

TESTIMONY



**UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
DETECTIVE ROY RUTLAND**

INTRODUCTION/GREETING

MY NAME IS ROY RUTLAND. I AM AN UNDERCOVER NARCOTIC'S DETECTIVE, EMPLOYED BY THE MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT, LOCATED IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA. THE MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENTS= NARCOTICS BUREAU IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INVESTIGATING ANY NARCOTICS-RELATED OFFENSES OCCURRING IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

MY RESPONSIBILITY AS AN UNDERCOVER NARCOTICS DETECTIVE IS TWOFOLD. FIRST, MY JOB IS TO EFFECTIVELY TARGET AND INFILTRATE ORGANIZATIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION OF ANY ILLEGAL NARCOTICS. THE GOAL IS TO DISRUPT AND ELIMINATE THESE ORGANIZATIONS AT THEIR CORE FOUNDATION, INCLUDING SOURCE NATIONS. SECOND, MY JOB IS TO TESTIFY IN THE JUDICIAL PROCESS AND PURSUE THE PROPER JUDICIAL MEASURES NECESSARY FOR THE PROSECUTION AND INCARCERATION OF THESE NARCOTICS AND ORGANIZED CRIMINAL OFFENDERS.

DURING THE MID 1990's, SOUTH FLORIDA FIRST BEGAN TO EXPERIENCE WHAT MANY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND IN THE HEALTH COMMUNITY NOW CONSIDER TO BE A GLOBAL-EPIDEMIC. THE INTRODUCTION OR REAPPEARANCE OF THIS DEADLY DRUG MDMA, HAS SURFACED IN ALL TYPES OF VENUES. THE ARRIVAL OF MDMA COMES AS NO SURPRISE TO MANY OF US INVESTIGATORS WHO HAVE TARGETED AND INVESTIGATED MANY OTHER DEADLY NARCOTICS THAT HAVE MADE ENTRY INTO SOUTH FLORIDA AND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. THE SURPRISE HOWEVER,

COMES IN DEALING WITH THE VOLUME OF THIS DRUG BEING SMUGGLED INTO THE COUNTRY AND THE UNFORTUNATE GLOBAL POPULARITY ASSOCIATED WITH THE DRUG.

I FIRST BEGAN TO INVESTIGATE MDMA WHEN I INFILTRATED A SUBCULTURE THAT FREQUENTED VENUES THAT ARE NOW COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS ARAVE@ PARTIES. A VAST MAJORITY OF THESE PARTIES CONSISTENTLY DISGUISED AND CONTINUE TO DISGUISE THEIR APPEARANCE FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF PROFIT THROUGH A CLUB DRUG@ DISTRIBUTION, PRIMARILY MDMA. THE EFFECTIVE MARKETING TECHNIQUES AND ASTRONOMICAL PROFIT MARGINS I HAVE WITNESSED CONTRAST WITH ANY OTHER DRUG BEING DISTRIBUTED TODAY.

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT. THE UNFORTUNATE POPULARITY OF MDMA HAS CAUSED THIS DEADLY DRUG TO MOVE FROM THE ARAVE@ SCENE TO MAINSTREAM AMERICA. THIS IS EVIDENT IN MULTIPLE CASES THAT I HAVE INVESTIGATED IN SOUTH FLORIDA, NATIONALLY, AND INTERNATIONALLY. THE DISTURBING REALITY OF MDMA WAS CLEAR DURING THE YEAR 2000, WHEN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY EXPERIENCED THE FIRST APPREHENSION OF A DRUG-MULE WHO HAD SWALLOWED MULTIPLE PELLETS CONTAINING MORE THAN 1,000 MDMA TABLETS AND ATTEMPTED TO ENTER MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FROM THE NETHERLANDS, VIA MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. TO DATE, THE MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT, ALONG WITH THE UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE HAVE APPREHENDED TWO ADDITIONAL DRUG-MULES ATTEMPTING TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES FROM VARIOUS SOURCE NATIONS. EACH OF THESE MULES WERE FOUND TO HAVE SWALLOWED MORE THAN 2000 MDMA TABLETS EACH. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THESE NUMBERS PALE IN COMPARISON TO THE MULTIPLE DRUG-MULES THAT WE HAVE APPREHENDED IN SOUTH FLORIDA WHO HAVE UTILIZED ALTERNATE BODY-PACKING TECHNIQUES.

