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**COMPREHENSIVE  
LAW ENFORCEMENT  
DRUG STRATEGY**



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POLICE COMMISSIONER  
CITY OF NEW YORK**

**FEBRUARY, 1991**

# CONTENTS

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**The Strategy** ..... 1

**The Drug Problem** ..... 3

**The Components of the Strategy** ..... 9

**Focus # 1: Street Level Trafficking  
and Quality of Life Issues** .....11

**Focus # 2: Organized Criminal Activity,  
Manufacture, Importation & Mid to  
High-Level Distribution Networks,  
Asset Forfeiture & Seizure** ..... 17

**Focus # 3: Consumer-Oriented Programs,  
Demand Reduction through Education &  
Customer Accountability** ..... 21

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# THE STRATEGY

To combat the scourge of drugs and attendant crime in our city, the New York City Police Department has directed resources toward developing a powerful and sophisticated enforcement strategy. Despite state-of-the-art enforcement techniques, the importation and sale of illegal drugs --most notably crack-- has escalated at an unprecedented rate. The damage incurred by drugs has stretched our resources and frustrated our response. In the face of this, the Department continues to pursue aggressive enforcement on all fronts while striving to reduce demand through education.

The Department has recently increased Narcotics Division personnel to record levels, strengthened its commitment to complex investigation of middle and high echelon dealers, and hammered at street-level drug trafficking with the implementation of "Operation Takeback." A promising new program, "Operation Takeback" is designed to reduce "income-generating" crimes and return neighborhoods to their law-abiding citizens by saturation with uniformed and specialized services to include the Detective Bureau and the Warrant Division.

While this is the Department's newest initiative, a host of other programs of proven effectiveness continues in force. Coupled with aggressive programs to further integrate the police into the community, the Department continues to analyze the drug problem, adjusting to emerging conditions, testing new and creative approaches on a solid foundation of experience and technical expertise.

This report describes in detail the scope of the city's drug crisis and the development of programs we have employed in our efforts to address it. These programs are focused in three areas of concentration:

## FOCUS # 1

- \* Trafficking and sale, quality of life issues, including street level distribution;

## FOCUS # 2

- \* Organized criminal activity, manufacture, importation and mid-to-high level distribution networks, asset forfeiture, and seizure;

## FOCUS # 3

- \* Consumer oriented programs, demand reduction through education, and customer accountability.

Of course, the number and scope of our initiatives are limited by fiscal constraints and by our status as but one component of an overburdened criminal justice system. But the Department's strength lies in its legendary reputation for getting the job done.

As you read this report, you will sense that the challenges presented by the drug crisis are indeed complex. While the long term solutions of education, treatment, and rehabilitation have been initiated, the Department reaffirms its commitment to optimum use of existing resources in order to improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers.



# THE DRUG PROBLEM

For several decades police departments have devoted some measure of their resources to combating the criminal aspects of illegal drugs. Strategies were usually based upon the premise that use and sale of illegal drugs were, for the most part, confined to a drug subculture with an atypical lifestyle, or to the lowest levels of the social and economic chain.

Heroin, cocaine, marijuana, and a host of other drugs have been available for years. While the drug of choice has varied along with changing social norms, the problem appeared manageable and seemed to yield to some police strategies. Supply-side enforcement often resulted in large seizures of drugs and demonstrated law enforcement's ability to infiltrate and attack drug supplies at the source. Police were content to focus on the manifest aspects of drug abuse and gave little thought to demand reduction through education.

These assumptions and strategies have been blown away by the explosion in drug abuse few predicted and for which no one was prepared. Crack became the catalyst which shattered America's misconceptions about the drug problem.

Crack, a highly addictive form of cocaine, has had such a profound and devastating effect upon the quality of life in America that many police chiefs now compute time by the year that crack became a problem in their jurisdiction. In New York City that year was 1986.

## Drugs In New York City

The drug problem in New York City is directly related to its role as a major transportation center and international gateway. New York and the surrounding metropolitan area serve as the port of entry for countless cargo containers from all over the world and its three international airports receive millions of foreign travelers each year. Drugs from all over the world enter New York on their way to drug abusers in this city and throughout the nation.

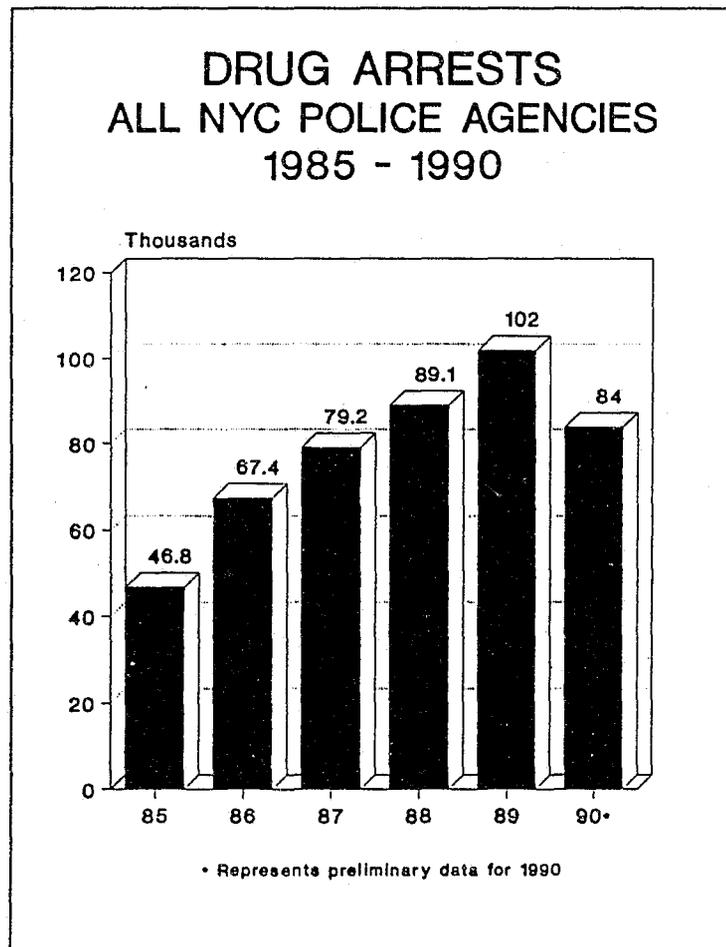
Many of New York's neighborhoods contain all the elements necessary to foster drug abuse and these elements are aggravated by the ready availability of drugs. Unemployment, poverty, and despair create a climate in which the illegal drug business thrives.

