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## SATC 2014 Video/Photo & Comments



SIGCO Friends and Associates,  
Many of you were able to attend the "Stand at the Cross" (SATC) 2014, that took place November 8th at Caryville, Tn.

We want to express our greatest thanks to all who committed to making this event a great day for The Lord! The Word Was shared; Wonderful Ministry of Music was given by "The Gibson's"; Spiritual and Inspirational Speaking/Singing was given by the Keynote Guest Sheila Raye Charles; and multiple heartfelt Prayers were given by many of our "Stand in the Gap Coalition" (SIGCO) Pastors and Notable Friends.

We have heard many comments of just how "Moving and Inspirational" it was to be a part of this "Prayer, Praise and Worship" service at the foot of this powerful 100' Foot Cross which shows itself daily to thousands of peoples traveling the I-75 freeway! The evidence of two (2) "Side by Side" crosses in the sky above this event gave "Signature" to the purpose and cause of this wonderful day that The Lord hath made!

We would like to thank everyone who gave of their time, talents and convictions in making SATC 2014 a complete success! Especially, we desire to commend the "Whole Hearted" support of the Campbell County Governmental Leaders and the Sheriffs Department, the City of Caryville, Tn., without whose full support this event would not have been possible. Additionally, We commend the Volunteers in support of this event whether parking cars, carrying the flags or driving Buses on their personal time and expenses! We give thanks and sincerely remember "All Gifts and Donations of Support" received for SATC 2014.

We ask you to Pray that the Twenty-Seven (27) other large standing crosses in America will be a "Drawing Force" for Christians to come and make a "Stand at the Cross" for their Region and our Nation! Taking a public Stand for God and against "Drug Abuse, Alcohol Abuse and Family Violence" is a redeeming and credible purpose!

We want to give you the links to both the photos of the prayer walk and the video's. If you don't have a chance to see anything else, take just a few minutes to view Sheila Raye Charles amazing testimony.

Photos of the Prayer Walk to the Cross: <https://plus.google.com/u/0/photos/100916494801851836539/albums/6082130933501552417>

Sheila Raye Charles testimony: 27 minutes

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ci3KLBv\\_oA8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ci3KLBv_oA8)

Pastors Prayers and Gibson Singers singing "Heal Our Land" 46 minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bke2xJol3S0>

Rebecca Harris' testimony: 21 minutes

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fru\\_aUlh0L4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fru_aUlh0L4)

In Christ's Work....We STAND!  
"Stand in the Gap Coalition"

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## STAND AT THE CROSS NOV. 8, 2014

Stand At The Cross - Nov 8th 12 noon

Saturday, November 8th, 2014- Come Join Us for this Historic Prayer Walk to the 100' Cross at I-75, Exit 141 (above Caryville, Tn)

12 Noon Walk / 1pm Program / Walk is 1.3 miles / Buses provided for those that cannot walk

Prayers / Testimonies / special speaker Sheila Raye Charles daughter of singer Ray Charles- recovered addict

Special Music: Mike Gibson and the Gibson Singers - featuring "Heal Our Land"

Remember: Arrive 11 am - Prayer Walk 12 noon - Program begins 1pm - Program ends 3pm

Sponsored by "Stand in the Gap Coalition (SIGCO) [www.SIGCO.org](http://www.SIGCO.org)

View photos of previous marches at [www.StandntGap.smugmug.com](http://www.StandntGap.smugmug.com)

Friends

Do any of you know about a documentary called "Appalachian Dawn" done by a group called the Sentinel Group that documents true moves of God around the world. According to The Sentinel Group, there have been two moves of God in our nation in the last 25 years which has brought about community transformation and one of those has been in Clay County Ky.

The reason is that in Appalachia, the drug epidemic has forced parents and friends of addicts to their knees, to cross denominational lines to seek God's help. One of the results of Clay County, Ky is that a 32 county coalition has formed that has brought changes through state and federal laws concerning drugs and those addicted.

Tennessee now is the worst state in the nation for prescription drug abuse and the 2nd behind Missouri for being the worst Meth state in our nation. In East Tennessee, virtually every family is affected in some way. Like Clay County spontaneous prayer groups have started. In 2011 a group formed in Cumberland Gap, Tn called Stand in the Gap which did a prayer walk (Nov 2011) involving 8,000 people (30% of their county population).

Great interest was generated in surrounding counties and 11 counties came together to form an East Tennessee Coalition. (Stand in the Gap Coalition) In Nov 2012, 7 towns in their region did prayer walks on the same day with a total of 20,000 people participating.

This November 8th, the epidemic drug problem will be the focus of prayer at a 100 ft cross off I-75 close to the Caryville 141 exit. Participators are asked to arrive at 11am. The walk begins at noon and is 1.3 miles long (about 30 minutes) with a 2 hour program

starting at 1pm.

Why go- (1) Drugs are affecting everyone (2) God honors prayer (3) God honors unity (4) Don't expect Nashville or Washington to pay attention until God hears the prayers and repentance of His people here first.

This is the radio announcement:

Stand in the Gap Coalition invites Tennessee to meet 12 noon, Saturday, November 8th at the I-75 Caryville exit 141 to Stand at the Cross.

This will be an historic Prayer Walk asking God's help in the massive drug epidemic affecting our region. Two years ago 20,000 people in 7 counties joined prayer walks but this one brings us all together at one place.

A 100 foot cross has been erected on I-75 at exit 141. People are invited from all walks of life to join this 1.5 mile prayer walk to the foot of the cross at 12 noon.

Once at the cross there will be prayers and a program.

Drugs in East Tennessee are affecting virtually every family in our region There will be bus service for those who cannot walk.

Come be a part of this historic moment. You are here for such a time as this. For more information call 423-300-1302

Attached are both the (1) radio and newspaper releases (2) t-shirts being sold prior to the walk (3) flyers that can be printed on 8,1/2" x 11" paper (preferably yellow or light blue) and distributed to those you know. (4) AND VERY IMPORTANT- a prayer sheet asking for you to pray for the walk. \*\*12 x 20 posters are available for \$.15 each

\*\*Yard sale signs are available for \$2.15 one-sided or \$2.65 two-sided.

\*\*Billboard logo is available from the office also.

Advertising Aids for you:

Request Materials from Rita at the Stand in the Gap Coalition office: StandntGap@Gmail.com or 423-300-1302- (leave message)

Alternative Sheldon Livesay OfOneAccord@gmail.com or 423-923-0864

T-Shirts and more- This year, there is more choices than ever before: (take orders at your church and order through, standntgap@gamil.com or call 423-300-1302

Short sleeve t-shirts (youth and adult sizes \$10.00 each small thru 5X adults- add \$2.00 for sizes above Extra Lg

Long sleeve t-shirts (youth and adult sizes \$10.00 each

Sweat Shirts (adult sizes only) \$15.00 each

Pullover hoodies (adult sizes only) \$20.00 each

Sponsors needed:

1. 6 x 9 LED Visual Screen \$4,600

2. Billboards (need immediatly) Do you have connections of businesses that might donate their billboard to us for 1 month?

Contact Sheldon Livesay (publicity) at ofoneaccord@gmail.com if you need radio spots.

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## **Aaron Russell**

Aaron came home, but he still needs your prayers. Please continue the prayer Chain praying for his complete recovery, God is in control.

We want to thank everyone for your prayers.

[Reply to this message](#)

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## **IMPORTANT : Stand in the Gap Meeting!**

IMPORTANT ---- Quarterly Meeting Sept.14th

Our next SIGCO quarterly meeting will be Sunday, Sept. 14th, 3:00 pm at the SIGCO Office/Church. \*\*\* single change from normal Sat. Mtg\*\*\*

We will be presenting updated information regarding the forthcoming "Stand at the Cross"(SATC) event of 8 November 2014 near Caryville, Tn. Please come and share your ideas supporting this Historical event!

