

## **SYNTHETIC MARIJUANA IS ILLEGAL IN NEW JERSEY**

The Wyckoff Police Department advises that as of 2012 it is illegal to distribute, sell or possess any and all kinds of synthetic marijuana. These chemicals have typically been sold at some convenience stores and small retail locations under brand names of 'K2', 'K3', 'Spice', 'Kush', 'Down to Earth', 'Comatose Candy' and many others. The packages are often falsely labeled as 'incense' or 'potpourri', and the labels often state that the contents are not subject to any state or federal bans.

Anyone charged faces a crime of the third degree with fines up to \$25,000 and three to five years of imprisonment. Synthetic marijuana has been linked to side effects including convulsions, anxiety attacks, dangerously elevated heart rates, increased blood pressure, vomiting, agitation, confusion and hallucinations.

The Wyckoff Police Department Detective Bureau has contacted every store in the community that might have this product for sale. Thankfully, no businesses were offering the products and owners were advised of the law prohibiting the sale or possession of the products. Parents should be aware that children are likely able to obtain these products through many different channels.

Anyone with information about any business or individual selling synthetic marijuana should contact their local police department.