SINCE THE EXPLOSION OF THIS EPIDEMIC IN

SOUTH FLORIDA, MY FOCUS HAS BEEN ON INVESTIGATING SOLELY MDMA CASES, INCLUDING EDUCATING LAW ENFORCEMENT NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. DURING THE INFANT STAGES OF THIS EPIDEMIC, I WAS PRIMARILY NEGOTIATING AND DEALING WITH YOUNGER NARCO-TRAFFICKERS WITH LITTLE EXPERIENCE IN THE NARCOTICS TRADE. DURING THE LAST YEAR, I HAVE SEEN A RAPID TRANSFORMATION IN POWER. AS MANY OF US IN LAW ENFORCEMENT ANTICIPATED, THE TRADITIONAL NARCO-TRAFFICKERS AND THEIR SOURCE NATIONS HAVE ASSUMED MUCH OF THE NETWORK CONTROL OVER MDMA, THUS CAUSING MULTIPLE POWER STRUGGLES WITH ORGANIZATIONS IN NEW SOURCE NATIONS. AS A RESULT OF THESE POWER STRUGGLES, ALONG WITH THE ASTRONOMICAL PROFIT MARGINS, WE ON THE FRONT LINES ARE EXPERIENCING THE VIOLENCE ASSOCIATED.

THROUGH AGGRESSIVE INVESTIGATIONS AND SUCCESSFUL INFILTRATIONS, I ALONG WITH MANY OTHER UNDERCOVER NARCOTICS DETECTIVES HAVE SUCCESSFULLY DISRUPTED AND ELIMINATED MULTIPLE MDMA ORGANIZATIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION OF MDMA. NONE OF THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT A GLOBAL COOPERATIVE EFFORT IN LAW ENFORCEMENT. I AM PLEASED TO SAY THAT WE ARE COORDINATING AND WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH OTHER LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT, ALONG WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AT THE STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS TO COMBAT THIS EPIDEMIC. CASE AND POINT: EARLIER IN JULY, MEMBERS OF THE MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENTS NARCOTICS BUREAU INITIATED AN INVESTIGATION INVOLVING SEVERAL FOREIGN NATIONALS INVOLVED IN LARGE SCALE MDMA DISTRIBUTION FROM MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO NEW YORK CITY. AS A RESULT OF A SUCCESSFUL COOPERATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN TWO SEPARATE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, THE INVESTIGATION THAT WAS INITIATED BY THE MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENTS NARCOTICS BUREAU, CONCLUDED IN QUEENS, NEW YORK, BY THE NEW

YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT, QUEENS NARCOTICS UNIT. THE INVESTIGATION YIELDED THE SEIZURE OF 450 OF MDMA, OR APPROXIMATELY ONE POINT SIX MILLION MDMA TABLETS, \$187,000 N U.S. CURRENCY AND THE APPREHENSION OF TWO FOREIGN NATIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF 100,000 MDMA TABLETS, EVERY TWO WEEKS, FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS IN THE UNITED STATES.

IN CLOSING, UNDERCOVER NARCOTIC=S DETECTIVES ON THE FRONT LINES WILL CONTINUE TO AGGRESSIVELY COMBAT THIS GLOBAL EPIDEMIC. WITH CONTINUED SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND EFFECTIVE LEGISLATION SUCH AS THE A FEDERAL CRACK HOUSE LAW,@ I AM CONFIDENT WE WILL HAVE A DIRECT AND SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT ON MDMA.

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