Additionally, We will be hosting a couple of informative speakers who will address some New Issues that are very important to the entire SIGCO region.

Make your plans now to come for a time of Prayer, Fellowship and Sharing in Cumberland Gap, Tn.

Finally, please remember Mr. Aaron Russell in your prayers. He is having a very serious battle with kidney disorder. He is the IT coordinator for SIGCO.

SIGCO  
PH. 423-300-1302

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## **Drugs**

I destroy homes, tear families apart, take your children, and that's just the start.  
I'm more costly than diamonds, more costly than gold, the sorrow I bring is a sight to behold. If you need me remember I'm easily found.  
I live all around you, in schools and in town. I live with the rich, I live with the poor, I live down the street and maybe next door.

My power is awesome; try me..you'll see, but if you do, you may never break free.  
Just try me once and I might let you go, but try me twice and I will own your soul.  
When I possess you, you'll steal and lie. You'll do what you have to just to get high.  
The crimes you'll commit for my narcotic charms will be worth pleasure you'll feel in your arms.

You'll lie to your mother; steal from your dad. When you see their tears, you should feel sad. But you will forget your morals and how you were raised, I'll be your conscience, I'll teach you my ways.  
I take children from their parents and parents from their children, I turn people from God, and separate friends.

I'll take everything from you; your looks and your pride, I'll be with you always, right by your side.  
You'll give up everything..your family, your home, your friends, your money; then you will be alone.  
I'll take and take until you have nothing to give. When I am finished with you, you will be lucky to live.  
If you try me be warned, this is no game. If given the chance, I'll drive you insane.  
I'll ravish your body, I'll control your mind. I'll own you completely; your soul will be mine.

The nightmares I'll give you while laying in bed, the voices you'll hear from inside your head, the sweats, the shakes, the visions you will see, I want you to know these are all gifts from me.  
But then it is too late and you'll know in your heart, that you are mine and we shall not part.  
You'll regret that you tried me, they always do; but you came to me, not I to you.  
You knew this would happen, many times you were told, but you challenged my power and chose to be bold.  
You could have said, "NO!". and just walked away. If you could live that day over, now what would you say?  
I will be your Master, you will be my slave. I will even go with you when you go to your grave.  
Now that you have met me, what will you do? Will you try me or not? It's all up to you.

"Stand in the Gap Coalition"

423-300-1302

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## MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL FORUM

Please read the information below.  
We are invited to attend a Medical Professional Forum next month and if you would like to attend please let me know before June 2nd. and I will let them know how many to expect from Stand in the Gap for this very interesting forum. The reservations will be for the meeting only.

E-mail me or call at 423-300-1302 or 423-494-1849

Thank you and God Bless!  
Rita

From: Dennis Young [mailto:dennisyoung@winchester-tn.com]

Dear Distinguished Guests,

The Franklin County Prevention Coalition in collaboration with local, state and federal partners will be hosting a medical professional forum on June 12, 2014 at the Winchester Church of Christ. Prescription drug abuse is at epidemic proportions. In 2009 approximately 1 million emergency department visits were attributed to prescription drug abuse. In the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), it estimated 2.4 million individuals in the United States used prescription drugs non-medically for the first time. Many individuals are affected by prescription drug abuse, however youth, older adults and women may be particularly susceptible. The identification and prevention of prescription drug abuse is a problem that requires the proactive attention of all medical professionals. The medical forum is a one evening event from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. designed to address the causes, recognition and preventive measures available to healthcare professionals.

The primary audience will be medical professionals with decision making responsibilities including but not limited to : hospital administrators / managers; physicians (hospital and community based); nurses and nurse practitioners (hospital and community based); pharmacists; pharmacy technicians; public health officials; pre-hospital providers; dentists; first responders (Law Enforcement, Fire and EMS) and emergency planners.

As our state partners we would love for you to join us again this year for this outstanding night of education and fellowship.

Keynote Speakers:

Dr. Mangru, Winchester TN. Pediatrician Topic: Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome  
Mr. Tommy Farmer, TN. Meth/Pharmaceutical Taskforce Topic: TBI Response to Prescription Drug Abuse  
Dennis Young, Winchester Police Chief Topic: Pseudoephedrine Diversion, New Bills and Challenges  
Senator Janice Bowling Topic: Intractable Pain Act

Please let us know if you will be attending by June 2, 2014.

Again, thank you for all you do for the state of Tennessee and Franklin County.

Tabatha Curtis, B.S. CPS II  
Director  
Franklin Co. Prevention Coalition  
Winchester, TN 37398

(931) 636-9087

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## LETTER FROM CHIEF OF POLICE IN WINCHESTER

Everyone,

This is from Dennis Young who is the Chief of Police in Winchester, TN and he explains what has been happening in Nashville. I think this will help you to get a better understanding of what has been going on with the meth bill. Thank you, Dennis, for writing this. It is greatly appreciated.

Stand in the Gap  
SIGCO

Dear Bridgette and Coalitions,

HB1574 (Governor's bill and amendment) provided for an annual limit of 14.4gm pseudoephedrine/ephedrine per individual with 4.8gm per 30 day limit. Most law enforcement officers dealing with meth manufacturing on the front line believe that prescription only legislation for Pseudoephedrine, the primary precursor for the manufacture of methamphetamine, is truly the answer to the manufacturing plague of Tennessee as evidenced by 18 cities passing ordinances to that effect last year, however, most say that prescription only legislation would have been impossible to pass this year. As such, Governor Haslam crafted a bill with an amendment that both Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs of this state could support. The Senate was overwhelmingly in support of passing prescription legislation to put an end to meth production in the State of Tennessee with two bills introduced by Senator Overby and Senator Dr. Haile but both of these bills was killed in the House Criminal Justice Committee Chaired by Representative Shipley. Not only did he kill the prescription bills he amended the Governor's Bill by doubling the 14.4 gram annual limit to 28.8 grams (24 boxes of 12 hour Sudafed). Presently we are at the maximum allowed level of 108 grams by federal law. We could not get the votes in the House of Representatives to amend the bill back to the 14.4 gram level. After an impasse between the Senate and the House, a conference committee was created to work out a bill that both Houses could pass and basically we ended up with the House version. A little history here, the State of Kentucky lowered their limits to 24 grams two years ago and did initially see an approximate reduction of 40% but they are on the rebound.

Please remember 85% of Tennesseans do not use a cold or allergy medication that contains pseudoephedrine at all. Of the 15% that use the product, 80% of those only take 4.8 grams or less, which equates to 12% of the population. So 97% of the population that have TN IDs use 4.8 grams or none. At the 14.4 grams annual limit proposed by the Governor, that percentage grows to 98percent of the population not affected. The level passed at 28.8 grams will not have any significant impact over time, much like Kentucky's experience.

We rescue around 300 children a year from Meth Labs, but we only find conservatively one out of thirty labs. That means 9,000 children a year are living in a meth lab environment. What about all these drug endangered children enslaved in these living conditions that we could have stop with effective legislation?

A year ago we as a community embarked on a mission to protect our children and innocent citizens with the passage of local ordinances and 17 other cities across this state followed our lead prior to the Attorney General Opinion. His opinion was based on legislative intent to occupy this field for it was a statewide public health issue. I do concur with his opinion in that regard, it is a statewide public health emergency. If the legislature truly wanted to take on this responsibility, they would of passed legislation that could of had a significant impact on our safety and the safety of our children.

