CITY OF DUBLIN

100 Civic Plaza, Dublin, California 94568

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: November 20, 2017

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SUBJECT: **Dublin Police Services Opens New Pharmaceutical Disposal Site**

Dublin, Calif. – Dublin Police Services is proud to announce the opening of a new pharmaceutical disposal site in the lobby of the Dublin Police Department (100 Civic Plaza, Dublin). The collection bin is accessible to the public Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Controlled prescription medications, as well as over-the-counter medications, will be accepted for disposal. This is a free service open to the public.

The installation of this pharmaceutical drop-off bin addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the United States, especially opioids, are growing at alarming rates, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Expired or unused pharmaceuticals are susceptible to accidental ingestion (especially among children), theft, and abuse. Studies show that many abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, usually by people raiding medicine cabinets. Additionally, many Americans do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medicine, often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away – both potential safety and health hazards. Availability to this disposal site will also protect the environment by keeping dangerous drugs out of waterways and landfills.

Twice annually, Dublin Police Services, in collaboration with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), offers a "Drug Take-Back" event. These events result in the collection of hundreds of pounds of medications. While Dublin Police will continue to host these semi-annual events, it became clear that regular access to a pharmaceutical disposal site would be welcomed in the community.

To receive the most up-to-date public safety information from Dublin Police, follow them on Twitter at @DublinCAPolice.

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