

**FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DRUG TASK FORCE**

1800 North Stephen Carr Memorial Blvd.  
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72704

**A G E N D A**

For the meeting to be held on September 24, 2025, at 1:30 P.M., Fayetteville Police Department, Community Room, 1800 North Stephen Carr Memorial Blvd., Fayetteville, Arkansas.

1. Roll Call of Control Group members.
2. Approval of minutes from the August 20, 2025, meeting.
3. Financial Report, Fiscal Officer Willie Newman.
4. Report of Task Force, Lieutenant Chris Moad.
5. Dispositions  
DTF 23-115, Chilaphanh Souvannasing, forfeiture \$867.00
6. Other Business
7. Public Comment. \*
8. Set the next meeting's place, date, and time.

Location: **Washington County Sheriff's Office**  
**1155 Clydesdale Drive, Fayetteville, AR.**

Time: **1:30 p.m.** Date: **October**

15  
22  
29

9. Adjourn

Please check the Fayetteville City Calendar for any changes or updates.

***\*Public comment at a Fourth Judicial District Drug Task Force Control Board meeting shall be allowed for all members of the audience who have signed up prior to the beginning of the agenda item they wish to address. Speakers shall be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes. The Fourth Judicial District Drug Task Force Control Board may allow a speaker additional time or may allow an unsigned-up person to speak by unanimous consent or majority vote.***

**FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DRUG TASK FORCE**  
**1800 N. Stephen Carr Memorial Blvd.**  
**Fayetteville, Arkansas 72704**

**CONTROL GROUP**

**CHAIRMAN:**

Mr. Mike Reynolds, Chief of Police  
Fayetteville Police Department  
1800 N. Stephen Carr Memorial Blvd.  
Fayetteville, AR 72704  
(479) 587-3500

**VICE-CHAIRMAN:**

Mr. Jay Cantrell, Sheriff  
Washington County Sheriff's Office  
1155 Clydesdale Drive  
Fayetteville, AR 72701  
(479) 444-1850

**MEMBERS:**

Mr. Derek Wright, Chief of Police  
Springdale Police Department  
201 North Spring Avenue  
Springdale, AR 72764  
(479) 750-8128

Mr. Bryan Watts, Chief of Police  
Elkins Police Department  
1874 Stokenbury Rd,  
Elkins, AR 72753  
(479) 643-2600

**PROJECT DIRECTOR:**

Mr. Jason French, Captain  
Fayetteville Police Department  
1800 N. Stephen Carr Memorial Blvd.  
Fayetteville, AR 72704  
(479) 587-3500

**OPERATIONS COORDINATOR:**

Mr. Charles McIlroy, Sergeant  
Fourth Judicial Drug Task Force  
1800 N. Stephen Carr Memorial Blvd.  
Fayetteville, AR 72704  
(479) 587-7122

**FISCAL OFFICER:**

Mr. Willie Newman  
Fourth Judicial Drug Task Force  
1800 N. Stephen Carr Memorial Blvd.  
Fayetteville, AR 72704  
(479) 587-3581

**SECRETARY:**

Ms. Cara Murdoch  
Fourth Judicial Drug Task Force  
1800 N. Stephen Carr Memorial Blvd.  
Fayetteville, AR 72704  
(479) 587-7122

*FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DRUG TASK FORCE  
1800 North Stephen Carr Memorial Blvd.  
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72704*

MEETING  
08/20/2025  
MINUTES

The Fourth Judicial District Drug Task Force Control Board meeting was held on August 20, 2025.

Those present were:

Mike Reynolds, Chief- Fayetteville Police Department  
Jay Cantrell, Sheriff- Washington County Sheriff's Office  
Bryan Watts, Chief- Elkins Police Department  
Derek Hudson, Assistant Chief- Springdale Police Department  
Chris Moad, Lieutenant - 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial Drug Task Force  
Willie Newman, Fiscal Director- Fayetteville Police Department  
Cara Murdoch, Administrative Assistant- 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial Drug Task Force

Jason French, Captain- Fayetteville Police Department  
Rob Stewart, Captain- Springdale Police Department  
Hannah Bell, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney- Washington County Prosecutor's Office

Guest:

Members of the public.