Many legislators wanted to do the right thing including Governor Haslam's administration. The positive is that we did get them to overwhelmingly admit we have a problem by passing legislation that has died in previous years. We got a law passed to include mandatory jail time for those caught in possession of meth and production of meth, and we got a 2013 law overturned that legalized expectant mothers doing drugs while pregnant causing birth defects, addicted babies, and death to their child.

Long story short, the power and influence of the pharmaceutical industry overpowered the will of the people. They spent millions fighting us on a daily basis and we had no money, but we did have the public support and some great legislators and administration that stood with us.

The question is what can we do moving forward? The first thing we have to do is continuing fighting for what is right, educating the public and your State Representatives. Over the last year, products have been introduced to the market, Nexafed II, Zyprex D, and gel cap pseudoephedrine, that have blocking capabilities hindering the extraction of pseudoephedrine in the most common, Shake and Bake, labs we deal with. We need to encourage every pharmacy in this state to only sale these products across the counter without a valid prescription. We can draft non-binding resolutions, passed by local governments, encouraging pharmacies, in the interest of public safety of our communities, that our local pharmacies only sale these products over the counter without a valid prescription. The pharmacist have the authority and ability to reduce to writing, pharmacist prescription, for all other products containing pseudoephedrine for their valued customers that they know are not diverting these products to meth. This can be accomplished simply by creating partnerships with your community to change the environment where meth labs cannot exist.

The State of Tennessee also removed funding from the TBI for the cleanup of these labs and in the near future these liabilities and cost could fall back on local governments, which makes it even more urgent that coalitions and communities continue this fight.

This legislature had an opportunity to pass one of the most important pieces of public safety legislation in the history of Tennessee and they didn't. We have a strong nucleus of support in Nashville to build on over the next year and is up to us to forge these partnerships. Ironically, we did an excellent job over the last year educating the public and changing public opinion to the point of a 2/3 majority of voters supporting our legislative efforts, but failed to educate the legislators. You learn from experience and became wiser going forward.

The drug endangered children deserves a voice, let that voice be yours.

God Bless,  
Chief Dennis Young  
Winchester Police Department  
Office 931-967-3840  
Cell 931-308-9467

[Reply to this message](#)

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## HOUSE BILL 1574

Hello,

Just wanted to provide you some information regarding the Governor's Meth Legislation.

On April 9th the House passed House Bill 1574 and it was sent to the Senate.

Yesterday the Senate passed a version of the bill that differed from the House. It had several amendments on it and had lowered the yearly limit to 14.4 grams a year. The sponsor of the bill Rep. Hawk brought this before the House and recommended to pass the Senate version. This was voted down and opposed overwhelmingly. Many members spoke and voiced strong opposition to the Senate version. A conference committee was appointed made up of three House members (House: Rep Tidwell, Rep. Hawk, and Lamberth) and in the and three Senate members (Senate: Sen. Norris, Haile, and Tate)

Today the House returned and presented their finding and the bill as amended. The conference committee adopted the keep the 28 grams a year limit that was passed in the House and added an amendment from the Senate that a minor would either need a prescription or a pharmacist generated prescription to purchase. The hope is that this would eliminate juvenile smurfers.

Today the House members of the conference committee and Rep. Powers all spoke about the bill and recommended that it was a good bill. The House and Senate both have approved and passed the bill after it came out of conference committee.

As it stand now the bill places a yearly limit of 28.8 grams and has states that juveniles/minors need either a prescription or pharmacist generated prescription to purchase pseudoephedrine when unaccompanied by a parent.

The bill will now go to the Governor either for his signature making it a law or a veto killing the bill.

Josh Longmire  
Legislative Assistant  
Rep. Dennis Powers  
36th District  
G-27 War Memorial Building  
615-741-3335 or  
615-741-1100 EXT 44495

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## Make the RIGHT "ANTI-METH" choice

"Without Positive Control of Pseudoephedrine Products Voted to Law"...

THIS WEEK Hundreds of children will be adversely affected...  
SOME EVEN ADMITTED TO BURN WARDS... from METH LABS GONE BAD during the next 12 months!

PROTECT THE INNOCENT CHILD... WHAT COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT? IMPLORE our legislators  
and Governor Haslam to make the RIGHT "ANTI-METH" choice... THIS WEEK!

[Reply to this message](#)

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## It's Not To Much To Ask!

SIGCO released a video Titled "It's Not To Much To Ask!" We ask that you view the video at <http://sigco.org/vid.php?page=Videos&VID=RXk9cLuN-Lw>

The video was originally created to support House Bill 1565 but the objective remains the same SIGCO realizes positive control of PSE is the only way to stop the Meth lab next door. Please watch the video and ask your self is it to much to ask?

[Reply to this message](#)

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## TN STATE CAPITOL DAY VISIT

SIGCO Volunteers and Concerned Friends,

Please review the link below regarding directions to the Capitol and basic visit information.

<http://www.capitol.tn.gov/about/capitolvisit.html>

For our "Day Visit", Wednesday 9th April, we are planning to meet at the Capitol visitor entrance at 9am. We will proceed from the visitor entrance to the 2nd floor, by stairs, for seating in the "House Chamber" visitor Galley.

Please wear your SIGCO T shirt.

The exact placement for HB1574 on the regular calendar "for vote" has not been specified as yet. This information will be available at Tn.gov near term.

Several parking lots are located within a block of the Capitol building. Metered parking on side streets may be available. If you are "carpooling", it suggested to drop off passengers by the Capitol, then driver proceeds to parking.

We will post "refined details" for our visit as they become available today and tomorrow.

Please be in continued and fervent Prayer about these final hours before a "Most Important" Legislative "Anti-METH" session will end. Specifically, Pray that Governor Haslam's heart will be pricked to support "Positive Control of PSE" in Tennessee and that our Legislators will follow suit for the best Health and Well Being of our communities and Peoples.

Hopefully, you have received today, our (SIGCO position for "Anti-METH" legislation). It will be our purpose to take this position to the Capitol and associated legislators offices this Wednesday, April 9th. Feel free to print copies of SIGCO "Position Points" for distribution at Nashville.

It is truly ironic that this "final stretch" for ending the 108th General Assembly and enacting an "Anti-METH" legislation that WILL DISABLE these dark hours of the "METH SCOURGE" on Tennessee is running in parallel with the most dark hours that our Savior, Jesus Christ, suffered through for our redemption! THE GOOD NEWS.....the same glory and power that conquered these "Most Dark Hours" for Christ is Trusted and Available to Christians today!

God Bless ALL your efforts to make this journey to Nashville a success!

Feel free to call these numbers for questions you may have concerning the "Day Visit" to Nashville.  
Ph. 423-300-1302; 423-494-1849; 606-269-8935

SIGCO  
Cumberland Gap, Tn.  
Ph. 423-300-1302

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## RETURN VISIT TO STATE CAPITOL

Dear "Stand in the Gap" (SIGCO) Volunteers and Concerned Friends,

This email is sent to announce and confirm a return visit to our Tennessee State Capitol by SIGCO, for a "Day Visit", Wednesday, April 9th, 2014.

The purpose for this journey and visit to our Capitol is to encourage our Legislators and Governor Haslam to support "Positive Control of Pseudoephedrine (PSE) Products in Tennessee" in order to "Disable" Illicit/Illegal METH manufacture and distribution in our communities.

Please review our "Stand in the Gap" website, [www.SIGCO.org](http://www.SIGCO.org) and our Facebook postings for our most current correspondence and positions toward the "Anti-Meth legislation.

Please plan for a 9AM (CST) (tentative show time) at the Capitol building Wednesday morning. We will be seated as a group in the House of Representatives Chamber visitor galley and observe the presentation of the House Anti-Meth Bill for vote and possible discussion.

This journey will make a noteworthy "Stand" by SIGCO as we seek the disablement and removal of this "METH SCOURGE" in Tennessee.

