

# *The Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of recognizing March 2015 as "Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month" in Contra Costa County

**Resolution No. 2015/57**

WHEREAS, drug overdose was the leading cause of injury death in 2012 among those 25 to 64 years old, causing more deaths than motor vehicle traffic accidents; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, 1.4 million emergency department (ED) visits were related to the misuse or abuse of pharmaceuticals; of the 22,767 deaths relating to pharmaceutical overdose in 2013, 16,235 involved opioid analgesics and 6,973 involved benzodiazepines; and

WHEREAS, nonmedical use of prescription painkillers cost health insurers up to \$72.5 billion annually in direct health-care cost, and overdose deaths involving opioid pain relievers (OPR) now exceed more deaths than heroin and cocaine combined; and

WHEREAS, during the nine National Prescription Drug Take Back Days, a total of 4.8 million pounds (2,411 tons) of medication have been removed by the DEA and its state, local, tribal law enforcement and community partners from circulation and potential diversion; and

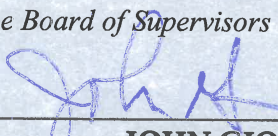
WHEREAS, as many as 70% of those who abuse prescription drugs get them from a relative or friend instead of a doctor; and

WHEREAS, the National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse, RxSafe Contra Costa, the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board, the Contra Costa County CourAGE Youth Health Coalition in cooperation with the Contra Costa Behavioral Health Division's Alcohol and Other Drugs Services, law enforcement, community based organizations, alcohol and other drugs service providers and civic and business leaders coordinate Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month activities in Contra Costa County to engage our citizens in demonstrating their commitment to prevention campaigns and education aimed at raising awareness about the abuse/misuse of prescription drug impacts, promoting prescription drug safe storing and disposal and using medications only as prescribed; and

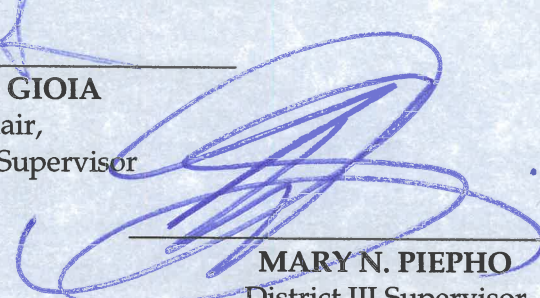
WHEREAS, families, schools, businesses, faith-based communities, law enforcement, medical professionals, county and local governments, health care practitioners and pharmacists of Contra Costa County and the general public will demonstrate their commitment to the prevention of prescription medication abuse by participating in activities intended to highlight local efforts during the month of March.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby recognize March, 2015 as "Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month" as enacted by state law in April, 2013, and encourages all citizens to actively participate in prevention programs and activities and safely store and dispose of their medications on a continual basis. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors encourages all community members to pledge, "Spread the Word...One Pill Can Kill".

*PASSED by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors members present this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2015.*

  
JOHN GIOIA  
Chair,  
District I Supervisor

  
CANDACE ANDERSEN  
District II Supervisor

  
MARY N. PIEPHO  
District III Supervisor

  
KAREN MITCHOFF  
District IV Supervisor

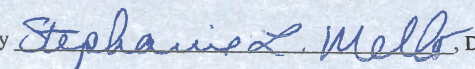
ABSENT  
FEDERAL D. GLOVER  
District V Supervisor



I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown:

ATTESTED: March 3, 2015

DAVID TWA, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator

By  Deputy