



The Joint Training Initiative
at
South Florida HIDTA
Is Hosting:

ILLICIT DISPOSABLE VAPES & TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL NETWORKS

August 14, 2025 (Thursday) Time: 9:00a.m. – 1:00p.m. (EST)

Deadline Date to Register Online: July 30, 2025

This training session will provide critical intelligence and operational guidance on the growing threat posed by illicit disposable vape products and their connection to transnational Chinese criminal organizations and various cartels operating within and beyond U.S. borders. These devices are not only being smuggled in violation of FDA regulations but are also increasingly used as a low-risk revenue stream for cartels involved in drug trafficking and money laundering.

Background:

- Disposable vapes are illegal if not authorized by the FDA and are frequently found to contain dangerous levels of nicotine or unregulated THC analogs.
- These products are manufactured overseas, predominantly in China, and smuggled into the U.S. via international parcel systems, often mislabeled to avoid customs inspections.
- The Chinese cartels involved are tied to synthetic drug trafficking (e.g., fentanyl precursors) and global money laundering schemes, using front companies, shell vape businesses, and trade-based laundering tactics to sanitize illicit profits.
- Retail-level sales often occur through non-compliant vape shops and convenience stores, many of which are knowingly or unknowingly part of the distribution chain.

Training Objectives:

- Identify key indicators of vape trafficking and retail-level distribution schemes.
- Review case studies from recent federal and state-level enforcement actions.
- Coordinate interagency responses across HIDTA, DEA, FDA-OCI, Customs, and local law enforcement units.

Those Who Should Attend: Narcotics and Gang Units, Financial Crimes and Asset Forfeiture Teams, Public Health Liaisons, Intelligence and Surveillance Officers, Prosecutors and Investigative Analysts

Location: In Person - SFLHIDTA Weston Facility, 3200 Meridian Parkway, Suite 101, Weston, FL 33331 **OR** if you are unable to attend in person you can attend via Zoom (you will still need to register online for either the in-person training or the Zoom training)

Tuition: Free, however travel costs are the responsibility of the parent agency.

Online Registration: Open your web browser to

<https://www.nhac.org/hidtatraincalendar/events/6>

Find the South Florida HIDTA Course, fill in the SFLHIDTA Training Registration and select Complete Registration

Questions concerning registration please contact:
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