

National Alliance Of State Drug Enforcement Agencies

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The National Alliance of State Drug Enforcement Agencies has been in existence since 1975. Its member agencies are State level drug enforcement agencies from the nation's state police, highway patrol departments, or from each state agency responsible for statewide criminal investigations. The working members of NASDEA come from command level staff. All fifty states are represented within NASDEA.

Summary of NASDEA Position

The National Alliance of State Drug Enforcement Agencies strongly supports the continued development of the National Virtual Pointer System (NVPS). The NVPS is a national pointer system that will allow national and regional information sharing systems to exchange information concerning targets under investigation for all types of criminal activity. This collaboration will greatly enhance the ability of law enforcement to coordinate resources and share information in a more efficient, effective and timely manner.

The National Virtual Pointer System (NVPS) is an initiative developed in collaboration with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Regional Information Sharing System (RISS), and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA). The NVPS is a system designed to link existing target deconfliction systems throughout the country.

In January of 2003, a NVPS Steering Committee was established with representatives from DEA, RISS, HIDTA, the National Drug Intelligence Center, the National Institute of Justice, the National Sheriff's Association, the International Association of Police and NASDEA. The Counterdrug Intelligence Coordinating Group approved \$500,000.00 for the design and development of a NVPS pilot project which should be completed by early 2004.

The NVPS will cover all types of crimes and will not be limited to drug investigation targets. This will also greatly enhance law enforcement's ability to share target deconfliction information on priority investigations that may have a terrorism nexus. The NVPS will use a secure telecommunications network to insure the confidentiality and integrity of the information. The NVPS will link the National Drug Pointer Index, the Regional Information Sharing System and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking existing pointer and information systems. The NVPS will utilize a single point entry system to minimize duplication of data entry.

The NVPS has many benefits that will allow law enforcement to access critical information in an efficient and timely manner. The enhancement to target deconfliction that the NVPS will allow will be a vital tool in criminal investigations throughout the nation. As stated, NASDEA strongly supports the continued development and funding of the National Virtual Pointer System.