



Federal Bureau of Investigation

*Little Rock Field Office
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Press Release

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“Chasing the Dragon” Red Ribbon Week Viewing

For the third year in a row, the Little Rock Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is partnering with the Governor's Education Team, Arkansas Department of Education, and federal, state, and local partners to coordinate a statewide same day viewing of “Chasing the Dragon” for students at participating Arkansas middle schools, high schools, colleges and universities. The viewing will occur on **Wednesday, October 23, 2019**, during Red Ribbon Week. This year, due to the overwhelming success of the program in previous years, Governor Asa Hutchinson has officially proclaimed October 23rd, 2019, Chasing the Dragon: Opioid Awareness Day in Arkansas.

“Chasing the Dragon” is a documentary film produced by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Drug Enforcement Administration. The documentary film shines a light on the opioid epidemic which is devastating communities in the State of Arkansas and across the United States. “Chasing the Dragon” features the true life stories and experiences of people whose lives have been destroyed by the opioid epidemic gripping our state and nation.

“Chasing the Dragon” is not only intended to raise awareness about the opioid epidemic, but is also intended to deter young people from venturing into drug usage by showing the real life, sometimes brutal, consequences opioid addiction has on users.

The progression of an opioid addiction is conveyed in detail in the documentary, including how easy it is for a drug habit to form, the heinous downward cycle that ensues with perpetual use of opioids, and the tragic consequences of continued drug use. The gut-wrenching, emotional, and graphic stories in the film are a glimpse into the terrifying reality of drug addiction.

School districts are requested to register as early as possible. Where resources are available, local and state law enforcement officers will also be in attendance to answer questions and provide information. Schools interested in viewing the film must register by **October 14, 2019**. Schools interested in hosting a viewing of this film may register at the following registration link:

<http://arkaltdedu.org/chasing-the-dragon>

If you have questions or comments, please contact Maria Hoskins at mhoskins@fbi.gov, or the Little Rock Public Affairs Office at 501-221-9100.