New York's drug problem is not only inner city based. As the center of a vast metropolitan area surrounded by many suburban counties, New York represents a true urban marketplace. Drug customers from New Jersey, Connecticut, and surrounding counties drive into the city in quest of drugs creating a drug bazaar on some streets where dealers openly hawk their wares.

These factors destroy the stability of neighborhoods and the quality of life. Fear of violent crime and an atmosphere of lawlessness hold innocent citizens prisoners in their own homes.

The physical and economic costs to New Yorkers are staggering. Of the 1905 homicides committed in the city during 1989, 28 percent were classified as drug related. During a single month that same year a sample of males arrested and processed in the Manhattan Central Booking facility revealed that 84 percent tested positive for one or more drugs. Of over 10,000 drug related admissions to city hospitals in 1988, cocaine accounted for 39 percent. Crack use among women is on the rise with many becoming involved in prostitution for drugs. Crack now significantly contributes to the transmission of the HIV virus and other sexually transmitted diseases.

While the cost in crime and health fields is all too apparent, less obvious but more devastating is its impact upon children and the family. Women abusing crack gave birth to 3,000 addicted infants in 1989. It has been estimated that about 10,000 children, born to crack addicted mothers, will soon be entering the New York City Public School system. The city's infant mortality rate is 250 percent higher in births where drugs are a factor. There were 18,000 reports of child abuse and neglect in 1980; by 1988 the number had reached 55,000.



## Supply and Demand

The principles of supply and demand, profit and risk, drive the drug trade with the price of drugs fluctuating accordingly. Just a few years ago a kilogram of cocaine cost in excess of \$40,000. In 1989, the price for the same kilogram had dropped to between \$14,000 and \$16,000. By 1990, the price had increased once again to over \$30,000. During this period, New York City Police achieved record numbers of arrests and seized enormous quantities of cocaine.

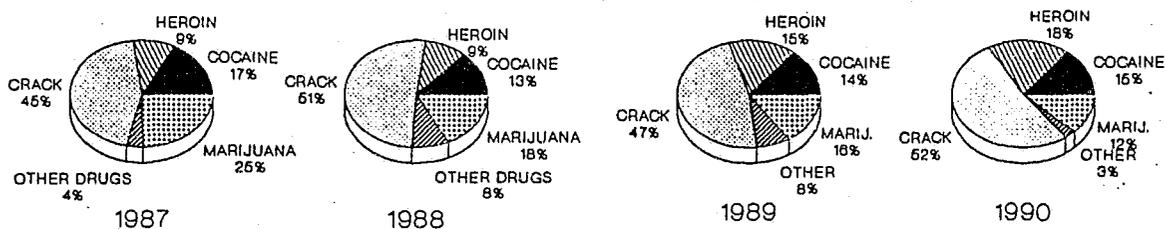
## The Drugs

Cocaine, heroin, and marijuana continue to dominate the drug picture in New York City. The plentiful supply of these organically produced drugs has precluded manufactured drugs, such as Methamphetamine, from gaining the same popularity in New York as in some jurisdictions. LSD, amphetamines, and other pharmaceuticals in pill form are still available, however there is no wide spread demand.

### The Drug Of Choice

An examination of arrests by the Narcotics Division over a four year period strongly suggests that "CRACK" is the clear drug of choice.

