



United States Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld, II Northern District of West Virginia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 8, 2013
WWW.WVAFEDS.COM

CONTACT: CHRIS ZUMPETTA-PARR
(304) 234-7725

U.S. ATTORNEY KICKS OFF

DRUG & SOCIAL MEDIA EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

Project Future "Two-a-Days" begin this week

WHEELING, WV – A unique drug and social media education program geared toward helping high school athletes stay out of trouble on the Internet and away from dangerous substances was kicked off today on a football field in Wheeling.

United States Attorney William Ihlenfeld, II announced a new program known as "Project Future Two-a-Days" this afternoon at Wheeling Island Stadium in Ohio County along with officials from the Drug Enforcement Administration and Wheeling Park High School. The program is an inside look at the dangers of drugs, alcohol and social media for student-athletes, and focuses upon the challenges and pressures faced by today's teens. The message will highlight athletes at the high school, college and professional level who have faced criminal penalties, suspensions, or removal from their teams for their texts or for posts on social media, along with athletes & celebrities who have been adversely affected by drug and alcohol abuse.

"Today's teens face challenges unlike any other previous generation, and they need to know what will happen to them if they make poor decisions," said Ihlenfeld. "As residents of the Ohio Valley know all too well, the combination of alcohol, smart phones, and social media can be extremely volatile and so additional education about the legal consequences one can face is both necessary and critical."

Throughout August and September, Ihlenfeld and Assistant United States Attorney Stephen Vogrin will be traveling to high schools and colleges to present the program, and will be joined by special guest speakers with real-life experience in dealing with addiction.

Project Future “Two-a-Days”

August 8, 2013

Page 2

According to Ihlenfeld, “Two-a-Days” is an off-shoot of a drug education and outreach program started last year and known as *Project Future: The Right Prescription for West Virginia*, a comprehensive strategy designed to educate parents and children about the dangers of prescribed medicine, synthetic drugs, and other illegal drugs that are plaguing communities in West Virginia. Since October of 2012, the Project Future program has been presented to over 13,000 students in the state. While the focus this Fall will be on student-athletes, Project Future programs that are geared toward all students will continue during the 2013-2014 school year.

The following schools are on the schedule for August to hear the “Two-a-Days” program:

Wheeling Park High School (football team)

Wheeling Central Catholic High School (football team)

John Marshall High School (football team)

Hundred High School (football team)

Cameron High School (football team)

Oak Glen High School (all Fall athletes)

Weir High School (all Fall athletes)

Paden City High School (all Fall athletes)

Brooke High School (football team)

Magnolia High School (football team)

Bridgeport (WV) High School (school expo)

High schools and colleges that are interested in having the program presented this season should contact the U.S. Attorney’s Office at 304-234-0100.

- END -