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Region 5 - MIAMI

Amphetamines have been generally available throughout Region 5 over the past three (3) years. Drug store burglaries, pilferage at all levels, thefts from UPS drug shipments, and forged prescriptions are the major sources of amphetamines for drug traffickers. Multi-thousand quantities have also been brought into Region 5 from California and Mexico. The major areas of amphetamine abuse have been among young adults in the Northern Florida, Georgia and South Carolina College campuses and military bases, although high school students throughout the Region are also amphetamine abusers.

A 1976 investigation began as the result of an arrest of a drug pusher by the Hialeah Police Department. The original source of supply for the pusher was ultimately traced to a pharmacist who owned two drugstores in Miami. Subsequent investigation has resulted in the arrest of the pharmacist and one (1) other defendant and the identification and possible future indictment of sixteen (16) individuals in a chain of distribution covering the Miami metropolitan area. An audit of the two (2) firms owned by the pharmacist revealed the possible diversion over a two (2) year period of over 120,000 dosage units of amphetamine based drugs as well as 480,000 dosage units of other Schedule II drugs.

Law enforcement officers in the Florida area advise that amphetamines are very available in the illicit market. The source of most amphetamines are from pharmacy thefts, forged prescriptions and legal and illegal dispensing by dispensing physicians.