



**RESULTS OF A LIMITED STUDY OF DRUG USAGE
BY PERSONS ARRESTED FOR A VIOLENT CRIME**

As part of an on-going discussion among District of Columbia criminal justice partners concerning the use of synthetic cannabinoids and its potential connection to violent crime, the Pretrial Services Agency (PSA) initiated a limited study of persons arrested for a violent crime and their drug usage. This study was conducted for arrests occurring between July 6, 2015, and July 24, 2015.

A total of 136 samples were collected during this time period (not every arrestee provided a sample). Of these, 95 (70%) were positive for one or more substances (including marijuana) and 41 (30%) were negative for all tested substances.

Samples are collected from arrestees the morning of their first appearance in court. PSA has no way of ascertaining the amount of time between the alleged offense and the collection of the sample (e.g., if based on a warrant, an arrest may occur several days or more after the offense).

Arrest Charge	Number of Samples Tested	Positive for Synthetic Cannabinoids		Positive for Any Drug		Non-Synthetic Cannabinoid Positives									
		%	#	%	#	PCP		Cocaine		Marijuana		Opiates		Multi-Drug	
						%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Assault w Dangerous Weapon	55	18%	10	65%	36	15%	8	18%	10	36%	20	11%	6	25%	14
Robbery	25	36%	9	80%	20	8%	2	12%	3	60%	15	-	0	28%	7
Aggravated Assault	15	13%	2	67%	10	13%	2	-	0	60%	9	7%	1	27%	4
Sex Abuse	14	7%	1	64%	9	7%	1	7%	1	43%	6	7%	1	7%	1
APO (felony)	9	44%	4	67%	6	-	0	-	0	67%	6	-	0	22%	2
Burglary	9	11%	1	89%	8	22%	2	33%	3	56%	5	11%	1	44%	4
Murder	6	-	0	67%	4	17%	1	-	0	50%	3	-	0	-	0
Assault with Intent to Kill	3	-	0	67%	2	67%	2	-	0	66%	2	33%	1	66%	2
Total	136	20%	27	70%	95	13%	18	13%	17	49%	66	7%	10	25%	34

“Arrest Charge” – this combines sub-categories (e.g., ADW gun/knife/other, etc.).