



Susan Quinn
Director

OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

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Ms. Karla Ivarson

Sent via email: opra+request-1686-f1d225bd@requests.opramachine.com

May 11, 2018

Ms. Ivarson,

Attached, please find a response to your OPRA request.

Sincerely,

Sara Siegler, MLIS
Assistant Library Director
Custodian of Record

Enclosure: Susan Quinn December 9, 2015 Memorandum: Drug & Alcohol Incidents in OCL

Quinn, Susan

From: Karla Ivarson <opra+request-1686-f1d225bd@requests.opramachine.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 5:48 AM
To: Quinn, Susan
Subject: Open Public Records Act request - Drug & Alcohol Report referenced in the Dec 2015 Director's Report

Dear Ocean County Library,

This is a request for public records made under OPRA and the common law right of access. Please acknowledge receipt of this message.

Records requested: the Report on Drug and Alcohol Incidents in OCL prepared by Rita Oakes which was referenced in the December 2015 Director's Report.

Sincerely,

Karla Ivarson

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
opra+request-1686-f1d225bd@requests.opramachine.com

Is squinn@theoceancountylibrary.org the wrong address for Open Public Records Act requests to Ocean County Library? If so, please contact us using this form:
https://opramachine.com/change_request/new?body=ocean_county_library

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies:
<https://opramachine.com/help/officers>

Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.

If you find this service useful as an OPRA officer, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's OPRA page.



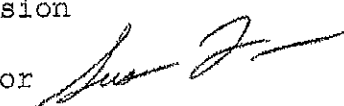
OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

Connecting People ... Building Community

Susan Quinn
Director

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MEMORANDUM

Date: December 9, 2015
To: Ocean County Library Commission
From: Susan Quinn, Library Director 
Subject: Drug & Alcohol Incidents in OCL

Attached is the report on Drug and Alcohol Incidents in the Ocean County Library.

The Library's and County's proactive approach which includes regular visits to branches by Ocean County Sheriff's Officers, the addition of an additional security guard, environmental design change at our branch locations and the vigilance of OCL staff in enforcing the Rules of the Library has resulted in a decrease in drug and alcohol use at Ocean County Library branches.

Memo to: Susan Quinn, Director

From: Rita Oakes, Chief Librarian, Branch Services

Date: 12/8/15

Re: Drug and Alcohol Incidents in Ocean County Library Narrative Summary Update

Ocean County Library, being a public entity, has always had a small percentage of problem behaviors. Serious incidents are documented by formal Incident Reports. Less serious, but unusual incidents were typically recorded in a paper logbook. Since the implementation of SharePoint, electronic logbooks are used by the majority of branches, which allow log entries to be accessed remotely.

It is apparent that problem incidents involving drug use or alcohol have been increasing. Branch Services reviewed Incident Reports from all branches from 2013 to the present and noted cases where alcohol or drug use is cited. Cases of alcohol generally involve seeing open containers, or finding cans or bottles in the trash. Cases of drug use and abuse involve the selling of drugs, the finding of drug packets, or the discovery of used needles or other drug paraphernalia. There have been multiple cases of apparent drug overdoses, which have necessitated calls to 911.

In reviewing the data, we find that there were 3 recorded incidents in 2013: the finding of a heroin bag in Toms River; overhearing an apparent drug sale conversation at the Point Boro Branch; and two alleged drug dealers being sighted at the Lacey Branch.

In 2014 there were 20 instances recorded. These included the Beachwood, Lacey, Little Egg Harbor, Point Boro, and Toms River locations. Empty containers of beer and liquor, customers who appeared to be impaired, customers directly observed consuming beer on library property, and the discovery of needles or drug paraphernalia in restrooms make up the bulk of these incidents.

In 2015 the number of incidents has almost doubled at the mid-year point. The majority of these events have occurred in Toms River, but there have also been incidents in Lacey, Lakewood, and Stafford. The bulk of these incidents have been drug related, most usually heroin. There have been at least two overdoses. These cases are tragic and disturbing, but staff, for the most part, have done an excellent job handling difficult situations and by quick action have no doubt saved lives.