## ARREST COMPARISON BY DRUG OF CHOICE

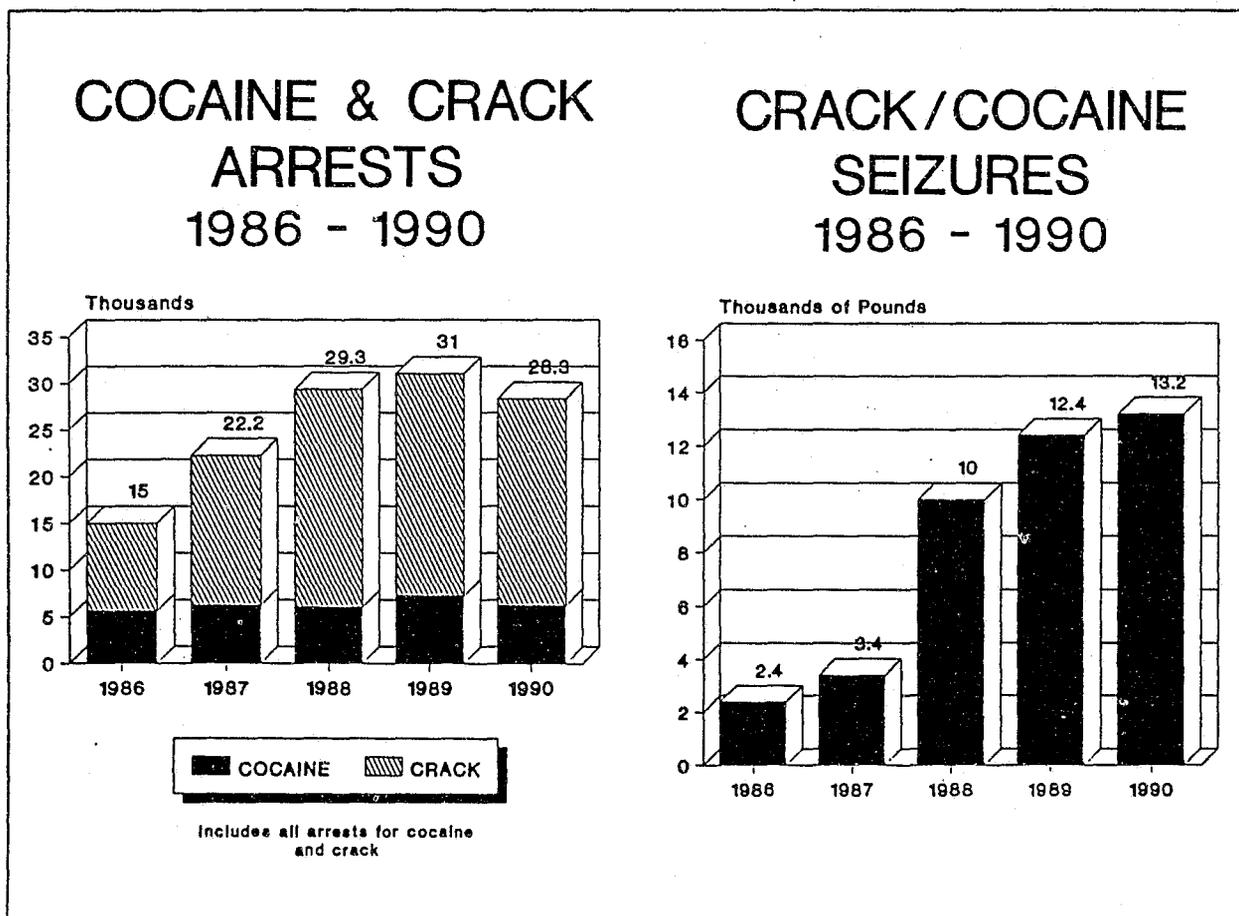


Cocaine arrests have not increased substantially despite of dramatic increases in personnel assigned to the Narcotics Division. However, heroin arrests, though fewer in number than either crack or cocaine, have shown a consistent year-to-year increase.

## Cocaine

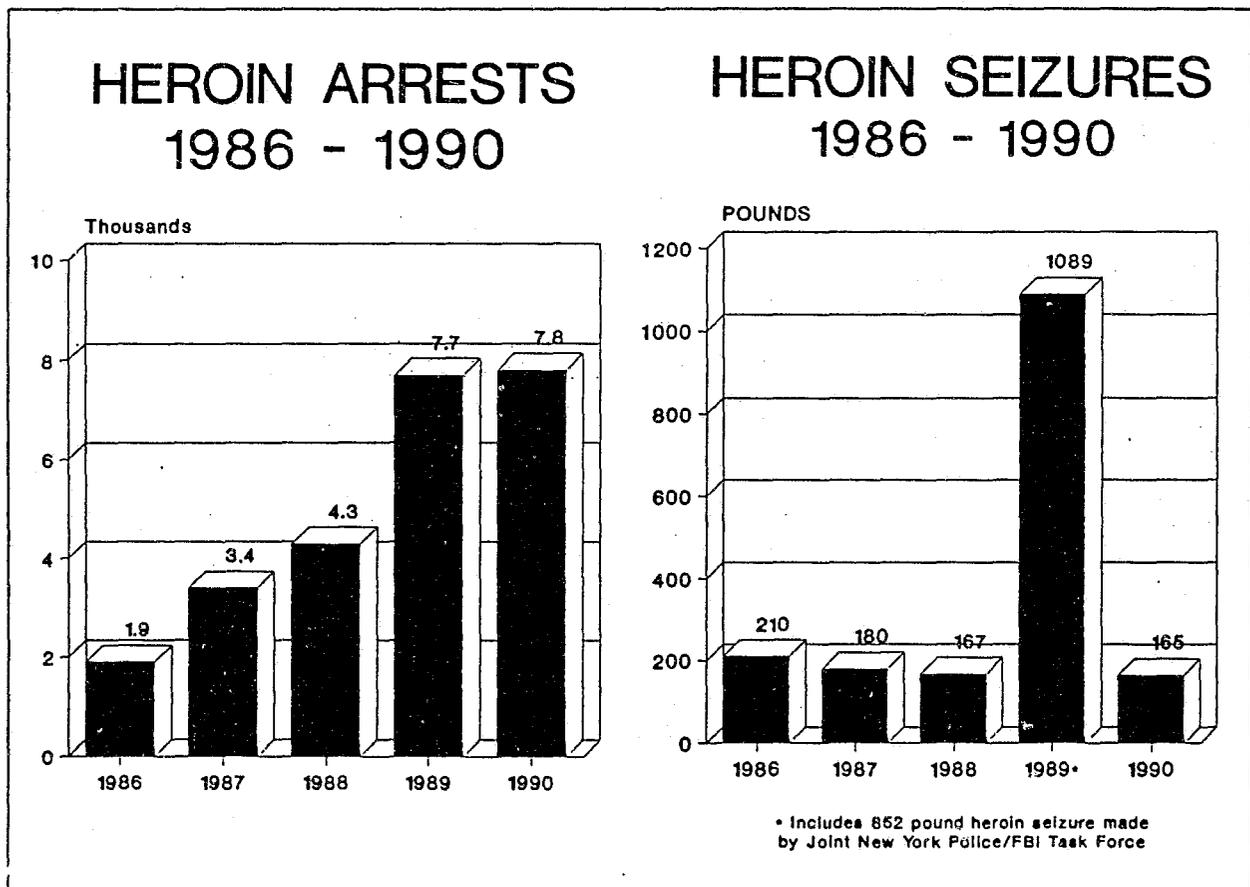
Present anti-drug strategies have evolved in reaction to the various modes of importation at work in New York City, where smuggling techniques are limited only by the imagination of the criminal.

The Department has entered into a cooperative enforcement effort with the United States Customs Service at Kennedy and LaGuardia Airports. A joint endeavor, code named "Operation Southbound," has yielded 14 million dollars in seized currency from outbound traffickers in just 11 months. The Department and the Drug Enforcement Task Force (NYPD/DEA/NYSP) work on an ongoing basis with Port Authority, Amtrak, Long Island Railroad Police, and Grand Central Police. During the last six months of 1989, the DETF, together with Amtrak/LIRR Police, effected 16 arrests and seized 35 pounds of cocaine from outbound couriers.