Plan to wear your "Stand in the Gap" march T shirts. We will have some extra shirts on site for those without a SIGCO T shirt. You should consider a "Brown Bagger" lunch for this day.

We will provide more details for this visit, such as suggested parking, and our "Day Visit" agenda, by close of business, Monday the 7th.

Please provide the number in your party making the journey and your mode of transportation to Rita, SIGCO office tel. 423-300-1302, or email, ASAP as we may be able to assist some "Carpooling Efforts".

Finally, please pray about our journey to Nashville. II Chronicle 7:14 provides us God's Promise.....Let's do our part and take a "Stand" for what is Right for God's People!

In Christ's Work,

Dan Spurlock  
SIGCO  
Cumberland Gap, Tn.

Best Regards.... God Bless You.

[Reply to this message](#)

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## Position Points

"Stand in the Gap Coalition" (SIGCO) Anti-METH "Position Points"

SIGCO is a Faith Based 501(c)(3) regional organization of Volunteers from eleven (11) counties reaching from I-75 eastward through the "Powell Valley" corridor to I-81. Our purpose is to "Seek the eradication of Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Family Violence in our Region.  
II Chronicles 7:14 is our foundation and Prayer is our Primary Tool.

SIGCO "Anti Meth" Position Points:

1. We seek "Positive Control of Pseudoephedrine (PSE) in Tennessee" and "Availability with Responsibility".

This position is made possible by "Positive Control" of PSE products through personal identification requirements for purchases and by distribution only from "Competent Medical Authority" (family doctor, nurse practitioner, local Pharmacist, etc) with a valid prescription. Your local Pharmacist may write an "on site" prescription.

2. We support Monthly and Annual PSE "Quantity" limits for individual purchases.

Current legislation as proposed in the 108th General Assembly and purchase limits as supported by Governor Haslam, provide for PSE product use with Personal and Individual quantity limits for both monthly and annual provisions.

3. We support "Over the Counter" (OTC) availability of "nasal decongestant and allergy products that are specifically "Not Compatible" for METH conversion.

Specific nasal decongestant and allergy products, such as, Nexafed and Zephrex-D, are currently available for public use and have proven as effective as other well known PSE products. These products are not compatible for METH conversion.

#### SUMMARY:

Through the three (3) measures outlined above, "Disabling METH in Tennessee" will be a "REALITY"! These measures are prudent for the Health and Well Being of Tennesseans and they are Fiscally Cost Effective for the State and Local Governments.

Tennessee is presently rated 2nd Nationwide for Illegal and Illicit Methamphetamine (METH) manufacture and hazardous (potentially Fatal) incidents! Oftentimes, an innocent and unprotected child is tormented with a lifetime of scars from ONE METH LAB GONE BAD!

Preventing just "ONE MORE" innocent child from going through the pain and life changing results of "ONE METH LAB" gone bad..... It is worth our efforts!

Stand in the Gap  
Cumberland Gap, Tn.  
[www.SIGCO.org](http://www.SIGCO.org)  
Ph. 423-300-1302

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## CALL GOVERNOR HASLAM'S OFFICE

Hello to ALL SIGCO volunteers and concerned friends.

Yesterday, Mr. Don Johnson, Constituent Services, of Governor Haslam's office called to inform us the the "Stand in the Gap Coalition" Citizen Petitions and County Mayor/Commissioners Resolutions had been received in the Governors office.

Mr. Johnson provided his telephone number and invited us to make personal calls to request updates or express our continued concern for the Tennessee Anti-Meth Production (TAMP) proposal of Governor Haslam which is presently before the 108th General Assembly.

Folks, our voices have been heard, but the fight to make Pseudoephedrine (PSE) products, the ONLY MUST HAVE chemical to manufacture METH, a "Positive Control" in Tennessee through new legislation and subsequent law, is far from finished.

Two (2) request:

1. PRAY FERVENTLY and CONTINUALLY that Governor Haslam's heart will be pricked by God to support "Positive Control of PSE in Tennessee" and "PSE AVAILABILITY with RESPONSIBILITY", by forthcoming Law in Tennessee.

2. Call Governor Haslam's office as Mr. Johnson suggested and make your concerns known.

The 108th General Assembly will most likely end this session by Easter weekend. This "METH" fight is NOT over! We must keep the phone line and emails to the Governors office flooded with our SIGCO concerns as well as yours personally.

PLEASE CALL THIS NUMBER to Governor Haslam's office.....they are required to "Take and Answer" your calls!

Phone number: 615-741-6692

God Bless You for all your prayers and thoughts regarding our SIGCO efforts!

SIGCO  
Cumberland Gap, Tn.  
Ph. 423-300-1302

Best Regards.... God Bless You

[Reply to this message](#)

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## **KEEP PRAYING, DON'T GIVE UP**

Hello Folks,

Attached is the Prompt Reply by Mr. Longmire per my earlier email. He makes "The Process" for "METH" Legislation in this 108th General Assembly very clear.

Please remember, this years "METH" legislative process is not over by a long shot! Why?

Because there remains a cadre of Representatives and Senators who know and favor "Positive Control of PSE in Tennessee" through competent Medical Authority, which includes your local Pharmacist. They know that "The Facts" support overwhelmingly that "DISABLEMENT OF METH MANUFACTURE AND DISTRIBUTION" is a REALITY through Positive Control Legislation!

If the Governors Bill gets defeated 4/2/14, then, there is NO METH LEGISLATION on the floor of the Assembly! The "PERFECT ANTI-METH STORM" will be on the 108th Legislative Horizon....

A new alliance could form from the House and Senate with a "Positive Control" proposal that will be APPROVED because it is Truthful and Right for the Public! The New Proposal will meet the Governors requirements and he will sign this legislation into law because it protects and promotes the Health and Well Being of his constituents throughout the State.

What is our SIGCO job? Pray fervently and earnestly that our Elected Leaders will "Stand in the Truth" for the folks who voted them to Public Service. Pass this Prayer request by every process you know throughout your area!

We are still reviewing the "Timing" for our SIGCO return to the Capitol and capture the "Monumental Moment" to make our "Regional Voice" heard as we "Cry Out" for legislation this year that WILL "DIABLE METH" in Tennessee!

I covet your thoughts and guidance as we approach the pinnacle of this Anti-Meth Legislation.

In Christ's Work!

Dan

Best Regards.... God Bless You

Begin forwarded message:

From: Josh Longmire  
Date: March 28, 2014 at 2:20:33 PM GMT  
To: "Daniel C. Spurlock"  
Subject: RE: Follow Up.....SIGCO logistic support....Nashville/State Capitol visit... April 2014

Hello Dan,

HB 1565 was voted down in the Criminal Justice Sub-Committee on 3/18/14. This in effect "killed" the bill. Rep. Powers worked the committee for several days leading up to 3/18/14 but the votes were against us. Since the House Bill is dead, the Senate Bill 1791 could not be passed and has also been withdrawn on 3/19/14.

Rep. Powers and Senator Haile have spoken with the Governor's office to see if the Governor would possibly be open to a friendly amendment to his meth plan, which also barely made it out of Committee. We thought it too would be voted down but just barely made it out. The Governor's bill is still progressing through the Legislature.

No word as of yet if the Governor or his staff would be open to include part of 1565/1791 in his bill. The Governor's Bill is House Bill 1574 which is being sponsored by House Leader Gerald McCormick and the Senate Bill # is 1751 which is being sponsored by Senator Mark Norris.

Currently in the House HB 1574 is set to go before the Health Committee on April 2nd.

I have included the City of Nashville permit forms with this email. I will follow back up today with some appropriate parking places for you and the group.