Heroin use continues to garner media attention, with a report in the *Asbury Park Press* on November 30, 2015 featuring the headline, "Ocean County Tops NJ in Heroin and Other Opiate Addictions:"

<http://www.app.com/story/news/2015/11/30/ocean-county-tops-nj-heroin-and-other-opiate-addictions/76471688/?from=global&sessionKey=&autologin=>

To help address this issue, the Toms River Branch has increased the presence of library guards, providing two guards on duty during open hours. In addition, the Sheriff's Department has been routinely patrolling the Toms River building and grounds. Staff have been instructed to report unusual behaviors and to contact the police when necessary.

On October 7, 2015, the Point Pleasant Boro Branch was evacuated after reports of a man entering with a large bag and alleged tactical gear. Police ultimately arrested the individual and charged him with possession of heroin:

<http://patch.com/new-jersey/pointpleasant/borough-man-caught-heroin-point-pleasant-library>

To help inform staff and customers, Ocean County Library has offered educational programs at multiple branches. Drug Use & Abuse Special: Heroin is conducted by retired Lt. Joe Pangaro. Programs have already been held at the Toms River, Manchester, Long Beach Island, Plumsted, and Berkeley branches, with two additional programs scheduled in December at the Tuckerton and Point Pleasant Boro branches.

A review of 2015 incidents shows that the number of incidents spiked in July with 8 separate incidents, and have been gradually declining, with a total of 4 incidents in August, 4 in September, 3 in October, and 1 each in November and December (to date). The number of incidents in 2015 total 35 as of December 8, 2015.

