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Press Conference

Norwalk City Hall Community Room

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DRUG DEALERS TO FUND ANTI-DRUG EDUCATION!

Norwalk, CT - Announcing a press conference at City Hall, September 30, 2004, at 9:30 am in the Community Room. Norwalk Police Chief Harry Rilling and Mayor Alex Knopp will announce the allocation of money seized from drug dealers to support substance prevention education for about 1000 Norwalk seventh grade students. Six thousand dollars of asset forfeitures will be used to help fund the Courage To Speak curriculum written to combat the risk of threshold drugs including marijuana, alcohol and tobacco.

The Courage To Speak curriculum will be taught as twelve activities over twenty weeks by the Health class teachers in Nathan Hale, Ponus, Roton, Side by Side and West Rock middle schools.

A Norwalk police officer will be assigned to work with one activity in each of the five schools on the dangers of alcohol abuse. The Courage To Speak class activities will be launched with a keynote opening presentation in all schools by Ginger Katz, President of the organization. There also will be a parent presentation on March 22, 2005, for parents presented by Ms. Katz.

Chief Rilling pointed out that: "All money seized as a result of the arrest and successful prosecution of drug dealers is used to combat drug traffic in a number of ways. We are happy to earmark part of these funds to educate children against alcohol and drugs at an early age. I am confident the Norwalk Police Department teamed up with Courage To Speak will have a positive impact in this important fight.