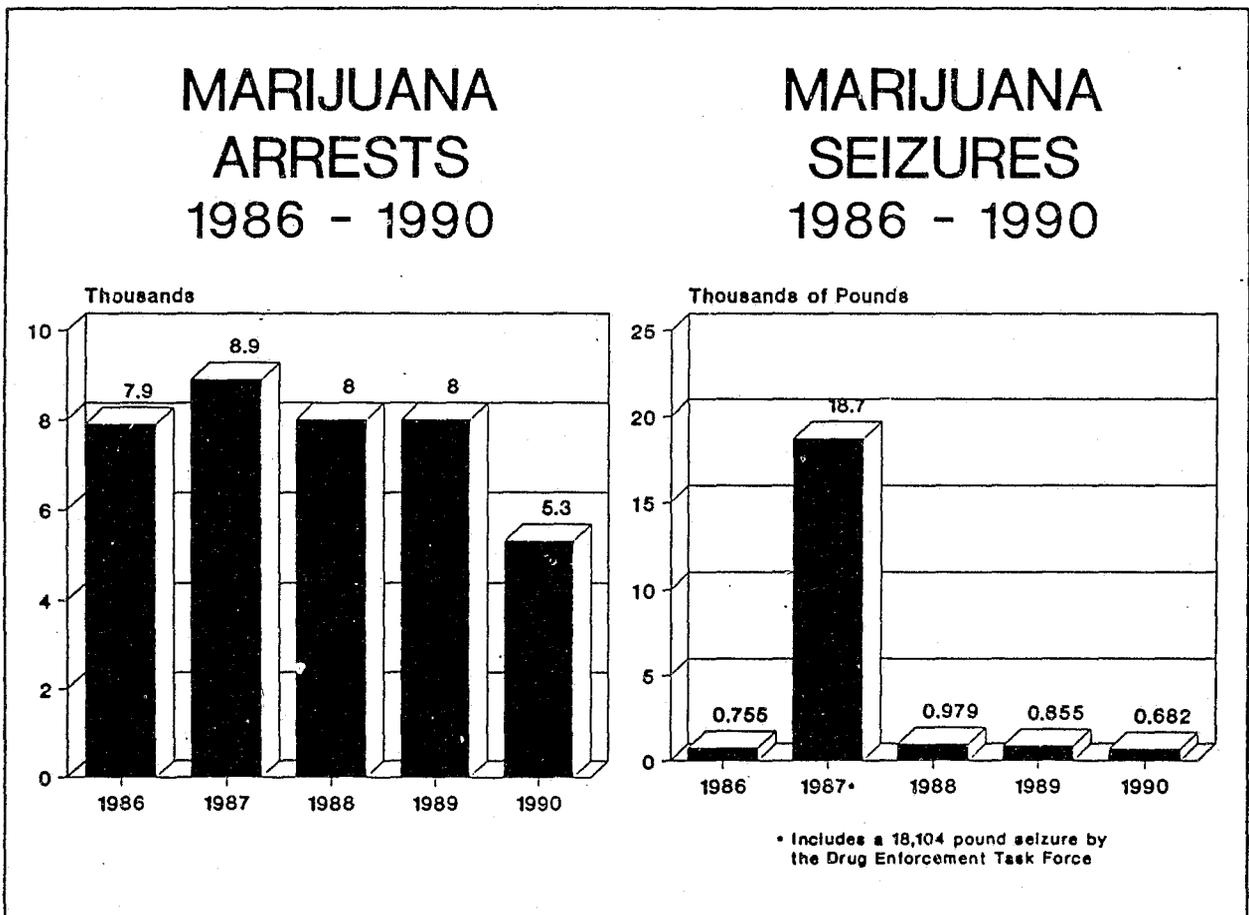
## Heroin

In an effort to limit drugs entering by way of New York City's marine and air ports, the Department works closely with the United States Customs Service. This working arrangement has played a key role in successfully monitoring the recent dramatic changeover of the New York heroin supply from Southwest Asian to Southeast Asian sources. In a marked departure from 1985, when "Golden Triangle" heroin accounted for as little as three percent of the incoming product, that region now supplies some seventy percent of the heroin reaching New York City streets. Average purity is over forty percent. During 1989, our Joint New York Police/FBI Task Force seized over eight hundred pounds of Southeast Asian heroin in a single seizure (reported to be the largest heroin seizure in United States' History). There remains continuing evidence of significant heroin demand in the metropolitan area at a time when many believe this drug is on the wane. Another fact tending to dispute a decrease in heroin usage is that in 1989, heroin arrests effected by Narcotics Division personnel increased by 81 percent (7,690) over the previous year (4,255).



## Marijuana

Marijuana, the most widely used illegal drug in America, is still plentiful in New York City. Once sold openly from store front "smoke shops" throughout the city, intensive enforcement efforts during the early 1980's closed these operations. Marijuana continues to be a quality of life issue, with street dealers concentrating in parks and near business districts. Enforcement in this area remains vital due to marijuana's role as a gateway drug very popular among young people.



# THE COMPONENTS OF THE STRATEGY

The New York City Police Department's approach to the drug problem is multi-faceted and utilizes a broad range of Department and city resources. While drug enforcement is the primary responsibility of the Narcotics Division, there are also patrol based enforcement initiatives, and public education and demand reduction programs administered by the Deputy Commissioner for Community Affairs.

A key element in the Department's program was the reorganization of the Narcotics Division. To reflect the multi-faceted approach to enforcement, the Division was reorganized to include units capable of focusing on the different aspects of the problem.

