Fentanyl seizures from street-level drug dealer arrests in 2022 mark a ‘stunning’ 12-fold increase in just two years

Last year’s 65-kilo fentanyl haul in SFPD’s Tenderloin police district represents enough lethal doses to kill every adult in California, according to supervisor from hard-hit District 6

SAN FRANCISCO (Jan. 8, 2023) — Supervisor Matt Dorsey, whose district includes drug dealing hotspots in Mid-Market and South of Market neighborhoods in the Tenderloin Police District, today released a statement on the San Francisco Police Department’s 2022 year-end tally of fentanyl seizures from arrests of street-level drug dealers. The aggregate weight of fentanyl seized from drug dealers arrested in that police district in 2022 was 65.37 kilograms — or more than 144 pounds. It is an approximately 12-fold increase from the 2020 total of 5.45 kilos.
“Fentanyl is a potently lethal synthetic opioid that has been driving our record-shattering drug overdose crisis, and is now flooding into San Francisco in ways that risk overwhelming our public services,” said Supervisor Dorsey. “With just two milligrams considered a fatal overdose for most people, SFPD’s drug seizure haul for 2022 is enough fentanyl to kill every adult in California. As I begin my first full term on the Board of Supervisors, this stunning year-end statistic is a powerful reminder of what we’re up against, and what our priorities must be in the year ahead. We must more aggressively pursue street-level drug dealers; we must better support and incentivize real recovery from drug addiction; and we must explore overdose-prevention strategies that can save lives. Essential to everything I hope to accomplish will be making long-overdue progress on our police staffing crisis — and I intend to play a leadership role in helping solve that.”

Dorsey, who will be sworn-in to his first full term on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors at 11:00 a.m. today, is the first self-identified member of the substance-use disorder recovery community to serve on the board in a generation. He spoke openly about his own journey in recovery from drug addiction as part of his successful campaign to retain his District 6 board seat. He was Mayor London Breed’s appointee to a board vacancy last May.

**Supporting Documentation**

- San Francisco Police Department’s [2022 TL Total Narcotics Seizures](#) spreadsheet
- San Francisco Police Department’s [2021 TL Total Narcotics Seizures](#) spreadsheet
- San Francisco Police Department’s [2020 TL Total Narcotics Seizures](#) spreadsheet

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