[Reply to this message](#)

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## **Positive Control**

The Legistlative process in Tennessee to make a "NEW LAW" is very deliberate and somewhat complicated as viewed by those of us outside Nashville.

However, you can be assured that the arduous task to get "METH MANUFACTURE" off the streets and out of our communities will be directly related to Governor Haslam signing a BILL into law that requires Pseudoephedrine (PSE) products to be "Positive Control" through a "Prescription Only" distribution.

WBIR release 3/19/14.  
Gov. Bill Haslam's plan to combat meth production by limiting sales of a key

ingredient averted a major roadblock after he agreed to slightly higher restrictions. But the deal with House lawmakers may not be the final word on the issue.

<http://www.wbir.com/story/news/politics/2014/03/19/gov-bill-haslam-may-be-close-to-deal-on-meth-bill/6600553/>

The Senate Health and Welfare Committee is scheduled to take the issue up next, perhaps as soon as Wednesday afternoon, 19th March.

It is now time for us to contact our U.S. Senators and Congressmen of Tennessee (1,2,3rd district) and ask them to personally contact Governor Haslam for supporting "Positive Control" of PSE in Tennessee. This is a task each one of us can do now and take a "Stand" for the betterment and safe well being of Tennessee! Please make this your committed effort for today!

This years Legislative session for Tennessee will end before the Easter Break, Friday, 18 April 2014. There is no reason to think that Gov. Haslam will NOT sign into law a new "METH" regulation/law for the state during this Legislative session.

Please keep up the good effort to get more "Citizen Petitions" signed supporting SB1791. We are making final plans to provide the County Mayor/Commissioner Resolutions and SIGCO Citizen Petitions to Gov. Haslam's office.

Your Efforts are Sincerely Appreciated,

SIGCO  
Cumberland Gap, Tn.

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### **\*HB1565 by \*Powers. (SB1791 by \*Haile.)**



HB1565 / SB1791 makes Pseudoephedrine available only through prescription. Follow HB1565 status at <http://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/BillInfo/Default.aspx?BillNumber=HB1565>

Bill Summary at <http://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/billinfo/BillSummaryArchive.aspx?BillNumber=HB1565&ga=108>

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### **Mailing Address**

If you have signed petitions that you tried to send to the Stand in the Gap office and was returned to you, please mail them again only to: P.O. Box 539, Cumberland Gap, TN 37724

The Post Office told me that the 502 Pennlyn address would be returned to Knoxville and would take about a week to process. We need to get them as soon as possible.

I am sorry for the inconvenience and hope you have a lot to send in because we need those numbers!

Thank you and God Bless!  
Rita

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### **ALERT**



Potent New Painkiller May Prove Lethal for Addicts, Critics Warn. The new painkiller Zohydro was approved just a few months ago and isn't even on pharmacy shelves yet, but the potent pill has already sparked a fire storm of protest from doctors and activists who fear that it will lead to abuse, addiction and deaths. <http://m.newser.com/story/183072/painkiller-will-kill-people-as-soon-as-its-released.html>

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### **Tn. Drugs/Pills Dispense Law 2013**

NASHVILLE – Effective this month, under a new Tennessee law, prescriptions for opioid pain medicines and benzodiazepine medicines may not be dispensed in Tennessee in quantities exceeding a 30-day supply. The new limits apply to all dispensers of these medications, including pharmacies, dispensaries and mail-order programs located either in or out of Tennessee.

"The law to limit the dispensing of some medications, which went into effect Oct. 1, is part of a statewide effort to reduce problems

associated with misuse of these powerful drugs," said TDH Chief Medical Officer David Reagan, MD, PhD. "It has potential to reduce the quantities of these medications available for abuse or overdose."

The dispensing limits law is the second major initiative started this year to impact drug misuse. In April, medical professionals in Tennessee were required to start checking the Controlled Substance Monitoring Database before prescribing in most cases. The database is designed to help ensure the best prescribing decisions are made for every patient, resulting in fewer people becoming dependent on pain medicines.

"Dependence or addiction to prescription medicines is a serious behavioral health condition, but it is also treatable," said E. Douglas Varney, commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. "Tennessee residents who need help with a drug problem may call the Tennessee REDLINE at 1-800-889-9789 or go online to [www.taadas.org/Redline.htm](http://www.taadas.org/Redline.htm) to learn about treatment and recovery services available in their area. If you are unclear if your medication may be impacted by this new law, please speak with your prescriber or pharmacist for additional details."

The new limit on the amount of certain drugs that can be dispensed was established by state law Public Chapter 430, Section 4, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-11-308(e). Examples of opioids and benzodiazepines which are now limited include:

Generic Name Trade Name

hydrocodone Lortab®

codeine

morphine MS Contin®

oxycodone Oxycontin®, Percocet®

hydromorphone Exalgo®

oxymorphone Opana®

fentanyl

methadone

alprazolam Xanax®

diazepam Valium®

lorazepam Ativan®

The above list is provided as an example; other drugs are also impacted by the new law. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency has placed the affected powerful drugs into Schedules II, III, IV or V according to their potential risk for abuse and addiction. Those different schedule levels impact prescription as follows:

Prescriptions for medicines in Schedules III, IV or V which have been written for greater than a 30-day supply may be filled, refilled or partially filled in 30-day increments, for up to a six-month period.

Current DEA law does not permit refilling of Schedule II prescription medicines; therefore, all Schedule II prescriptions for opioid prescription pain medicines may not be dispensed in quantities greater than a 30-day supply. Each 30-day supply of a Schedule II opioid prescription pain medicine requires a new prescription.

The mission of the Tennessee Department of Health is to protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee. For more information about TDH services and programs, visit <http://health.state.tn.us/>.

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## **"METH" Human Destroyer Facts**

Tennessee is in a methamphetamine crisis. The state ranks among the top in the nation for meth-lab seizures. The economic costs are estimated at more \$1 billion in the state. But the problem is more than numbers. The illegal drug affects the lives of tens of thousands. It devastates the body and can even cause death.

Brain and mouth

- Meth works in a region of the brain packed with nerve cells that manufacture dopamine. Dopamine is a neurotransmitter (messenger) that controls pleasurable sensations.
- Reduced dopamine levels lead to a decrease in simple motor skills and learning tasks, long-term brain damage.
- Stroke, long-term brain damage.
- Damage to blood vessels.
- Insomnia, paranoia, severe depression.

Heart, lungs and other organs

- When meth is smoked, it enters the respiratory system and takes effect in three to five minutes. It can damage the heart and lungs.
- Meth can severely increase heart rate and blood pressure. Long time use can result in an irregular heartbeat, heart attack or stroke.
- Possible fluid in the lungs and chronic lung disease.

- Liver damage.
- Loss of appetite, weight loss and malnutrition.
- Skin sores result from picking and scratching at imaginary insects that chronic abusers think are crawling on them.

Immune, digestive and muscular systems

- Meth restricts the skin's blood flow and its healing process, resulting in graying skin, acne and open sores.
- Abdominal pain.
- Obstruction in intestines.
- Lack of appetite and few nutrients received from food that is absorbed in the digestive system.
- Meth also effects the muscles, causing jerky movements, increased activity, convulsions and loss of coordination.

Other impacts

- Like with other stimulants, meth is often abused in a "binge and crash" pattern. Users try to maintain a high by taking more of the drug. Some users forgo food and sleep while continuing to take the drug for up to several days.
- Meth makes you high, but it also drags you way down. The "feel-good" emotions for the abuser go far beyond their usual boundaries. But the person feels far worse than usual when coming off the drug.
- A single does of cocaine lasts eight to 30 minutes. But a single dose of meth lasts six to eight hours.