## Narcotics Division Enforcement

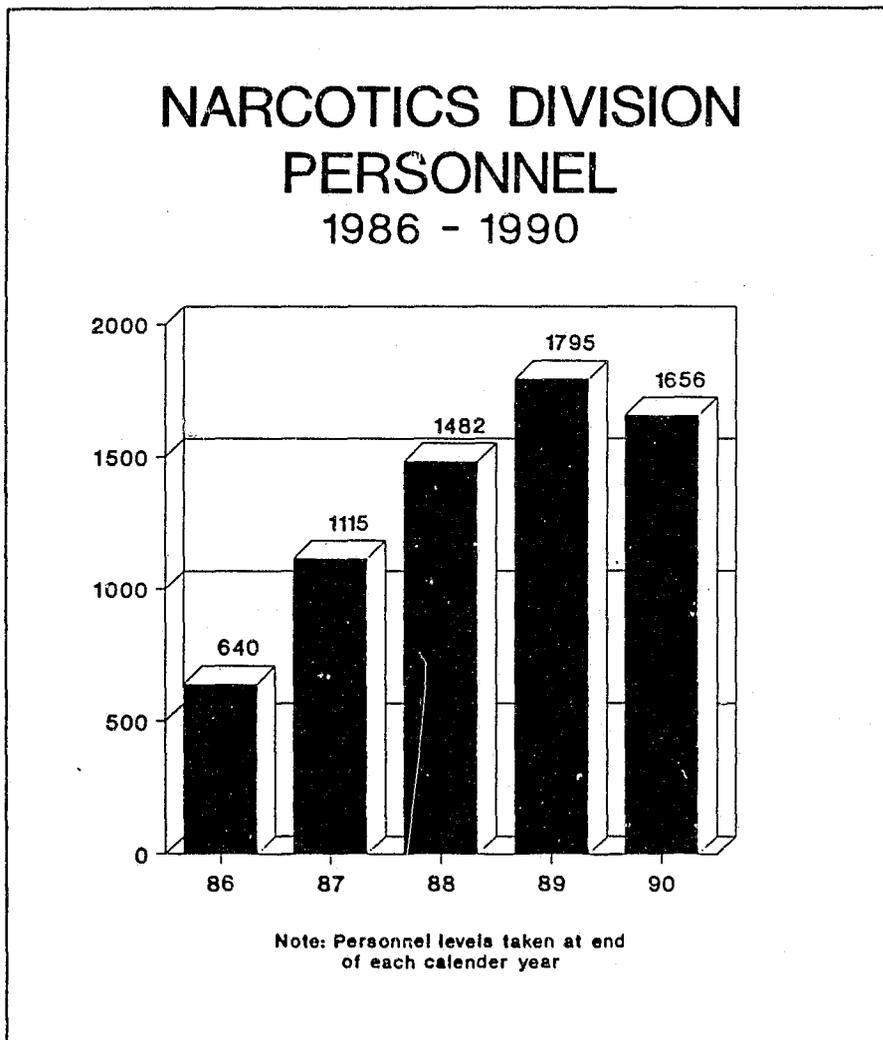
The Department has formulated drug enforcement initiatives directed toward every level of distribution. The Narcotics Division currently deploys approximately 75 % of available resources to combat street level drug dealing. The remaining 25 % are deployed against middle and upper echelon drug traffickers. A growing intelligence capability, combined with increased experience of operational personnel, often result in the undertaking of sophisticated, long term investigations requiring the manning of electronic eavesdropping operations, surveillance, and other evidence gathering activities. The result will likely be some decrease in overall arrest activity and an increase in quality of enforcement, as traffickers at the management and distributor levels are identified and targeted for investigation.

## Reorganization of the Division

In response to dramatic increases in drug abuse and distribution, the Police Department undertook a major restructuring of the Narcotics Division, significantly increasing personnel and implementing new approaches.

Simultaneous with this reorganization, a vigorous city-wide assault on street-level drug trafficking was launched to meet growing community concern over bold, flagrant drug dealing. In 1987, drug complaints had risen to 61,230 annually, an all time high.

The restructuring was completed as the 1980's ended. The decade closed out with a record 102,000 narcotics arrests made in the city in 1989, with over 50,000 being effected by Narcotics Division personnel.



## FOCUS #1:

# STREET LEVEL DRUG TRAFFICKING AND QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES

While no community is immune from the devastating effects of drugs, some neighborhoods in New York City have been hit harder than others.

The **Narcotics Division** commits 75 % of its resources to combat street-level drug activity to provide immediate relief to affected neighborhoods and improve the quality of life.

Members of the **Patrol Services Bureau** are also continuously active in the Department's drug enforcement effort, both in cooperation with other agencies and at the precinct level through Street Narcotics Enforcement Units and Operation Pressure Points throughout New York City.

The **Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Community Affairs** works diligently to rebuild community confidence in police. Working as a catalyst, through citizen participation programs such as "Drug-Busters," the Department helps neighborhoods share the responsibility for a community's own security and well-being.

Functioning in partnership with twenty five other city agencies that make up the **Mayor's Anti-Drug Task Force**, the Department has strengthened the "working together strategy," which has proven to be the cornerstone of our success.

The following pages describe the Department's programs and initiatives designed to address street level drug trafficking and the quality of life issues affected.

# Focus #1

## Narcotics Division Initiatives

### Districts

Narcotics Districts are responsible for the primary enforcement of drug related laws in the borough. District personnel respond to all drug complaints and investigate both street and mid-level drug trafficking. Community concerns are reflected in complaints of drug sales and are addressed by district officers using both street and off-street enforcement techniques.

### Tactical Narcotics Teams (T.N.T.)

T.N.T. is a drug enforcement overlay designed to complement other strategies rather than replace them. T.N.T. addresses street-level drug conditions to provide an immediate response to citizen and community concerns. Its goal is achieved by committing narcotics investigators to aggressive "buy-and-bust" activities for a relatively short period of time (up to ninety days) within a target area carefully selected by uniformed and narcotics commanders.

Three aspects essential to T.N.T. success are: strong community support and involvement, closely coordinated efforts of the Mayor's Anti-Drug Task Force and a flexible, mobile, drug enforcement unit.

Utilizing Manhattan as a study sample for final dispositions, it was shown that a total of 4,352 felony arrests effected (in Manhattan) by T.N.T. between November 15, 1988 and January 30, 1990, 1,293 have resulted in felony convictions. Sentences range from "conditional discharge" to "nine years to life."

The convictions were distributed as follows:

|                          | NUMBER  | PERCENTAGE |
|--------------------------|---------|------------|
| State Prison.....        | 548 ..  | 42 %       |
| City Jail.....           | 388 ..  | 30 %       |
| "Time Served".....       | 10 ..   | 1 %        |
| Probation.....           | 342 ..  | 26 %       |
| Conditional Discharge... | 5 ..    | 1 %        |
|                          | -----   | -----      |
|                          | 1293 .. | 100 %      |

### **City Housing Project Initiatives**

This program was created to address drug trafficking problems identified in Housing Authority Projects. The Legal Bureau assists current enforcement activities through the application of civil processes.