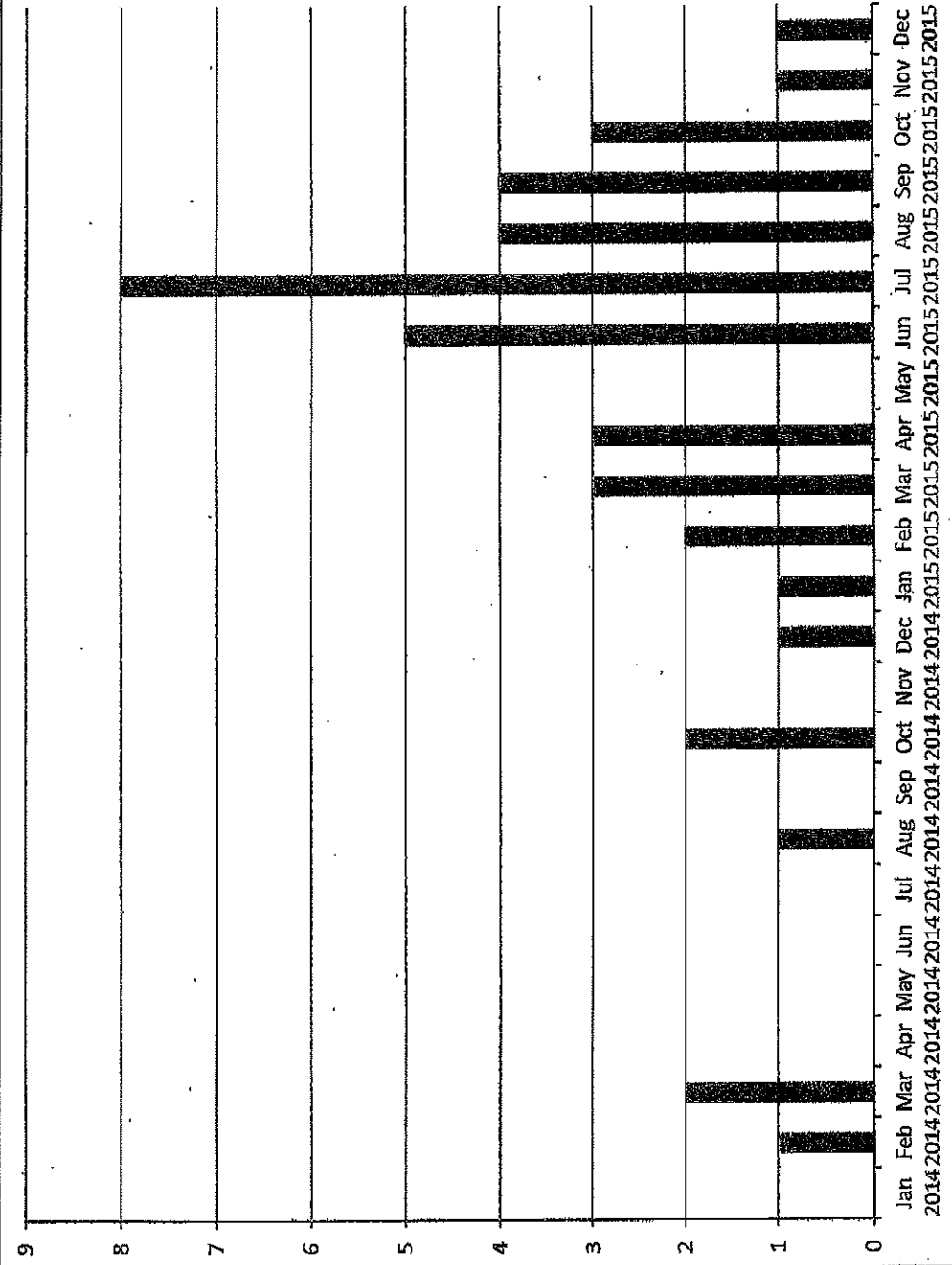
Date: December 8, 2015		Summary of Possible Drug/Alcohol related incidents		
Number	Date	Branch	Type of Incident	Brief Description
1	1/5/2015	Toms River	Threats - Police called	Female on Library computer made threatening statements to two other teen girls. Teens' mother notified Librarian.
2	2/3/2015	Toms River	Unusual Behavior - Police and EMT's called	Man fell in lobby - appeared to having seizure and throwing up blood.
3	2/21/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Declined medical attention from EMTs and left library.
4	3/12/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Drug paraphernalia found in Men's Room
5	3/19/2015	Toms River	Unusual Behavior - Police Called	Drug paraphernalia found in Women's Room
6	3/30/2015	Stafford	Drinking Alcohol in Library	Man using computers requested medical attention. He was with friend. Both reportedly smelled of alcohol.
7	4/1/2015	Toms River	Fight- Police, OC Sheriff and OC Security responded	Male with Bud Light at Library computer. Library staff told him that he cannot have alcohol in library and asked him to leave. Male left library.
8	4/14/2015	Toms River	Assault-Police called	Three (3) men scuffling near 2nd Floor reference Desk. 911 Called.
9	4/28/2015	Lacey	Drugs-Police and EMT's called	Library customer called police to report a young woman was assaulted on/near library property
10	6/13/2015	Toms River	Unusual Behavior - Police Called	Female overdosed in women's restroom. 911 called.
11	6/18/2015	Toms River	Police Questioning of Library Customer	Female locked herself in restroom at closing time and refused to come out.
12	6/19/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Woman escorted out by Library Security and County Security.
13	6/23/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Three Police Officers entered branch to speak to person on library computer
14	6/25/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Drug paraphernalia found in Men's Room
15	7/1/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Drug paraphernalia found in Men's Room
16	7/1/2015	Toms River	Assault	Drug paraphernalia found in Men's Room
17	7/9/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Man overdosed in men's restroom. Police and EMT's revived with Narcan.
18	7/10/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Man discovered by 10-year old boy who notified his mother, who in turn notified Library Guard.
19	7/15/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Man assaulted from behind in bathroom lobby - refused calling police.
				Men suspected of using drugs in restroom.
				Men suspected of using drugs in restroom.
				Men suspected of using drugs in restroom.

