



City of Glendale  
5850 W. Glendale Ave. / Glendale, Arizona 85301



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
CONTACT: Sergeant John Roth 623 930-3076  
Officer Tiffany Smith 623 930-3276

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## **Glendale Police Investigate three people found dead following apparent drug overdose**

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** – On August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Glendale Police responded to a residence in the area of 5900 W. Pasadena Avenue regarding a report of three deceased adults. Upon officers arriving on scene, three adult males were located deceased within the residence as well as the presence of drugs and drug paraphernalia. Concerned about the unknown substances present and the safety of the neighborhood, first responders contacted a HAZMAT unit to respond. Personnel from Glendale Fire Department and Phoenix Fire Department as well as investigators from the Glendale Police Department, Phoenix Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Bureau (DEA) entered the home with “self-contained breathing apparatus” to conduct the investigation into what illicit substances were present.

Detectives were able to confirm that the three adult males were ingesting dangerous drugs prior to their deaths. A quantity of fentanyl and methamphetamine was confirmed to be present in the home. It is unknown at this time if the drugs that the males ingested contained fentanyl. The substances found are being sent to the lab for further analysis. The cause and manner of death will ultimately be ruled on by

the Office of the Medical Examiner after toxicology tests are conducted and completed.

The deceased males have been identified as Michael Smith (36yo), Heath Spencer (44yo) and Angel Cruz (37yo). Michael rented the home that was involved, and Heath and Angel were at the home as acquaintances.

Please remember that illegal drugs are extremely dangerous and harmful to your health. Additionally, these uncontrolled substances are increasingly being combined with other drugs, such as fentanyl, to alter their effects. Police and Fire Departments are being cautioned across the country as to the danger of fentanyl and the ease in which one can become exposed to the drug. Fentanyl can be easily absorbed through the skin or inhaled. Effects from fentanyl appear very rapidly and can include respiratory distress, unresponsiveness, and cardiac arrest. Should anyone believe that they have come in contact with fentanyl, please wash the exposed area with cool water and soap and immediately seek medical assistance. Do not use hand sanitizers which could enhance absorption through the skin.

Photographs of the three males involved in this incident are not available for release at the current time. This investigation is ongoing.

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*\*Spanish translation available*

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is to protect the lives and property of the people we serve."*

*Glendale Police Department  
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