

National Counterdrug Center program receives certification

The government of Arizona, a critical border state in the war on drugs, has certified the National Counterdrug Center at the Hanford Training Center as an Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training program.

Arizona's standards and training board deals with selection, recruitment, retention and training of peace officers. With this certification, the training program of the National Counterdrug Center, or NCC, provides 16 of the 18 hours of annual training required of Arizona law enforcement officers.

NCC has established a computer-based training and exercise module to conduct counterdrug interdiction exercises for law enforcement agencies. A joint working relationship has been established with local, state and federal agencies in the Cochise County, Ariz., area.

These agencies face multiple drug-smuggling threats on a daily basis. The Cochise County Sheriff's office and other agencies of the federal, state and local governments have proven to be valuable partners in NCC's program.

The process of working with many agencies on a regional basis will continue as the Richland-based program expands to address the drug-smuggling threat along all U.S. borders. ♦

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