### **Housing Preservation and Development Operations**

Developed in April of 1987, in cooperation with the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development, this project's objective is to target city owned buildings with chronic drug trafficking problems and direct vigorous enforcement efforts against violators.

### **East Brooklyn Churches**

This program is one example of a successful police/community partnership. Based on information provided by the East Brooklyn Churches Association, the Narcotics Division utilizes the Padlock Law to stabilize or shutdown active "smokeshop" locations in Patrol Borough Brooklyn North.

### **Operation Bronx Anti-Narcotics Drive (BAND)**

The successful one-two combination of Narcotics Division "buy and bust" operations and aggressive, pro-active policing performed by uniformed members of the Patrol Services Bureau is employed in Operation BAND. Modeled after the Operation Pressure Point programs in Manhattan, BAND is an enforcement initiative currently active in the 46th and 52nd Police Precincts.

### **Washington Square Park**

This operation was designed to deny use of the park to low level drug dealers who were using the park to conduct drug transactions. This operation has been largely successful in improving the local quality of life and enabling the law-abiding citizens of the city to enjoy this facility for its intended purpose.

### **Special Theater Restaurant Anti-Narcotics Drive (STRAND)**

Launched in June of 1988, this enforcement initiative utilizes the "buy and bust" concept of narcotics enforcement to disrupt street level drug trafficking in Manhattan's Theater District. The target area consists of West 43rd Street to West 49th Street, between 8th and 10th Avenues.

## **Focus #1**

### **Patrol Service Bureau Initiatives**

#### **Operation Takeback**

Operation "Takeback" is the latest initiative undertaken by the Department to address open street-level drug trafficking. This program combines personnel from the Patrol Services Bureau, the Organized Crime Control Bureau, the Detective Bureau, and the Warrant Division. Currently, Operation "Takeback" is in place in seven (7) areas throughout the city. "Takeback" areas are saturated with uniformed personnel while narcotics investigators conduct concentrated "buy and bust" operations. Detective Bureau and Narcotics Division personnel investigate drug related homicides. Warrant Division personnel focus efforts against violators located within the "Takeback" areas.

#### **Operation Pressure Point**

The three Pressure Point Programs were created to reduce the blatant, street-level drug trafficking that had been plaguing areas of our city. Since its inception in January of 1984, this type of enforcement program has been largely successful and has served as a model for other enforcement programs here in New York City, as well as other municipalities. The cornerstone of the Pressure Point program is the joint effort of the Narcotics Division and the Patrol Services Bureau. The Narcotics Division conducts "buy and bust" operations disrupting low-level drug operations. The Patrol Services Bureau provides a highly visible uniformed presence in the targeted area by assigning uniformed Police Officers to foot posts to maintain the cleansed areas.

#### **Precinct Level Initiatives**

The success of "Pressure Point" provided the framework for similar initiatives at the Precinct level. The objectives of these initiatives are to reduce and eliminate flagrant street conditions and improve the quality of life in target areas. To achieve this, the combined resources of the Patrol Bureau and Narcotics Division are deployed in small target areas. These programs are currently operational in: 34 Pct. (Operation Clean Heights), 100, 101, 102, 103, 105, 107, 113 Pcts. (Operation Queens), 71 Pct. (Operation 71), 77 Pct. (Operation 77), MTS Pct. (Bryant Park area program), Central Park, and the 6th Pct. (Washington Square Park).

### **Street Narcotics Enforcement Unit**

The Patrol Service Bureau established Street Narcotics Enforcement Units (SNEU) to address street-level drug conditions which have an adverse effect on the quality of life within patrol precincts. These Units are staffed by uniformed members of the Patrol Services Bureau.

Currently, there are SNEU units operating in forty five (45) precincts throughout the city. During the first six months of 1990, SNEU units effected 9,615 narcotics arrests.

### **Special Narcotics Abatement Program**

The Special Narcotics Abatement Program (SNAP) was established in May 1984. The primary purpose of SNAP is to address illegal drug sales from store-front locations posing as legitimate businesses. This program utilizes uniformed personnel in the arrest of persons involved in the sale of controlled substances and marijuana. These arrests, by members of the Patrol Services Bureau, result from "buys" made by undercover officers assigned to the Narcotics Division. SNAP operates in 18 precincts and since inception has effected 3,316 arrests and seized 71 firearms, 17 vehicles and \$372,130. Once arrests are effected the targeted premise is placed into the "Padlock" program.

## Focus #1

# The Deputy Commissioner of Community Affairs Sponsored Programs

### **Drug-Busters Program**

"Drug-Busters" is a drug intelligence gathering program coordinated by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Community Affairs. It provides an opportunity for community members to participate in the eradication of street-level drug trafficking in their neighborhoods.

Community Affairs personnel train members of the community in techniques which improve their skill in the observation and reporting of narcotics related intelligence information.

To date, there have been 14,649 citizens recruited city-wide. "Drug-Busters" have provided 1,304 tips which have resulted in 556 arrests.

### **Crack Hotline**

Established in 1986, the Crack Hotline is a community access program sponsored by the Deputy Commissioner of Community Affairs. This hotline is monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to accept drug complaints. In addition to its intelligence function, the personnel assigned to the Crack Hotline have made numerous referrals to the Cocaine Hotline for people requesting assistance with their own personal substance abuse problems. The hotline has referred over 21,000 callers to the Cocaine Hotline.

Information obtained from the hotline is forwarded to specific enforcement units within the Department.

Since inception, the Narcotics Division has received over 52,000 referrals and the hotline has received over 135,000 calls.

## FOCUS # 2:

# ORGANIZED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, MANUFACTURE, IMPORTATION AND MID TO HIGH LEVEL DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS, ASSET FORFEITURE AND SEIZURE

New York City serves as a major port of entry for heroin and cocaine, destined for consumption in the northeastern United States. This status requires intense enforcement efforts against middle and top echelon drug dealers such as the operations of the Medellin and Cali cartels.