Interactive Map: See meth charges by Tennessee county

Interactive Map: See how many meth labs law enforcement seized in your county

Across Tennessee: See the Tennessee cities passing local laws aimed at battling meth

Interactive graphic: Meth vs Pseudoephedrine: A single oxygen molecule apart

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## "METH MOUTH"..the facts!

Dentists don't know exactly what causes the distinctive pattern of tooth decay called "meth mouth."

The ring of cavities around the gum line was something Dr. K. Mark Anderson, a professor with the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, saw when he worked as a dentist at Tucker Unit, an Arkansas prison that houses inmates with addictions.

Health effects: Meth's stranglehold on Tennessee

"It is very widespread," Anderson said.

"It tends to involve almost all or most of the teeth."

And that is with an early stage of meth mouth. Often, the inmates had only nubs for teeth.

The American Dental Association attributes meth mouth to a combination of factors based on behavior spurred by the drug and bodily reactions to it. But the direct cause and effect has not been determined in a scientific study for fairly simple reasons. First, few people addicted to methamphetamine seek regular dental care. Secondly, ethics gets in the way of monitoring people taking the drug.

More: 2 women will forever bear pain, scars of meth lab explosions

It's hard to know how differently the teeth are affected whether someone snorts, smokes or injects the drug. That's just one of the mysteries of meth mouth.

Anderson said he thinks the pattern of decay is caused by some sort of chemical erosion, bad hygiene, dry mouth and diet.

"Patients that are using meth tend to have a second drug of choice, which is Mountain Dew," he said. "Their diets are terrible and highly carcinogenic. They are sucking down very, very sugary drinks, probably food as well that accelerates the process. It is a combination of factors."

Pinpointing a specific chemical as a culprit is difficult because there is more than one way to make the drug.

More: In Dyer County, it's hard to find someone not touched by meth

The pattern of decay around the gum line is different from the typical cavities that occur on the biting surfaces and grooves of the teeth. It is similar to what would be expected in an oral cancer patient whose saliva glands have been damaged by radiation, he said, noting that saliva has a cleansing and anti-decay purpose.

Meth mouth doesn't take years to develop. People in their 20s end up with nubs for teeth.

More: In Carter County, fighting meth is a dirty and dangerous business

Chronic dry mouth occurs soon after regular use of the drug, Anderson said, so the teeth don't get cleansed biologically — or manually for that matter.

A scarlet letter

Users on a 24-hour or two-day binge rarely make time to brush their teeth, said Nancy Williams, a UTHSC professor and dental hygienist who has studied the correlations between addiction and oral health. Meth mouth might as well be a scarlet letter, she said, because it holds people back even if they are able to go into recovery.

"Meth mouth is so well known now," she said. "Employers know if somebody kind of looks like a meth head. They don't want to employ that person."

More: Tennessee ranks at top in meth costs

The department of dental hygiene and occupational therapy at UTHSC College of Allied Health once got a grant to restore the smiles of recovering addicts at a halfway house in Memphis. But in most cases, it was too late to save teeth.

"Usually, it just meant extracting some teeth and putting in dentures," Williams said.

Reach Tom Wilemon at 615-726-5961 and on Twitter @TomWilemon.

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## SIGCO Testimony with Tn. Lawmakers 4 Mar 2014

A SIGCO delegation of Nine (9) met with Tennessee law makers at Nashville yesterday to "Make a Stand" for Legislative Approval of House Bill 1565 (associate Senate Bill 1791). Our SIGCO representative was the lead testimony before the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee which was reviewing several proposed "METH" bills. Additionally, our 8th District Attorney General Lori Phillips Jones presented an extensive testimony and responded to multiple inquiries from the law makers. The greater percentage of presentations favored "Positive Control" (prescription by competent medical authority, including pharmacist locally). However, there is strong and heavily financed opposition from the pharmaceutical industry and associated lobbyist. The review and hearings by our Tennessee lawmakers will continue all the way to the Senate floor and ultimately to the Governors desk. This fight appears to be a money issue, bottom line, when it must be a "WE THE PEOPLES BEST INTEREST ISSUE AND VOTE"! What MUST SIGCO do without delay? 1) Continue to gather citizen signatures. We will present them at the Capitol. 2) Call your County Mayors/Commissioners and make sure they are fully aware of your "METH" concerns. 3) Continue to email and call your elected lawmakers asking their support in "Positive Control" of Pseudoephedrine (PSE) products, the only chemical that is a must to make "METH". 4) Last, but not least, call and email Governor Haslem's office asking him to make his decision for the "Best Health and Welfare" of Tennesseans, especially innocent and victimized children. His and all Tn. Lawmaker contact info can easily be reached at Tn.gov. HB1565/SB1791 are still alive, but Lawmakers must hear us cry out to make them the "Law of the Land"! SIGCO...GOD BLESS YOU and KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

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## SIGCO Quarterly Report Feb 22 2014



Stand In The Gap Coalition of Twelve Counties Takes Stand for Pseudoephedrine To Become Prescription Only

The eleven county area of northeast Tennessee, Bell County Kentucky and Lee County Virginia has formed a regional anti-drug coalition which are currently taking a stand against Meth.

At their regional meeting this week, Dan Spurlock, Stand In the Gap Coalition's (SIGCO) Coordinator called the attention to those attending that Tennessee has become one of the worst states in the nation for drugs, and is currently one of the top two states for Meth production. He said, "this is not what we want to be known for."

Spurlock focused attention on a state Senate Bill 1791 that would allow Tennessee to follow suit with Oregon and Mississippi to eradicate the Meth problem from the state by making products with pseudoephedrine prescription-only. Pseudoephedrine is the one ingredient found in over the counter products required to make Meth.

Currently Tennessee residents must show Driver's license ID to purchase pseudoephedrine products. Law Enforcement officers explain that meth manufacturers will load up in vehicles and shop at multiple stores, each purchasing one package which doesn't trigger an alarm. District Attorney Lori Phillips-Jones explained Tennessee also has no way to verify drivers license's and in 2013 pseudoephedrine purchasers provided 3,600 Alaskan driver's licenses to document purchases.

According to DEA's website, meth incidents in Oregon in 2004 was 632 and Mississippi was 523 but in 2012 was 9 and 5 respectively after passing this bill. Spurlock says, "this law will work." Tennessee's meth incidents in 2012 was 1,587 which is unacceptable.

District Attorney Lori Phillips-Jones, representing the Eight Judicial District, has led a campaign in her own Scott county to have drug-stores voluntarily replace pseudoephedrine products with Nexafed. She said, "Nexafed is proof that it is possible to manufacture these products with key ingredients that cannot be extracted to make Meth."

Jones called attention to an 8 month old infant that died in Elizabethton. Children are being raised in homes where they are exposed to meth and the meth residue settles to the floor which is especially toxic to children. 265 children were taken out of meth homes last year which were only a fraction of those possibly exposed.

She continued in her presentation explaining public places are no longer safe in Tennessee. A parking lot was quarantined several hours in the state last year and Jones, said that could be the car next to yours. In Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg, labs are being discovered in motel rooms all the time and it is becoming less safe to travel. Children from meth homes are bringing residue to schools in their clothing as they interact with other children and renters never know what was done in an apartment or house before you rented.

Jones was making a point that all this could be stopped, simply by passing this one bill as has been passed in Oregon and Mississippi.

Jones continued saying "Tennessee taxpayers spent 16 billion dollars last year on Tennessee's drug problem a major part of which is meth production and use. This figure is made up of investigations, cleanups, people being incarcerated, feeding and housing addicts while they are in jail), kids in state custody, and healing burn-unit patients. The worst problem for us should be the number of babies being born addicted and nurses in children's hospitals will testify that these babies face some of the most horrific withdrawals of any human being and many face lifelong health issues."

