Facing Flakka

- Flakka is a potent, highly addictive stimulant drug. In a small amount the drug provides euphoria, stimulation, and hallucinations. However just a little bit more can trigger heart problems, agitation, aggressiveness, psychosis, paranoia and excited delirium.

- Excited delirium, characterized by hyperthermia, where the body temperature increases to more than 105 degrees, and paranoia causes users to run wild. Flakka can cause individuals to be convinced that they are being chased or are on fire, acting violently with adrenaline-heightened strength, sometimes requiring 4 to 5 law enforcement officers to restrain them. Once restrained they require immediate emergency medical attention. Excited delirium is a life threatening complication of using Flakka and without immediate medical attention the user is at risk of losing their life.

- In Broward County, each local hospital is seeing up to 3 Flakka emergency room admissions per day.

- Reports of Flakka, or Alpha-PVP, in South Florida have grown increasingly. In 2014, there were 200 reported cases in the Broward Sheriff’s Office Crime Lab of Flakka for the entire year. In 2015, between the months of January and March, the Crime Lab has seen more than 300 cases. Flakka is a more potent form of what was previously known as “bath salts”. Elsewhere is often called “gravel”.

- Sold on the streets and the internet in quantities as small as 1/10th of a gram for $4.00-$5.00, it is marketed to the homeless and also as a party drug, like “molly”. Young and poorer populations are targeted as customers.

- If you see anyone who seems to be experiencing Excited Delirium, call 911 immediately. Under Florida law, anyone calling in a medical emergency can not be charged for drug possession.

For more information on Flakka visit www.drugfreebroward.org

If you need non-emergency assistance please dial 2-1-1 or visit www.211-broward.org