Number	Date	Branch	Type of Incident	Brief Description
20	7/15/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Man in Library falling asleep at computer; earlier in week harassed teen SAIL volunteer; observed spending large amount of time in men's restroom. Used Intensive Supervision Program for U.S. Immigration to obtain a guest pass to use Library Computers.
21	7/17/2015	Toms River	Drugs-Police Called	Bag of drugs found outside Door #1. Police said contents looked like crack cocaine.
22	7/24/2015	Lakewood	Needles found-Police Called	Men's bathroom; responding police officer accidentally stuck himself
23	8/7/2015	Toms River	Unusual Behavior-Police Called	Dunkin Donuts customer disruptive; son said he was a crack addict
24	8/7/2015	Tuckerton	Needle found in parking lot	Syringe (marked insulin) found in handicap spot
25	8/10/2015	Toms River	Patron arrested	TR police arrested male patron who appeared under the influence
26	8/12/2015	Toms River	Patron arrested	TR police arrested male patron related to "possible drug related behavior"
27	9/10/2015	Toms River	Needle found	Needle found in Lobby Ladies room
28	9/24/2015	Pt Pleasant Boro	Intoxicated patron	Police arrived for intoxicated patron outside library
29	9/26/2015	Pt Pleasant Boro	Intoxicated patron	Police removed intoxicated patron
30	9/29/2015	Toms River	Syringe found	Syringe found in Men's room
31	10/6/2015	Toms River	2 men arguing	2 male patrons arguing - one reported as 'dazed'
32	10/7/2015	Pt Pleasant Boro	Suspicious behavior	Man with large bag; branch evacuated; suspect arrested & charged with heroin possession
33	10/20/2015	Toms River	Drug overdose	Police called and Narcan given to patron who overdosed and passed out
34	11/10/2015	Brick	Intoxicated patron	Police/ambulance called for intoxicated patron sitting in lobby
35	12/1/2015	Toms River	Syringe found	Lobby Ladies' restroom
Log books				
1	1/10/2013	Lacey	Possible drug dealers	Tutor warned staff about 2 patrons who are known drug dealers
2	7/23/2013	Toms River	Heroin bag found	Bertha (cleaner) has been finding remnants of heroin bags weekly; notified branch manager
3	11/20/2013	Pt Pleasant Boro	Drugs being sold	Staff reported hearing 2 men talking about selling drugs.
4	1/27/2014	Beachwood	Liquor bottles found	4 airplane bottles of liquor found in 2nd parking spot
5	2/24/2014	Pt Pleasant Boro	Patron drinking beer	Patron reported a man near her in study carrels eating pizza and drinking a beer. Staff asked him not to eat or drink in library.
6	2/25/2014	Beachwood	Liquor bottles found	4 airplane bottles of liquor found in 2nd parking spot
7	2/27/2014	Little Egg Harbor	Vodka bottle found	Large empty vodka bottle found in trash in Women's rest room

Number	Date	Branch	Type of Incident	Brief Description
8	3/10/2014	Lacey	Possible heroin use	Patron reported a friend seeing someone using heroin in the Men's room, earlier in the day. Staff checked Men's room and found 3 beer bottles but no needles.
9	4/15/2014	Lacey	Beer cans found	County Security reported finding 2 dozen beer cans near the dumpster one night and small alcohol bottles there another night. County Security advised contacting Lacey Police about drive-throughs and also advised better lighting outside building, which Br Mgr did the same day.
10	5/20/2014	Lacey	Beer cans found	6-pack of empty beer cans found in bag behind library. Patron who often smells of alcohol was seen walking from the area prior to the cans being found.
11	5/30/2014	Toms River	Needle found	Cleaner found needle in stall of Men's upstairs bathroom
12	6/27/2014	Toms River	Patron under influence	Woman asking other patrons for money; appears 'under the influence' of something
13	7/18/2014	Lacey	Syringe found	Syringe found on floor near self check-out station. After speaking with Admin, staff wrapped needle and threw out in dumpster. Staff was reminded about proper handling of needles.
14	7/21/2014	Lacey	Beer cans found	2 empty beer cans found behind dumpster enclosure.
15	9/2/2014	Pt Pleasant Boro	Patron drinking beer	Patron reported another patron drinking a beer on porch. Staff told him he could not have an open container of alcohol on library property and he threw it out.
16	10/14/2014	Lacey	Beer cans & alcohol containers	Staff found 6 beer cans and 4 small airplane bottles of alcohol - all empty
17	10/24/2014	Toms River	Patron possibly under influence	Female patron falling asleep standing up; began sliding after sitting down
18	10/30/2014	Lacey	Beer cans found	2 empty beer cans found in Men's room
19	11/5/2014	Toms River	Patron possibly under influence	Young woman nodding off and slumping in chair; staff offered her a different chair and a glass of water. She accepted the glass of water.
20	11/7/2014	Toms River	Wax paper found	Wax paper with words "Lotto" written in black found in Men's room
21	11/14/2014	Toms River	Wax paper found	Half a plain wax paper bit found in handicap stall of restroom
22	11/18/2014	Toms River	Patron possibly under influence	Male patron slumped over public computer; when staff attempted to wake him, he waved them away. He then sat for a few more minutes and then gathered his things and left.
23	12/26/2014	Lacey	Vodka bottle found	Empty vodka bottle found in book drop
24	1/7/2015	Toms River	Alcoholic beverage found in staff parking area	25-ounce can of alcoholic malt beverage found in staff smoking area near parking space #14
25	1/8/2015	Pt Pleasant Boro	Patron possibly under influence	Patron was found lying on floor. He stated he was tired because he hadn't had much sleep. The man smelled of alcohol.