"Annually, only 10% of the population of the entire state of Tennessee make a single purchase of products containing pseudoephedrine . 80% of those people don't use more than 4.8 grams year."

"SB-1791 that is being presented allows people when visiting their doctors to say, occasionally I get stuffy and need a pseudoephedrine product. Would you put a prescription on file for me? Through that means or by calling a nurse practitioner, a separate doctors visit is avoided.

Over the last year, 579 pharmacies across the state have taken pseudoephedrine products out of their stores all together. Those stores are reporting their shop-lifting has gone down dramatically."

"For people with legitimate problems, if that bill is passed," according to Dan Spurlock, "a person can go to a pharmacy and that pharmacist can write that prescription with no charge to the customer." According to Spurlock, Tommy Farmer, state TBI Director, says, "many citizens with allergy problems, like high blood pressure cannot take pseudoephedrine products anyway and must seek alternatives."

Dan Spurlock stated law enforcement officials across the state that he has talked too all say the same thing, no more pseudoephedrine, no more meth. Spurlock closed the meeting by asking people to go to Stand in the Gap's website (<http://www.SIGCO.org>) and sign an online petition, print one off the "library" page for their church, club or business and call and contact elected officials to endorse this bill. He said Tennesseans have a choice to deal with it now, or we will have to deal with it later.

Submitted by Sheldon Livesay  
Approved release by Stand in the Gap Coalition  
423-921-8044 office  
423-923-0864 cell

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## **SIGCO Search Page**

Keep up to date with SIGCO news and events by making <http://sigco.org/search.php> the first page that opens when you open your web browser to surf the internet.

The links below will explain how to set the home page or as some call it your start page in your web browser. The instructions you will need depend on the web browser you use. The SIGCO search page you want to set is <http://sigco.org/search.php> if you want the search page customized to your county add your county .sigco.org for example <http://anderson.sigco.org/search.php>

For internet explorer <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/internet-explorer/change-home-page#ie=ie-11>

For Firefox <http://support.mozilla.org/en-US/kb/How%20to%20set%20the%20home%20page>

For safari <http://support.apple.com/kb/ph4972>

For chrome <https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/95314?hl=en>

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## **WVA Senate PASS Pseudoephedrine (PSE) Bill**

WV Senate passes prescription pseudoephedrine bill

Posted: Feb 17, 2014 2:53 PM EST

Update, 2:54 p.m. Feb. 18:

West Virginians soon might have to get a prescription for cold medicine, in an effort for lawmakers to combat the methamphetamine problem in the state.

The West Virginia Senate passed a bill that would make pseudoephedrine available by prescription only.

Senate Bill 6 would regulate the sale of drug products commonly used in the manufacture of methamphetamine. Those products would include pseudoephedrine (the active ingredients in Sudafed), a drug commonly used as a nasal/sinus decongestant.

The bill now goes to the House of Delegates.

Sen. Corey Palumbo, D-Kanawha, amended the bill to allow people who possess 3.6 grams or less of the drug to be expunged of the charge if they have it for medical purposes and purchased it legally.

Sens. Evan Jenkins, R-Cabell, and Chris Walters, R-Kanawha, were the only two Republicans who voted for the legislation. While Sen. Truman Chafin, D-Mingo, was the only Democrat vote it down.

The overall vote for the bill was 25-9.

Jenkins said he would vote for the legislation ultimately to help get rid of the statewide meth problem.

Sen. Gregory Tucker, D-Nicholas, is the sponsor of the bill and said meth was a "plague" that needed to be stopped.

The bill exempts two pseudoephedrine medications, Zephrex-D and Nexafed, because they cannot easily be converted to meth, officials said.

The Senate also passed other bills to the House, including Senate Bill 15, which would remove certain billing limitations for HIV or STD testing by public health agencies, and Senate Bill 100, which would authorize operation of low-speed vehicles on certain municipal roads.

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## **METH REGISTRY ERRORS IN QUESTION**

[http://www.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.wbir.com%2Fstory%2Fnews%2Fcrime%2F2013%2F09%2F22%2Ftn-meth-offender-database-is-falling-short%2F2849851%2F&h=xAQHp8cE8AQG3DE2koOi2HVcqSq6CCAm-H0MpiXaHe45mkQ&enc=AZNkFLWSkY3iwRjzT4l7LB4IsAxbIYv75kDiq4JNj\\_qTCOc3xfVDx8h5u\\_OygbPdrKw6guGZBtVxY1yCAJGO&s=1](http://www.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.wbir.com%2Fstory%2Fnews%2Fcrime%2F2013%2F09%2F22%2Ftn-meth-offender-database-is-falling-short%2F2849851%2F&h=xAQHp8cE8AQG3DE2koOi2HVcqSq6CCAm-H0MpiXaHe45mkQ&enc=AZNkFLWSkY3iwRjzT4l7LB4IsAxbIYv75kDiq4JNj_qTCOc3xfVDx8h5u_OygbPdrKw6guGZBtVxY1yCAJGO&s=1)

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## **METH MAKERS Video And Text Miss vs Tenn 2014**

Mississippi law essentially eliminates meth labs, Tennessee hopes to do the same  
Posted: Jan 30, 2014 1:21 AM EST

"My life was devastated by meth," admits Shane Garrard. "I had destroyed everyone around me, I was destroying my community along with my family."

"There's definitely been a decrease in the amount of product going off the shelves but its also the product is getting into the hands of people who really need it instead of people using it for illegal purposes," said pharmacist Kenny Willoughby.

Some who want the drug to fight a cold have adjusted to the law, calling a doctor for a prescription. Others came up with their own plans.

Click the link below to read the full store and watch the video.

<http://www.wate.com/story/24585472/mississippi-law-essentially-eliminates-meth-labs-tennessee-hopes-to-do-the-same?autoStart=true&topVideoCatNo=default&clipId=9788251>

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## **SIGCO Local Chapters**

We now have local news feeds for each SIGCO county to add/update their specific info and show we are united together by bearing the SIGCO name. We need a volunteer from each county to maintain there counties local new feed. The news feed is easy to maintain. Please reply to this message and let us know if your interested.

[Reply to this message](#)

## **A great opportunity**

There is a great opportunity in front of us. This is an election year. Election years have always been the time to identify problems and gain the promises of elected officials. We need representatives who carry the drug issue as frontlets before them, speak of them, and then do something about them.

On February 8th, the Rogersville Chamber of Commerce held their annual Legislative Breakfast. State and federal elected officials are invited to speak, but the event is well attended by the county's players, locally elected leaders and business people.

At the event, each legislative person gives their version of the state of the state or state of the union address. But there seems to be one glaring hole in perception. While jobs, education and healthcare are major topics, Tennessee is still the 2nd state of the nation in what the DEA call Meth incidents. In 2011, Tennessee was highest and dropped slightly behind Missouri in 2012. See the following chart <http://www.justice.gov/dea/resource-center/meth-lab-maps.shtml>

For the purpose of this notice we won't go into prescription drugs which are equally high in Tennessee, but we not only live in a state which is among the worst in the nation for drug use and especially for Meth manufacturing, we live in the worst end of that state. The governor has compromised through pressure of the pharmaceutical companies to come out with a bill concerning Sudafed. As many of you know, to manufacture Meth you have to have one ingredient and that is - Sudafed. Sudafed has currently been placed behind the counter of drug stores and purchasers have to show ID and sign to get it. This doesn't work, which I will explain in a minute.

The governor's bill which our representative supports works this way. The first time you purchase Sudafed this month, you have to sign for it. The second time you purchase it, you have to have a consultation with the pharmacist. The third time you have to have a prescription. This would work, except Meth labs and drug dealers work in well organized circles. If you aren't addicted, you couldn't dream of where to go to find it. But if you do use it, you know every person who makes it, who sells it and within minutes you can go to multiple places to get it.

