

# COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY 16983

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD - 7 -

January 29, 1979

## PHOENIX-MARICOPA COUNTY SITE VISIT

The jurisdictional population of the Medical Examiner's office is 1.2 million. This site reports to the DAWN system, but only "Drug Induced" cases; not those classified as "Drug Related".

The current experience with DPX cases is as follows:

|                               | From July<br><u>1973</u> | <u>1974</u> | <u>1975</u> | <u>1976</u> | <u>1977</u> | <u>1978</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| TOTAL DPX                     | 8                        | 18          | 28          | 10          | 16          | 15          |
| DPX ONLY                      | 3                        | 2           | 6           | 4           | 5           | 5           |
| DPX & Alcohol Only            | 1                        | 8           | 10          | 3           | 3           | 2           |
| DPX IN MULTIPLE<br>DRUG CASES | 4                        | 8           | 12          | 3           | 8           | 8           |

Propoxyphene is the most frequently detected drug in postmortem cases, followed by morphine, barbiturates and TAD's. The frequency of other analgesics such as acetaminophen and codeine is of a very low order.

DPX has only outranked morphine (Heroin) for the past two years because, although DPX has itself decreased, Heroin deaths have dramatically dropped to negligible numbers:

|                           | <u>1973</u> | <u>1974</u> | <u>1975</u> | <u>1976</u> | <u>1977</u> | <u>1978</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| (Heroin)Morphine<br>Cases | 13          | 31          | 41          | 33          | 5           | 6           |

## MIAMI - DADE COUNTY SITE VISIT

The forensic toxicology experience with propoxyphene and Heroin is as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Total Toxicity<br/>Cases</u> | <u>Heroin(Morphine)</u> | <u>Propoxyphene</u> |                          |                 |                |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
|             |                                 |                         | <u>Total</u>        | <u>Multiple<br/>Drug</u> | <u>Suicides</u> | <u>Acciden</u> |
| 1973        | 174                             | 11                      | 11                  | 5                        | 11              | 0              |
| 1974        | 228                             | 14                      | 10                  | 3                        | 7               | 3              |
| 1975        | 261                             | 30                      | 12                  | 9                        | 7               | 5              |
| 1976        | 245                             | 24                      | 6                   | 5                        | 5               | 1              |
| 1977        | 252                             | 9                       | 11                  | 5                        | 11              | 0              |
| 1978        | 249                             | 22                      | 11                  | 8                        | 9               | 2              |