



## OPIOID MONITORING INITIATIVE

**\*\*ALERT\*\***

### Counterfeit Tablets Disguised as Oxycodone Containing Either Fentanyl or Carfentanil

**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RELEASE\*\***

**TYPE:** Public Health Officials/Healthcare/Situational Awareness

**DATE:** May 18, 2018

**SOURCES:** Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (AZ HIDTA)  
U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)  
Tucson Police Department – Counter Narcotics Alliance  
Yuma County Sheriff's Office

**ATTN:** Public Health Officials,  
Healthcare

*This information is being shared with public health officials and healthcare providers for situational awareness and safety purposes.*

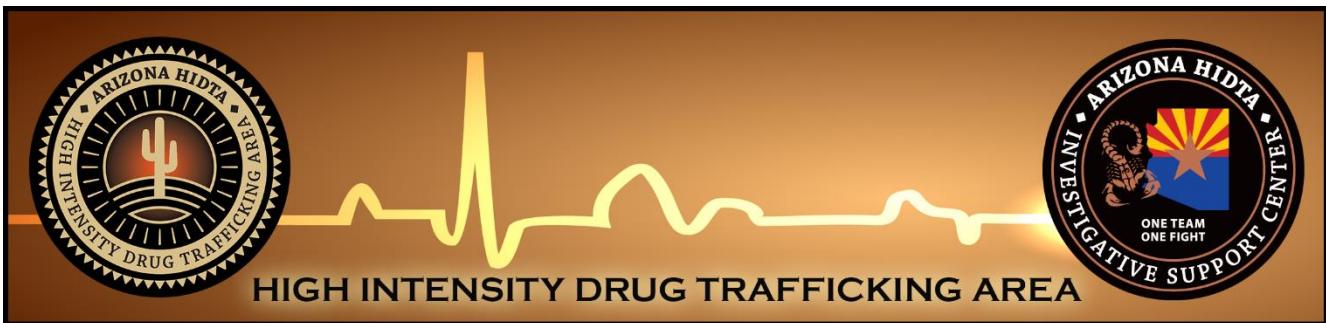
**SUMMARY:** The Yuma County Sheriff's Office has confirmed that a 2017 drug seizure of light blue tablets with the imprint of "M 30" contained fentanyl. The Tucson Police Department has also conducted multiple drug seizures of tablets with the identifier markings of "M 30" appearing to be like an oxycodone tablet (trade names include OxyContin), but containing fentanyl. In addition, the Counter Narcotics Alliance, an AZ HIDTA Initiative, recently published a public safety and public health advisory after learning of the first confirmed drug seizure by Arizona law enforcement in the metropolitan Phoenix area of counterfeit tablets containing carfentanil. The light blue tablets had the imprint of "A 215." These tablets were also disguised to appear like oxycodone tablets.

**DETAILS:** The crime laboratory confirmed the tablets were counterfeit, and the results of their analysis are as follows:

- The "M 30" imprinted tablets contained fentanyl.
- The "A 215" imprinted tablets contained carfentanil.

According to the DEA, carfentanil is a synthetic opioid approximately 10,000 times more potent than morphine and 100 times more potent than fentanyl. The presence of carfentanil in illicit U.S. drug markets, including Arizona, is cause for concern since the relative drug strength could lead to an increase in overdoses and overdose-related fatalities, even among people with an opioid-tolerance due to opioid abuse. Carfentanil also poses a high risk to first responders, healthcare providers, and law

For more information, please contact the AZ Opioid Monitoring Initiative at [omi@azhidta.org](mailto:omi@azhidta.org).



enforcement personnel who may encounter this substance. Safety protocols should be followed to avoid accidental exposure in any situation where a fentanyl-related substance might be present. Detailed safety measures can be found at [Arizona Department of Health Services – Fentanyl Safety First Responders](#).



## Photos: Tucson Police Department Crime Laboratory



## Counterfeit “M-30” Oxycodone pills containing Fentanyl



Photo provided for informational purposes, not actual tablets seized.

**Photo:** Yuma County Sheriff's Office (M-30 Counterfeits).

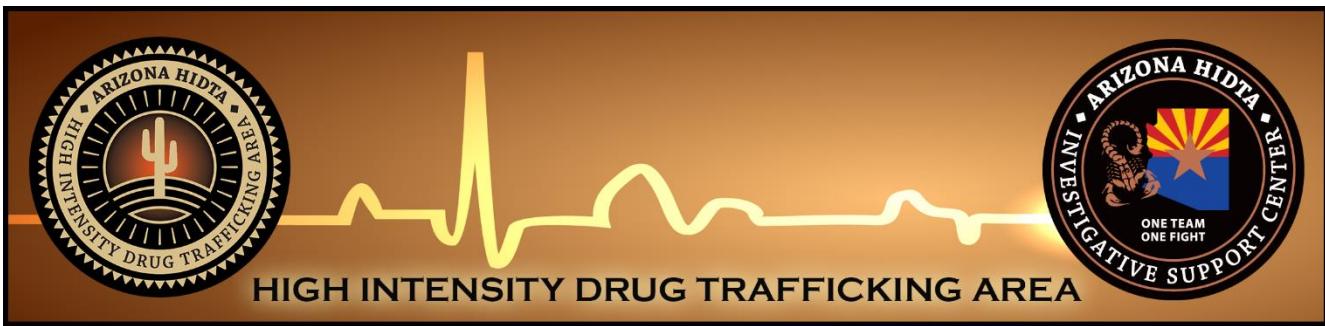
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Arizona Opioid Monitoring Initiative (OMI)

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#### Opioid Monitoring Initiative Partners



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