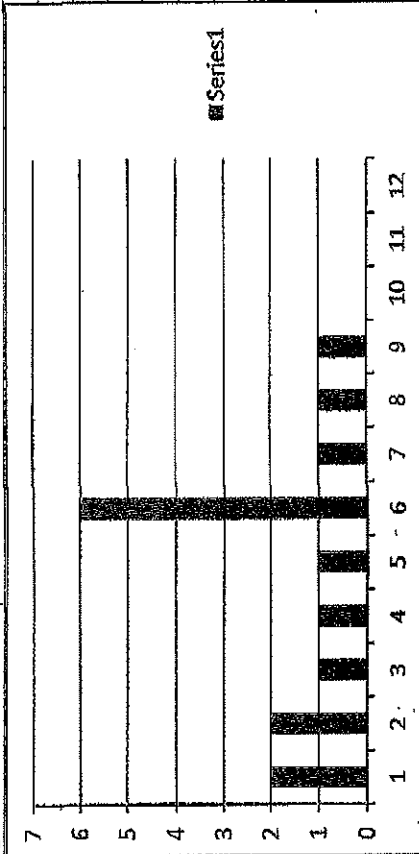
Number	Date	Branch	Type of Incident	Brief Description
26	Feb 2015	Toms River	Needle found	Needle found in Men's room in lobby
27	2/18/2015	Toms River	Needle found	Needle (marked 'insulin') found by porter in Men's (lobby) restroom. Police non-emergency number called; police came and took needle.
28	3/19/2015	Toms River	Possible drug use	Brian (porter) found a good deal of blood drops from stall to sink in the upstairs Men's restroom
29	4/25/2015	Toms River	Possible impaired patron	Patron informed staff that a couple had gone into the bathroom hallway and when they reappeared, the woman appeared dazed with her eyes half open. Guard was notified and he monitored them.
30	5/27/2015	Lacey	Bottles of cough syrup found	3 bottles of cough syrup bottles found on bench outside front entrance. Staff put them in recycle container.
31	6/11/2015	Toms River	Drugs	Patron reported that his 14-year-old son found 3 men shooting up when entering the Lobby Men's room. Staff apologized for incident.
32	6/11/2015	Lacey	Patron with odor of alcohol	Staff noted that a male patron emitted an odor that smelled like alcohol; he was later with police and an ambulance in library parking lot (after library closed)
33	6/13/2015	Toms River	Drug paraphenalia	Drug paraphenalia found in 2nd floor Men's room
34	6/19/2015	Toms River	Needle & spoon found	Brian (porter) found a needle and spoon in Men's YA bathroom
35	6/19/2015	Toms River	Possible drugs	Brian (porter) observed a man stumble out of the Men's room stall and lean over. The man then picked up his wallet from the changing station and there appeared to be a small baggie on top of it.
36	6/25/2015	Toms River	Drug paraphenalia	Drug paraphenalia found in 1st floor Men's room
37	7/30/2015	Lacey	Possible can of beer	Staff questioned man known to drink beer on library property throwing something in dumpster. He claimed it was not a beer bottle.
38	8/6/2015	Tuckerton	Needle found	Patron brought in hypodermic needle found in parking lot.
39	9/16/2015	Lacey	Bag of saliva found	Bag of saliva found outside (near bottle of alcohol)