Chief Mike Reynolds called the meeting to order. Upon roll call, the above-listed members were acknowledged as present. Copies of the minutes from the July 16, 2025, meeting were distributed to all present. Sheriff Jay Cantrell made a motion, seconded by Assistant Chief Derek Hudson, to approve the minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chief Mike Reynolds entertained a motion to move Item # 6, Other Business, to the next item for discussion. Chief Bryan Watts made a motion, seconded by Sheriff Jay Cantrell, to move Item #6, Other Business, to the next item for discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

## Other Business

Chief Mike Reynolds, in his efforts to improve transparency, asked Captain Jason French to find a better way to record the Fourth Judicial District Drug Task Force meetings. A microphone and a tripod for an iPhone were purchased. The recording equipment is mobile. After each meeting, the recording will be sent to the City of Fayetteville Media Services to be uploaded onto the City of Fayetteville website.

Sheriff Jay Cantrell made a motion, seconded by Assistant Chief Derek Hudson, to move to the video recording of the Fourth Judicial District Task Force's monthly meetings. The motion was approved unanimously.

No further business was brought before the board.

A copy of the financial report for the Grant FY2025-2026 was distributed to all present for review, the period beginning July 1, 2025, and ending July 31, 2025. Fiscal Officer Willie Newman stated that the total expense to date was \$72,765.00, with Gulf Coast HIDTA accounting for \$11,086.00 and the remaining \$ 61,679.00 being non-allowed.

- Fiscal Officer Willie Newman mentioned that the grant year started July 1, 2025. He is still waiting for grant funding to come in. Newman will have an updated financial report in September or October.
- Chief Mike Reynolds asked if the funding would be consistent with what they had received in the 2025 grant year. Fiscal Officer Willie Newman responded that the overall budget is set at \$1,083,000.00, which is then split proportionally to each agency's expenses. Whatever funding we receive will be split out accordingly to each agency's expenses. At this time, Newman does not foresee that changing.

Last year was the first year to see shortfall money from the Governor's Office, the fiduciary being the Prosecutor Coordinator's Office, which funded 92% of the budget.

Lieutenant Chris Moad reported on the task force's activity from July 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025, and a copy of the statistics was distributed to all present. The task force opened 50 cases in July, closed 30, and made 20 arrests. \$6,430.00 was expended for the purchase of evidence and \$540.00 for the purchase of information. Drugs seized during the month included methamphetamine, marijuana, cocaine, crack cocaine, LSD, fentanyl, ecstasy, and pharmaceuticals. Moad said that 21 warrants were served. The task force seized \$0.00 in U.S. currency and five firearms during the month. The locations of DTF Enforcement Action for the month were Fayetteville, 21 cases; Springdale, 12 cases; Greenland, 1 case; West Fork, 1 case; Washington County, 2 cases; and Elkins, 2 cases. Also noted were 0 drug convictions for July.

Lieutenant Chris Moad reported on the following dispositions.

**DTF 21-049 (State of Arkansas v Daniel Batres-Cruz)** was a Fayetteville Police Department arrest, resulting in the seizure of \$1,653.00 on February 23, 2021. \$330.60 went to the Arkansas Drug Director's Office, and \$495.90 went to the Washington County Prosecutor's Office Drug Control Fund. It was recommended that 15% of the net total of \$826.50 go to the Drug Task Force, and the remaining balance go to the Fayetteville Police Department.

Notes:

On February 23, 2021, Fayetteville Patrol Officers responded to a call for service at Batres-Cruz's residence. Later that same day, detectives with the Drug Task Force executed a search warrant on the residence. A search of the residence revealed a Glock 19 semi-automatic handgun, 126.3g of marijuana, 2g of THC wax, packaging materials, a digital scale, and \$1,653.00 US currency. Batres-Cruz was arrested, and the contraband was seized.

A question was asked regarding why we are just now seeing a four-year-old forfeiture case. Lieutenant Chris Moad explained that during 2021, due to Covid, cases backed up in being prosecuted. As a result, if the seizure side of the case was contested, the judgment on the seized money had to wait for the criminal case to be adjudicated.

Sheriff Jay Cantrell, seconded by Chief Bryan Watts, made a motion to accept this recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved.

