



# Front Range Task Force

- The Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Task Force (“HIDTA” or “Front Range Task Force”) has been in existence since 1999. The Denver Police Department has been the fiduciary since inception and a Denver Police Department Lieutenant is assigned as the Task Force Commander.
- The mission of the Front Range Task Force is to promote a collaborated multi-agency effort to identify, investigate, and dismantle major drug trafficking organizations operating in the Denver metropolitan Front Range area with an emphasis on fentanyl, cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, national and international trafficking. The Task Force also seeks to address emerging criminal justice issues as they relate to drug trafficking throughout the Front Range region, encouraging maximum cooperation between all law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies and ensure the safety of both police personnel and the public in an efficient manner within constitutional guidelines.
- Our goals are to reduce the incidents of violent crime by strategic and focused drug enforcement efforts. This is in line with the goals of our Drug Enforcement Agency (“DEA”) partners and by combining our efforts we know we can be successful in making a meaningful difference.
- We are housed in the DEA building and have DEA agents and supervisors as well as local agencies such Aurora Police Department, Denver Police Department, Arapahoe County Sheriff’s Office, Douglas County Sheriff’s Office, Colorado Bureau of Investigation, Sheridan Police Department, Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearm (“ATF”), Homeland Security Investigations, Colorado National Guard, and the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. Our Task Force Officers are required to obtain a secret clearance to meet the federal deputization requirements.
- The Front Range Task Force is federally funded through the Office of National Drug Control Policy (“ONDCP”) and the Rocky Mountain HIDTA. We receive no other funding. The Front Range Task Force Commander is responsible for submitting his/her budget to Rocky Mountain HIDTA for approval.
- As the fiduciary, the Denver Police Department oversees the grant funds and ensures expenses incurred by the Task Force. The Denver Police Department is not responsible for any expenses the Task Force incurs.
- We have worked numerous fentanyl overdose cases for multiple jurisdictions. There is a great need for these complicated investigations as we all know these deaths are rocking our community. These investigations are complex and involve not only numerous hours of investigation but also a good relationship with the District of Colorado U.S. Attorney’s office as they are federally prosecuted. We have agents and Task Force Officers who have become experts on the cases and are called upon as expert witnesses.