umber	Date	Branch	Type of Incident	Brief Description
idents	Total			
	Jan 2014	0		
	Feb 2014	1		
	Mar 2014	2		
	Apr 2014	0		
	May 2014	0		
	Jun 2014	0		
	Jul 2014	0		
	Aug 2014	1		
	Sep 2014	0		
	Oct 2014	2		
	Nov 2014	0		
	Dec 2014	1		
	Total 2014	7		
	Jan 2015	1		
	Feb 2015	2		
	Mar 2015	3		
	Apr 2015	3		
	May 2015	0		
	Jun 2015	5		
	Jul 2015	8		
	Aug 2015	4		
	Sep 2015	4		
	Oct 2015	3		
	Nov 2015	1		
	Dec 2015	1		
	Total 2015	35		
og Entries	Total			
	Jan 2013	1		
	Feb 2013	0		
	Mar 2013	0		
	Apr 2013	0		
	May 2013	0		

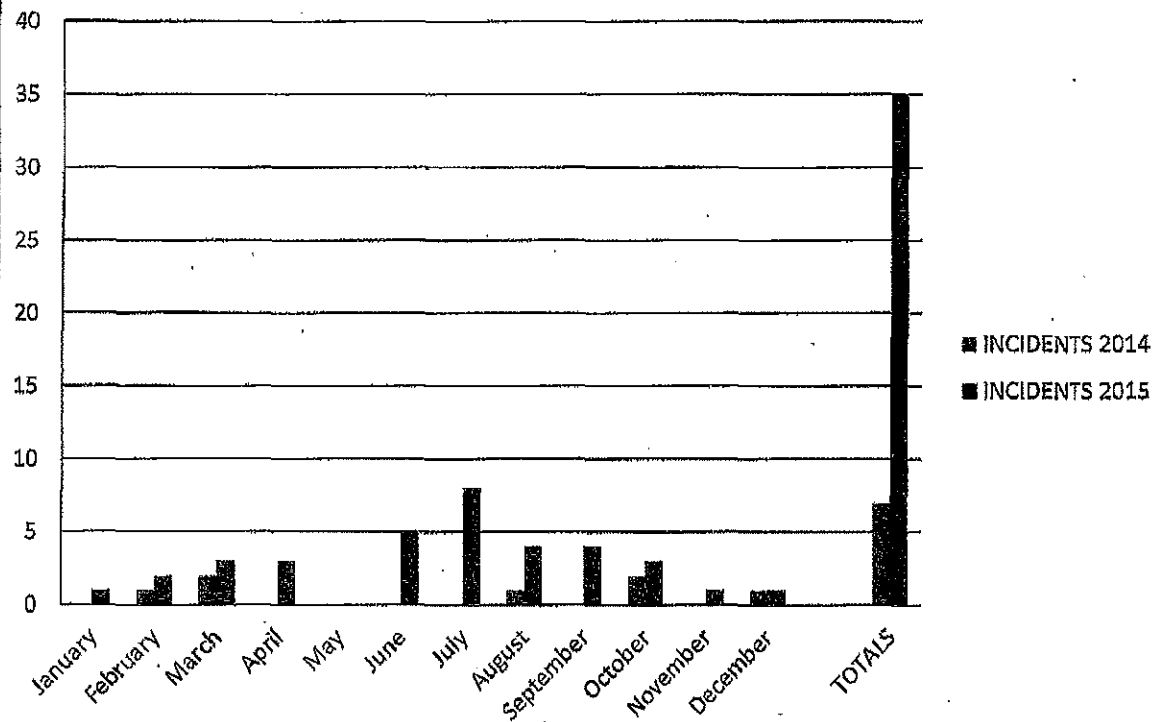


Note: electronic log entries
not in use in 2013

Number	Date	Branch	Type of Incident	Brief Description
	Jun 2013	0		
	Jul 2013	1		
	Aug 2013	0		
	Sep 2013	0		
	Oct 2013	0		
	Nov 2013	1		
	Dec 2013	0		
			Electronic Log Entries 2014	
	Jan 2014	1		
	Feb 2014	3		
	Mar 2014	1		
	Apr 2014	1		
	May 2014	2		
	Jun 2014	1		
	Jul 2014	2		
	Aug 2014	0		
	Sep 2014	1		
	Oct 2014	3		
	Nov 2014	4		
	Dec 2014	1		
			Electronic Log Entries 2015	
	Jan 2015	2		
	Feb 2015	2		
	Mar 2015	1		
	Apr 2015	1		
	May 2015	1		
	Jun 2015	6		
	Jul 2015	1		
	Aug 2015	1		
	Sep 2015	1		
	Oct 2015			
	Nov 2015			
	Dec 2015			

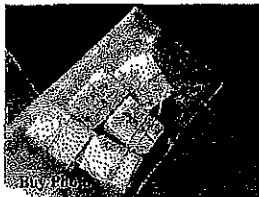


Drugs/Alcohol Incident Reports 2014-2015



Ocean County tops NJ in heroin and other opiate addictions

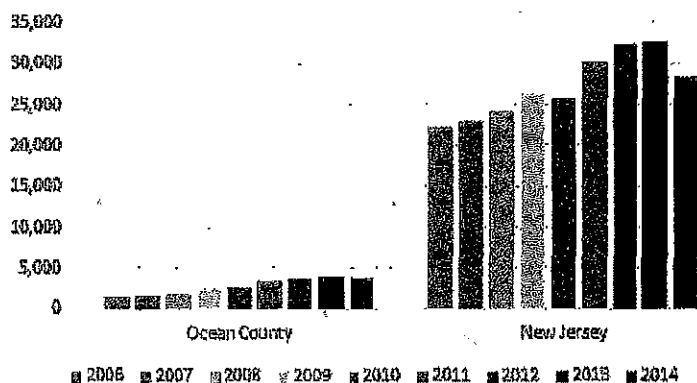
 Ken Serrano, @KenSerranoAPP 11:58 a.m. EST November 30, 2015



(Photo: Staff photo Tanya Green)