**DTF 25-086 (State of Arkansas v Jarren Brown)** was a Drug Task Force arrest in Fayetteville, resulting in the seizure of \$2,236.00 on March 26, 2025. \$447.20 went to the Arkansas Drug Director's Office, and \$670.80 went to the Washington County Prosecutor's Office Drug Control Fund. It was recommended that 15% of the net total of \$1,118.00 go to the Drug Task Force, and the remaining balance be based on current

staffing (Fayetteville 37.5%, Springdale 37.5%, WCSO 12.5%, and Rural 12.5%).

**Notes:**

On March 24, 2025, detectives with the Drug Task Force executed a search warrant on Brown's residence. A search of the residence revealed 1.45g of crack cocaine in two separate bags, 3.43g of marijuana, a digital scale, and \$2,236.00 US currency comingled with 4<sup>th</sup> JDDTF buy funds. Brown was arrested, and the contraband was seized.

Assistant Chief Derek Hudson, seconded by Sheriff Jay Cantrell, made a motion to accept this recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved.

**DTF 25-225 (State of Arkansas v Alison Gabbard)** was a Drug Task Force arrest in Fayetteville, resulting in the seizure of \$2,213.00 on June 18, 2025. \$442.60 went to the Arkansas Drug Director's Office, and \$663.90 went to the Washington County Prosecutor's Office Drug Control Fund. It was recommended that 15% of the net total of \$1,106.50 go to the Drug Task Force, and the remaining balance be based on current staffing (Fayetteville 37.5%, Springdale 37.5%, WCSO 12.5%, and Rural 12.5%).

**Notes:**

On June 18, 2025, detectives with the Drug Task Force made contact with Gabbard at her business. A search of the business revealed 22.62g of methamphetamine, 75.36g of marijuana, a digital scale, and \$2,213.00 US currency. Gabbard was arrested, and the contraband was seized.

Sheriff Jay Cantrell, seconded by Chief Bryan Watts, made a motion to accept this recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Claire Freeman of Fayetteville pointed out that the drug amounts on the forfeited money were really low, and these amounts could be considered as personal use and not someone crucial to the drug task force operation. This has been noticed in a lot of the arrests and a lot of the operations that the drug task force does. An example was given of 1.45g of crack cocaine, 3.43g of marijuana, and cash, including drug task force cash. Claire explained that it sounded more like an operation that the drug task force was doing, in which this person was caught up in that operation, rather than this person being a crucial member of a drug trafficking organization.
- Claire Freeman converted the drug amount reported by the task force from grams to ounces and then pounds.
- Clair Freeman appreciated the efforts toward the recording of the task force meetings and how they will be posted to the City of Fayetteville website. There is still an element for members of the public who work and are unable to attend in person due to the meetings being scheduled in the middle of the day. This time of day does not allow those who would like to comment publicly to do so.
- Mieka Sullivan, a community member of Washington County and a representative of the Arkansas Justice Reform Coalition, commented that the drug task force meetings often focus on the punitive side of enforcement: charges, arrest, and penalties. While accountability is important in the community, Sullivan asked if the task force is looking at the restorative side, such as programs that reduce recidivism, strengthen families, and connect people to treatment instead of punishment. True community safety does not just come from discipline, but by helping people rebuild their lives. Sullivan encouraged the task force to begin reporting on any restorative initiatives alongside enforcement outcomes, so the public sees the full picture.

