

Sheriff's Office Charges Rebecca Miggins with Attempted Murder for Selling Fentanyl

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Headline: Sheriff's Office Charges Rebecca Miggins with Attempted Murder for Selling Fentanyl

Sheriff Ken Mascara announced today that Rebecca Miggins, 32, has been charged with attempted murder for her role in a weekend drug deal that led to an overdose.

According to the Sheriff, Miggins sold an individual heroin, knowing it was actually fentanyl. That individual injected the drug and collapsed in front of her. Miggins then left the person without rendering aid or calling for help.

"As I have shared many times, this epidemic of heroin-use must stop," said Sheriff Ken J. Mascara. "Our deputies and detectives have been issued the charge to not only respond to overdoses, but investigate them and target the sources. With our partners at the State Attorney's Office, and cooperating judges, today we add to that mission and send the message that you will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law – including murder."

According to the Sheriff, it is estimated that 144 Americans die each and every day from drug overdoses and in 2015 alone, more than 52,000 people in the U.S. died --- more than 3,000 of them in Florida. In 2016, there were 58 total overdoses in the unincorporated areas of St. Lucie County. This year, 69 total overdoses have occurred in the unincorporated county; 52 from heroin.

"While the burden of proof in cases such as this is very daunting, we support our State Attorney in the evolution of this case and stand ready to assist them in any way possible as it moves through the court process," Mascara said.

According to the Sheriff, after her arrest, Miggins was transported to the jail and upon exiting the patrol vehicle, deputies found a white powdery substance on the seat that tested positive for heroin and fentanyl. Deputies then strip-searched Miggins and located a plastic bag containing Xanax. Miggins was housed in the jail's medical unit for observation and during a routine cell inspection, another plastic bag was found containing a powdery substance consistent with heroin and fentanyl.

Miggins was charged with attempted homicide during a specific felony, two counts of tampering with or destroying evidence, four counts of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, three counts of possession of drug paraphernalia, two counts of introduction of contraband into a detention facility. She is held on a \$415,000 bond.

ABOUT THE SHERIFF:

The Florida Constitution establishes the Office of the elected County Sheriff who is responsible for preserving the peace, carrying out the orders of Florida courts and the Board of County Commissioners, and providing deputies at court sessions and meetings of the Board of County Commissioners. The Sheriff is the chief correctional officer of the county. Sheriff Ken J. Mascara is elected by the people of St. Lucie County and is accountable to them.