

Unified Intelligence Team SECURITY ALERT



October 21, 2015

Dissemination

- 1 - Unclassified
- 2 - Restricted**
- 3 - Confidential
- 4 - Sensitive

Source Evaluation

- 1- Unknown
- 2 - Unreliable
- 3 - Reliable**
- 4 - Very Reliable

Information Evaluation

- 1- Cannot be judged
- 2 - Doubtful
- 3 - Probable (Plausible)**
- 4 - Confirmed



CDOC Unified Intelligence Team (UNIT)

Unless otherwise indicated, this report contains information that should be controlled within law enforcement channels only.

Information handling should be consistent with dissemination level noted above and in conjunction with the procedures set forth in CDOC Administrative Regulation 1150-06RD.

By: 700 - Davis

Approved: 634 - Herrera

SPICE Introduction into Correctional Facilities

The Colorado Department of Corrections Unified Intelligence Team (UNIT) received information regarding recent attempts to introduce controlled substances into correctional facilities. The following information provides details regarding these recent events. The CDOC Office of the Inspector General is seeking assistance if any agency finds evidence of controlled substances being discovered that appear to be destined for a correctional institution. If you have jails or detention facilities in your areas, please feel free to forward to appropriate staff there.

Synopsis: Spice/K-2 has been designated a Schedule I controlled substance. It is, however, still available and being sold (see the linked article below) through the internet and is advertised as being both safe and legal.

The products that are being sold, and introduced into our facilities, begins as a liquid form. The liquid is sprayed or painted onto paper (or on vegetation/herbs) and the substrate is then smoked. The effects range from a marijuana to a hallucinogenic high, and may also include accelerated heart rate, temperature, and breathing. There have also been deaths associated with the use of spice.

The DEA has identified 5 ingredients that are characteristic of Spice and those ingredients are now controlled. The problem with Spice, though, is it is an herbal conglomeration and the ingredients can change. CBI does have a conclusive chemical test for Spice, which tests for a variety of different ingredients.

The spice that has been introduced into the DOC has been mostly coming into the facility in purported legal mail. Two recent attempts both contained spice. The first manila envelope received was a pretty bad attempt at creating a legal mail envelope - very unprofessionally done. The second envelope was a little more legitimate looking, but had a Denver area post mark from an attorney with a Pueblo address.

The players in this group are using legal mail because legal mail envelopes are given to facility unit security staff to open in the presence of the inmates, and those folks typically aren't as in-tune to mail concealment methods as mail room staffers are. Unit staff may also feel uncomfortable searching through legal mail, especially while the inmate is watching them.

Telltale Signs:

Spice is available in different flavors or odors, and you might detect odd odors coming from the envelopes that contain it. We have so far found one envelope that contained a cotton candy flavored spice that was easily detectable. Other signs of introduction will be legal papers that appear to have 'bleeding' ink, water stains, or be damp when the envelope is opened.

Other introduction methods:

A CI recently indicated that Spice also comes into the facility through the visiting room. He said that visitors will get scratch paper, which is commonly used in the visiting rooms for keeping score in card games, and they will take the paper out of



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the facility with them. The paper is then sprayed or painted with spice and is brought back into the facility during the next visit. Visiting staff are used to seeing the paper and so they don't question it.

Spice is sold in the facility by the square, with a postage stamp sized square going for \$25. A full sheet of spice infused paper is reportedly selling for \$2500. Inmates at one facility are selling the spice for postage stamps, and in street to street monetary transactions.

Investigations Assistance:

The DOC AR allows for suspicious legal mail to be held for investigative purposes, so if anything suspicious comes in, we contact the attorney that is listed as the sender to see if they did, in fact, mail the letter in to that inmate. If they did not, then we hold the envelope as evidence and submit it for latent prints and conclusive testing for spice.

Please reference the below linked article from the NIDA. There is also a link that will lead to a spice retailer.

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/k2spice-synthetic-marijuana>

<http://www.theofficialk2incense.com/buy-k2-incense/>

Reporting Notice: Please feel free to contact us for additional information and/or forward any additional information you may have to this office at 719-226-4615.

Source(s): Colorado Department of Corrections

Office of the Inspector General

Investigator Claspell

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