- Referring back to Clair Freeman's comment regarding the forfeitures and the small amount of drugs seized. Micah Sullivan shared she is currently in recovery, was an active drug user, and during that time came in contact, a few times, with the drug task force. Personally, from what Sullivan has seen and after living out on the streets, the amounts of drugs that are being put out there by the task force are small amounts. Those small amounts, maybe from back when ever the meth was being produced with the chemicals, that people could actually get to make real meth. Meth these days, it is not. Sullivan went on to say that it's a lot easier to say they have large amounts because the drugs are not as effective as it has been in the past. Sullivan continued to say that we are a consumer nation, capitalist, so the more you buy, the cheaper it is. So, when you say buying for a month, that could be reasonable. Someone could go through an eight-ball a day if they were very addicted to it. An eight-ball of meth equals 3 ½ grams.
- Sarah Moore thanked the board for acknowledging the ongoing request from the public to create additional ability for there to be a video recording. Moore commented that with the technology readily available, it can allow folks to be able to facilitate the ability to be here remotely, and would like that to be considered. Moore would also like consideration of the scheduled time for these meetings; 1:30 p.m. is incredibly inconvenient. There is an incredible public interest in the ongoings of the drug task force. Moore suggested that a task force meeting be held once or twice a year or on a weekend to make it more accessible to folks.
- Sarah Moore addressed a comment made earlier, stating that the purpose of the drug task force is to enforce the laws. Moore expressed that she sees it as the task force trying to improve and protect the public's safety. So, Moore thinks the request that was made by Micha and the feelings that were made by the community about the restoration and not about a punitive reaction, those are evidence-based, that they actually reduce recidivism, create a greater public safety. Moore went on to challenge that this body is a part of that. Moore continued that you are sworn to protect and serve, so those portions are part of protecting and serving. Law enforcement has a credible amount of discretion, as does the prosecution side, so the laws are the laws, but there is a lot of spectrum and variability within that. Moore hopes the board will continue to think about and consider the months of conversation that have been had on this topic. Moore would like the following information to be tracked: people who are sent to drug court or are sent to a diversionary program.
- Sarah Moore spoke on the small drug amounts, saying there is research and evidence out there in regard to over-resourcing that happens for those cases between the law enforcement activity cost, the prosecutorial cost, and the attorney cost, when it's that small an amount.
- Sarah Moore wanted to know how often people contest an asset forfeiture. People are trapped in jail because their cash bonds are too high. This is not an area of law where people are entitled to counsel, and people struggle to navigate this on their own. Moore is curious if the drug task force has looked at or provides any access to counsel as well for individuals, even to try to go through that process. What abilities are given to the individuals?
- Sarah Moore had questions on the tracking of individual cases. Moore expressed concerns for individuals that have had encounters with the drug task force, they are riding in cars with people they don't know that well because they lack of transportation, and they are popped for things like drug paraphernalia or they live in a roommate situation and they don't know that person that well and they have drug task force activity at their entire apartment. Everything is seized, and they are not even a part of that, or there's a gun that the roommate did not know about, etc. Moore would like to know if this is being tracked? Can it be something that can be reported in the future, during the disposition of cases?

- Sarah Moore asked for clarity on the agencies in the drug task force changing from time to time. Moore has not seen Chief Workman in attendance.
- Sarah Moore inquired about the disposition of cases and which city those warrants were served in. Moore asked if any of the individuals contested the money seizures.

Chief Mike Reynolds requested a date and time for the next meeting. The next meeting will be on September 24, 2025, at 1:30 p.m., at the Fayetteville Police Department, 1800 North Stephen Carr Memorial Blvd., Fayetteville, Arkansas. The meeting was adjourned with a motion made by Sheriff Jay Cantrell, seconded by Chief Derek Wright.

The meeting was recorded.

**Fourth Judicial District Drug Task Force**  
**DTF FY2025-2026**

For Period Ending August 31, 2025

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>JAG Funding</u>	<u>Drug Crime Funding</u>	<u>Prosecutor Coordinator</u>	<u>Gulf Coast HIDTA</u>	<u>Local JAG</u>	<u>Non-Allowed</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<b>Personnel - Fayetteville</b>									
Secretary	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,259	51,917	43,658
Supervisor	-	17,005	1,700	1,586	-	-	20,291	138,392	118,101
Officers	-	16,781	4,850	5,904	-	-	27,536	174,218	146,682
Mandated Benefits	-	-	920	214	-	138	1,272	13,644	12,372
Employer Benefits	-	-	13,759	1,985	-	4,964	20,708	131,386	110,678
Total Personnel Fayetteville	-	33,787	21,230	9,689	-	5,101	78,066	509,558	431,492
<b>Maintenance &amp; Operations</b>									
Fayetteville - M&O	-	-	-	1,400	-	3,290	4,690	60,306	55,616
Springdale - M&O	-	-	-	1,400	-	-	1,400	11,400	10,000
Washington County - M&O	-	-	463	1,400	-	394	2,256	13,400	11,144
Rural - M&O	-	-	-	1,400	-	-	1,400	8,400	7,000
Total Maintenance & Operations	-	-	463	5,600	-	3,684	9,746	93,506	83,759
<b>Purch. Evidence/Purch. Info</b>									
PEPI	-	-	-	8,310	-	-	8,310	73,400	65,090
Total PEPI	-	-	-	8,310	-	-	8,310	73,400	65,090
<b>Travel and Training</b>									
Travel and Training	-	-	-	-	-	1,199	1,199	8,976	7,777
Total Travel and Training	-	-	-	-	-	1,199	1,199	8,976	7,777
<b>Contract Personnel</b>									
Springdale	-	7,203	5,218	2,658	-	1,050	21,996	126,449	104,453
Washington County	-	5,419	3,779	2,404	-	922	19,552	145,914	126,362
Rural	-	6,941	4,805	6,182	-	1,364	24,945	125,529	100,584
Total Contract Personnel	-	19,563	13,803	11,244	-	3,336	66,493	397,892	331,399
Total All	-	53,350	35,495	34,843	-	13,320	163,815	1,083,331	919,517

