



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

May 13, 2019

Dear Paul,

As the newly elected San Juan County Sheriff, it is a privilege to continue and grow the partnership between the "Don't Meth with Us" program and the San Juan County Sheriff's Office. I'm no stranger to the programs benefits. For a few years I have had the opportunity to assist in presentations and celebrate the accomplishments of community youth during the annual awards banquet.

Methamphetamine use, and crimes related to its use continue to be a major issue in San Juan County. As government drug education programs continue to be defunded, non-profit programs such as "Don't Meth with Us" are becoming a valid barrier between drugs and our youth.

I have expanded our School Resource Officer program and have included the "Don't Meth with Us" program as part of our student education programs. We are seeing little to no use among those 16 and younger. I contribute this to early drug education and prevention programs.

The United States appetite for illicit and prescription drugs is not going away. As a matter of fact, it is increasing. The price of methamphetamine is the lowest it has been in a decade and we are in a true opiate crisis. Although we are seeing almost no use of hard drugs among juveniles, children are present in the homes of adults who are using them. This program educates those children about their environment and gives them a chance to decide.

Law enforcement will continue to fight the influx of distribution and trafficking of drugs, while our healthcare system adapts to increasing addiction. I am thankful to the "Don't Meth with Us" program and all of your amazing volunteers for investing in our children's drug free futures. In the end it will help the latter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Shane Ferrari". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Sheriff R. Shane Ferrari

R. SHANE FERRARI, *Sheriff* • CORY TANNER, *Undersheriff*

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