Similar to the "multi-agency" component of the TNT program, a "working together" strategy is carried out at the federal, state, and local levels. The **Narcotics Division** participates in joint task forces with Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the New York State Police (NYSP). The **Organized Crime Investigation Division** and the **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)** are partners in several joint narcotics task forces. In addition, the Department maintains liaison with numerous federal and state agencies in exchanging information and participating in ad hoc enforcement operations.

The **Patrol Services Bureau** contributes to this effort through its **Narcotics Eviction Program** and diligent reporting of intelligence information regarding drug distribution locations.

The **Legal Bureau** provides invaluable assistance in expediting the legal process regarding seized assets subject to forfeiture. In addition, the **Legal Bureau** litigates all **Padlock Law** cases generated by **Organized Crime Control Bureau** investigators.

## Focus #2

### Narcotics Divison Initiatives

#### Major Case Units

The Major Case Units, staffed by seasoned investigators, conduct investigations of upper-echelon drug traffickers through the cultivation of registered confidential informants, and development of tactical intelligence.

#### NITRO

The NITRO (Narcotics Investigative Tracking of Recidivist Offenders) Unit coordinates, develops, maintains and disseminates tactical narcotics intelligence both within the Department and in exchange with other law enforcement agencies. NITRO's strategic value is being realized in terms of the targeting capability it furnishes, as well as the development of information sources.

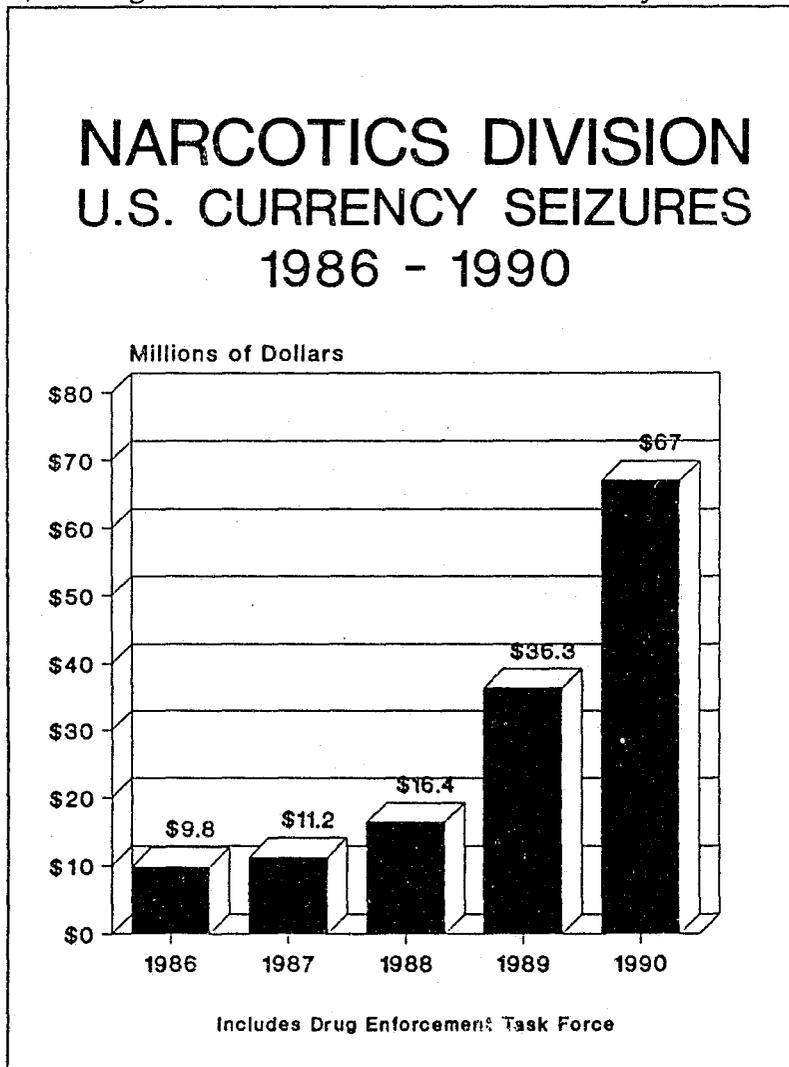
The program is designed to focus the prioritized enforcement effort of participating criminal justice agencies on career felony drug offenders identified by the New York City Police Department's Narcotics Division. Agencies participating in the program include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Custom Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, Internal Revenue Service and twelve other agencies of Federal, State and local government.

The Narcotics Division coordinates the program utilizing an on-line computer system which has targeted over 50,000 recidivist drug violators. All arrests of career felony drug offenders are enhanced by members of the Narcotics Division to strengthen prosecution and better assure conviction.

## Task Force Operations (Mid-Range & Top Echelon)

The Drug Enforcement Task Force (DETF) is a tripartite team of personnel from the New York City Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the New York State Police. Established in 1971, it has an enviable record and reputation. The high level investigations conducted by the DETF have resulted in large seizures of drugs and other contraband as well as impressive amounts of currency. Cash confiscations of over \$25 million were made in 1989 alone. One single incident yielded \$18.6 million, secreted in hidden compartments built into a cargo truck.

Another task force, the Organized Crime Investigation Division (OCID), is a full partner in several joint task forces designed to dismantle major narcotics enterprises. Staffed by NYCPD detectives and agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), this effort has had substantial success in many areas. In 1989, one task force investigation led to the seizure in Queens of 820 pounds of heroin, the largest of its kind in United States history.



## **House/Apartment Forfeiture Unit**

In an effort to curtail the use of residential premises for drug trafficking, the Narcotics Division initiated the House/Apartment Forfeiture Unit in April of 1988. This program is a coordinated effort involving the First Deputy Commissioner's Office, the Organized Crime Control Bureau, the Legal Bureau, the United States Marshals Office, and the United States Attorney's Office.

The objective of the program is to identify and seize residential premises that are used for the purposes of trafficking illicit drugs. Utilizing a variety of Federal and local laws, privately owned houses and leases for apartments are seized. This discourages drug dealers from using homes or apartments as "drug supermarkets."

## **Operation Padlock**

When Local Law 42 was enacted on September 10, 1984, the New York City Police Department began its Padlock Law Enforcement Program. This law empowers the Police Commissioner to "padlock" any premise deemed to be a public nuisance because of its use in certain illegal activities such as drug trafficking. The Padlock Program successfully stabilized or inactivated over 90 % of the targeted locations in its first year of operation.