In 2011, Ocean County (<http://www.co.ocean.nj.us/>) achieved the unfortunate status of having the most people seeking treatment for heroin or other opiate addictions in the state, eclipsing Essex County (<http://essexcountynj.org/>). While seeking treatment is a milestone many people never achieve, the figure is an indicator of addiction problems in a particular area.

Treatment for heroin and other opiates



In 2014, the number of people seeking treatment in Ocean County fell for the first time since at least 2006. But it fell by about 6 percent, half the rate of the state on the whole.



ASBURY PARK PRESS

Monmouth and Ocean towns with the most heroin addicts

(<http://www.app.com/story/news/crime/jersey-mayhem/2015/11/23/monmouth-and-ocean-towns-most-heroin-addicts/75954784/>)

Treatment for heroin and other opiates

Ocean County New Jersey

2006 - 1,354	22,053
2007 - 1,534	22,915
2008 - 1,715	24,053
2009 - 2,331	26,261
2010 - 2,541	25,732
2011 - 3,301	30,111
2012 - 3,683	32,389
2013 - 3,955	32,607
2014 - 3,688	28,332

Ocean County tops NJ in heroin and other opiate addictions

Source: NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (<http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/qmnas/home/>)

Page 2 of 4



Jesse Morella's family is forever changed by one catastrophic decision: to try heroin. STAFF VIDEO
BY BRIAN JOHNSTON VIDEO BY BRIAN JOHNSTON



ASBURY PARK PRESS

Heroin use falling in Monmouth?

(<http://www.app.com/story/news/2015/11/25/heroin-epidemic-monmouth-county-2006-2014/76368330/>)

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