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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 18, 2014

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LA PORTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE/LA PORTE COUNTY TRIAD COLLECT AND DISPOSE OF MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED POUNDS OF UNUSED MEDICINES

On Friday, December 5, 2014 the La Porte County Sheriff's Office in conjunction with La Porte County TRIAD incinerated 157 pounds of unused medicines that had been collected in the Sheriff's Office pill drop box. The unused pills had been collected since May 1, 2014 and were incinerated in a licensed facility. During this same time period, the Sheriff's Office received 53 pounds of liquid medicines.

The La Porte County Sheriff's Office, La Porte Police and Michigan City Police departments are members of TRIAD which is an organization that consists of law enforcement, senior citizens and County service organizations that are focused on reducing crimes against vulnerable and senior citizens. In addition, TRIAD coordinates Project Lifesaver, beacon lights, and a speaker's bureau that promotes safety and wellness for seniors and endangered adults.

Pill drop boxes are located in the lobbies of the Sheriff's Office and La Porte and Michigan City Police departments and are accessible twenty-four hours a day. The boxes provide a means for citizens to dispose of unused and unwanted medicines and prevent them from entering the environment in landfills and water systems. The drop boxes also help to prevent experimentation, addiction, overdose and death.

TRIAD reminds the public that only solid medicines can be accepted and liquids and injectables can be disposed of in cat litter or coffee grounds and then placed in a trash receptacle, as this is an approved method endorsed by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Needles can be placed in a sealed container such as a detergent bottle and then taken to La Porte County Solid Waste, located at 2857 West State Road 2, La Porte.

* COURT OFFICES *

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