## **Focus #2**

### **Patrol Service Bureau Initiatives**

#### **Narcotics Eviction Program**

The Narcotics Eviction Program is a pilot project operational in the 23, 28, 30, and 34 Precincts. In conjunction with the Manhattan District Attorney, Community Patrol Officers notify building owners when drug violations occur on their property. The goal of this pilot project is to facilitate the eviction of drug violators by providing the premise owner with the necessary documentation needed to satisfy the requirements of Housing Court. When called upon, officers also testify in Housing Court.

## FOCUS #3:

# CONSUMER ORIENTED PROGRAMS, DEMAND REDUCTION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CUSTOMER ACCOUNTABILITY

The Police Department's enforcement initiatives are but "one piece in the puzzle" of the overall drug strategy. Enforcement is a valuable tool and plays an important role in improving the quality of life in our city. But in the long term, the better part of the answer lies in **demand reduction through education**. Until the demand for drugs has been eliminated, or at least measurably reduced, we will be hard-pressed to make significant inroads toward solving the drug problem.

New York's high intensity drug problem is more than just inner-city based. As the center of a vast metropolitan area, the challenge of attempting to solve the problem is exacerbated by non-residents who travel into our city from surrounding counties and states to purchase drugs.

### **School Program to Educate and Control Drug Abuse (SPECDA)**

Through S.P.E.C.D.A., the Narcotics Division and the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Community Affairs has a unique partnership with the Board of Education to provide positive role models, help students make sound decisions and bolster their confidence. The primary goal is to prevent potential drug abuse. Long range benefits include stronger police-community ties and enhanced public understanding of the Department's role in society.

The Deputy Commissioner of Community Affairs sponsors the education arm of the SPECDA program. The education prong of SPECDA utilizes the team teaching concept. Police officers along with Board of Education drug counselors educate elementary school children to the dangers of drug abuse. The SPECDA program is currently operational in 777 schools throughout the city.

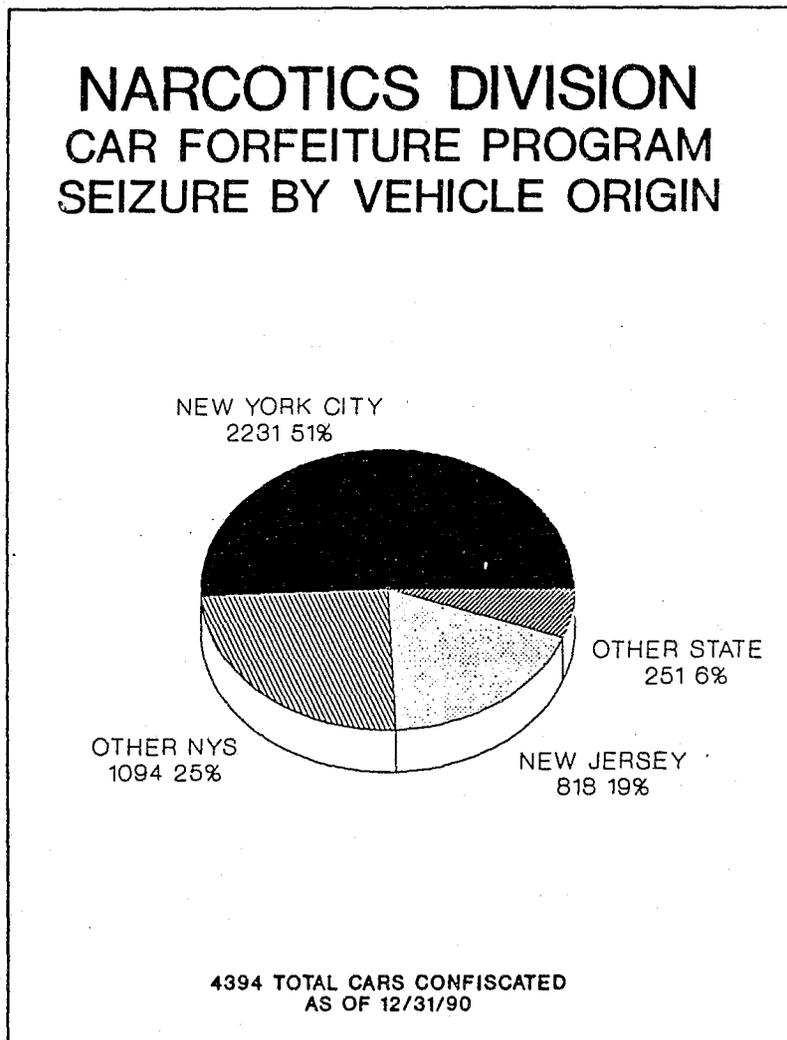
SPECDA makes about a million educational contacts with elementary school children annually.

The second prong of SPECDA is the enforcement arm. Narcotics Division personnel operate in close proximity to schools to provide a safe environment for children travelling to and from school.

## Customer Accountability

In July of 1986, the NYCPD began its Customer Car Forfeiture Program, laying to rest the popular misconception that the demand for drugs is attributable solely to "inner city addicts." The car forfeiture program is designed to deter drug customers who regularly travel into the city to purchase drugs for both their personal use or re-sale in their home communities. It also discourages "recreational users" from driving to "drug prone areas" to purchase drugs.

Of the 4,394 vehicles seized, 49 % bear out-of-town registrations.



Those arrested for sale or possession of a controlled substance while they are vehicle occupants, risk forfeiture of the vehicle as well as incarceration.

### **Demand Reduction through Adult Education**

The Narcotics Division provides a vital public service by conducting lectures on the dangers of drug abuse. These lectures are presented to corporations and interested community groups under the auspices of the Special Projects Unit. This program continues to receive enthusiastic support and interest from a variety of groups.

### **Demand Reduction Days-Wall Street Initiative**

This "demand reduction through enforcement" program targets both the buyer and seller in an attempt to discourage drug trafficking in our city's financial district, especially the Wall Street area. The program has demonstrated that demand for drugs obeys no economic boundaries, with arrestees coming from across the income strata.