**FOURTH JUDICIAL DRUG TASK FORCE  
MONTHLY REPORT  
GRANT 2025-2026  
August 1, 2025 - August 31, 2025**

		<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>		
<b>I.</b>	<b>Cases Opened</b>	49	:	88	
	<u>Enforcement Action</u>				
	Springdale	16			
	Fayetteville	26			
	West Fork	1			
	Washington County	2			
	Lincoln	2			
	Madison County	1			
	Tontitown	1			
<b>II.</b>	<b>Cases Closed</b>	34	:	88	
<b>III.</b>	<b>Arrest Made</b>	13	:	31	
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Community Meetings</b>	2	:	4	
<b>V.</b>	<b>Purchase of Evidence</b>	\$3,300.00	:	\$7,350.00	
<b>VI.</b>	<b>Purchase of Service</b>	\$0.00	:	\$0.00	
<b>VII.</b>	<b>Purchase of Information</b>	\$600.00	:	\$1,460.00	
<b>VIII.</b>	<b>Warrants Served</b>	10	:	25	
	Phone	9			
	Location	1			
<b>IX.</b>	<b>Total Drug Amounts</b>				
	Marijuana	60.02	gr :	678.63	gr
	Methamphetamine (ice)	8,692.13	gr :	9527.88	gr
	Cocaine	13.08	gr :	87.21	gr
	Crack Cocaine	0	gr :	0.89	gr
	LSD	0	du :	2.00	du
	Ecstasy	1	pills :	1.50	pills
	Psilocybin Mushrooms	1.6	gr :	1.60	gr
	Fentanyl	2.11	gr :	43.63	gr
	Fentanyl	13.5	pills :	13.50	pills
	Prescription pills	23	du :	48.50	du
	Opiates	10	du :	17.00	du
	Of which				
	Other: Methamphetamine .3ml				

<b>X. Meth Labs</b>	
Lab	0 : 0
One Pot	0 : 0
Components	0 : 0
Dumpsite	0 : 0
<b>XI. Firearms</b>	
Seized	5 : 13
<b>XII. Assets Seized</b>	
Federal	\$0.00 : \$0.00
State	\$1,731.00 : \$4,287.00
Vehicle	0 : 0
<b>XIII. Drug Trafficking Operations Disrupted</b>	1 : 1
<b>XIV. Convictions for the Month</b>	17

**State of Arkansas Vs Chilaphanh Souvannasing**

<b>DTF Case</b>	<b># DTF</b>	<b>23-115 (FORFEITURE)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>867.00</b>
Returned to defendant and/or attorney				433.00
Drug Director's Office				86.80
Prosecutor's Office				130.20
Balance to Task Force				<u>217.00</u>
Task Force				<u>32.55</u>
Remaining balance				<u><u>\$184.45</u></u>

Springdale	37.5%	69.18
Fayetteville	37.5%	69.18
Washington County	12.50%	23.09
Prairie Grove	12.5/10	2.30
Goshen	12.5/10	2.30
Farmington	12.5/10	2.30
West Fork	12.5/10	2.30
Greenland	12.5/10	2.30
Lincoln	12.5/10	2.30
Elkins	12.5/10	2.30
Elm Springs	12.5/10	2.30
Tontitown	12.5/10	2.30
Washington County	12.5/10	2.30
		<u><u>\$184.45</u></u>