTASY PILL***

***STILL THINK THAT THE DRUG EPIDEMIC EXISTS IN
PLACES OTHER THAN BERGEN COUNTY?***

*Brought as a public service message, not at taxpayers' expense,
by the Office of the Bergen County Prosecutor.
For more information, including information on how you can get rid of those old prescription drugs,
call our office at 201-226-5758.*