This is how it really works !

Those that manufacture Meth will load up a car of 5-6 people and usually travel to an out of town community. They have mapped out as many stores that sell Sudafed. Each goes in one store and gets one box without any alert going up. Then they can make it in their vehicle and have a batch cooked before getting home. Slick isn't it?

The governor's bill will not work !!! Mrs. Snodgrass and I met with our representatives after the Breakfast and explained this process to them. We said, if you lived in one of the states where this was the least problem, sales of Sudafed wouldn't be an issue, but you live in the worst end of the worst state in the nation, and this is happening on your watch. People are dying on your watch. Families are being destroyed on your watch. We can get new industries and they are having a hard time finding Tennesseans who pass the drug test. This is your watch. Trying to find the statistics above, I came across an article claiming as much as 95-99% of our crime is due to drugs. This is your watch. Kids can't be educated because they come from drug households where life is anything but normal. This is your watch.

Church goes out there. Thousands of people joined together on Nov 4th, 2012 from 12 counties (5,000 from Hawkins alone) to say enough is enough. You walked praying God would do something. But I'm learning He uses people to accomplish His will. Once upon a time, it was thought elected officials were suppose to represent God's will as they voted. We want our officials to get in this war that is epidemic and is killing us. We need your help churches. We need your help representatives. We thank our sheriff's for stepping up to make this a number 1 issue and working countless hours to find, bust, arrest and convict offenders.

Only " prescription only" Sudafed will break the power of Meth in Tennessee:

Oregon and Mississippi have led the way.

For Oregon's success go to : <http://www.pewstates.org/projects/stateline/headlines/new-script-for-sudafed-85899374858>

For Mississippi's success go to: <http://www.wate.com/story/24585472/mississippi-law-essentially-eliminates-meth-labs-tennessee-hopes-to-do-the-same?autoStart=true&topVideoCatNo=default&clipId=9788251>

BE AWARE !!!

This drug companies are spending big bucks to fight this effort. They hire lobbyists, they have created websites, influenced media so it's difficult to read through all the false information and find what is accurate and what is simply not true. I've been to the Rural Health State Conference and I could see their campaign. They have facts. They have statistics and they have plenty of scare tactics. But they don't have children, relatives and friends, hopelessly addicted to Meth.

Only You Can Make A Difference !!!

Only you can sign the petitions and have your family sign it. <http://sigco.org/petition.php>

Only you can print off a petition and stand at the back of your church and have them sign it. The petition is the 2nd item down. <http://sigco.org/library.php?page=Download>

Only you can call, write or speak to your representative.

Only you can suggest your local drugstore pull Sudafed and replace it with Nexafed like Scott County is doing with amazing results.

Only you can carry the message to those within your sphere of influence.

Sheldon Livesay  
423-921-8044 office  
423-923-0864 cell  
OfOneAccord@gmail.com

Here is a link to the photos of the Chamber's Legislative Breakfast in Rogersville. <https://plus.google.com/photos/100916494801851836539/albums/5978194088309071873>

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### Contacted every pharmacy in Anderson County

Anderson County SIGCO contacted every pharmacy in Anderson County. The pharmacists report a major problem of "smurfing" where many people ask for pseudoephedrine and take it to be used in a meth shake and bake location. Many privately owned pharmacies have quite stocking pseudoephedrine or sell it only to known customers. Most pharmacies were glad to hear that Nexaphed and Zephrex-D are now available. Walgreens and KMart are already stocking one of these products and many others are going to order them. Nexaphed and Zephrex-D are almost impossible to make into Meth so are not purchased by Meth addicts. I took one of them today for sinus congestion and it worked very well. Please ask for one of these products for cold and sinus decongestants and suggest they be substituted for the other pseudoephed products! We can use this "boots on the ground" approach to eliminate meth labs in our Counties. Praise the Lord and pass the Nexaphed!

David STANLEY MD  
108 Orchard Lane  
OAK RIDGE  
37830  
TN

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### SIGCO Quarterly Newsletter January 2014

Dear Stand in the Gap Coalition (SIGCO),

This correspondence is intended as a "Quarterly Newsletter" for first Quarter 2014. Please give this widest dissemination throughout our Eleven (11) County Coalition. Keep in mind that SIGCO is regional in effort and focus throughout the "Tri-State" KY-TN -VA area. There is strength in numbers, especially when you seek the attention and support of our local, county, and state governmental agencies and leaders. Approximately 8,000 people marched in support of "Eradication of Drug Abuse, Alcohol Abuse and Family Violence" at Cumberland Gap, Tn. in our Tri-State area, November 2011. Please help keep this mission and awareness alive..... Call a friend, forward this newsletter, post SIGCO information at your church, etc!

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SIGCO Website:

On behalf of the Stand in the Gap Coalition, we want to thank Mr. Aaron Russell, Union County, SIGCO webmaster, for the new "face-lift" and "user-friendly" version of the website. If you have not seen it, go to [www.standntgap.org](http://www.standntgap.org) Aaron has added a lot of new features and the site is very user friendly. But the site will only be as good as our combined efforts to keep it reviewed, current and promoted throughout our coalition. Finally, we have a "new" Internet domain name, <http://sigco.org> You may access the website with either address. The sigco.org address will allow us to create individual sites for each County to add/update their specific info.

VETERANS

We have a "New" link to help our Veterans find help in counseling and substance abuse. This link is currently in development. However, we are interested in you thoughts and ideas as to how SIGCO can and should reach out to those Veterans who served our country on our behalf and who reside in our SIGCO Region.

Please review and complete as appropriate the following website items:

\*Check out your county "Recovery" organization link for accuracy. Send any updated contact info to our website.

\*Keep Rita, SIGCO office coordinator, and Aaron posted with your events and activities. Please send photos for posting on the website. Folks like to know what is "Happening" at SIGCO.

\*Please send Aaron Russell links to individual county "Anti-Drug" websites and Facebook pages. We are very interested in the activities, educational events, and prayer marches of the entire coalition. REMEMBER!!! You neighbor county may not realize the great things you are doing and you learn more together and get more of God's work accomplished! We will make a link for your individual county on the website and give you access to update pertinent info as necessary! Please take advantage of this opportunity to promote your County and SIGCO.

Rita's email at the office is: [Standntgap@gmail.com](mailto:Standntgap@gmail.com)

Aaron Russell's email for the website (Go to the website. Click on Contact Us in the Upper Right and send corrections or more information. )

Send Photos to [OfOneAccord@gmail.com](mailto:OfOneAccord@gmail.com) On the website, click on the right column on Smugmug Photos. You can utilize these photo's in your future efforts.

Support State Bill 1791 (SB1791) that will help defeat Meth in Tennessee..... URGENT, ACT NOW! GO TO SIGCO WEBSITE..... SIGN THE APPROVAL PETITION!

SIGCO is moving forward to promote the "Approval Vote" for SB1791. This Bill will effectively take the "Single" chemical ingredient required to make Meth, "Pseudoephedrine or Ephedrine" off the streets and out of our SIGCO communities. SUDAFED is the principal commercially sold product that is used by Illegal Meth Labs to create the crippling drug that is wiping out generations of our folks in this region.

After we have created a "Significant" petition, SIGCO will take the results of this petition to our elected "County Mayor/Commissioners" thereby showing the desire of their constituents and requesting them to sign a "Resolution" supporting it as illegal to sale or promote within their counties "Pseudoephedrine or Ephedrine" without a prescription by medical authority (doctor, pharmacist, etc). You may review the proposed "Resolution" at our the SIGCO website.

Go to [www.standntgap.org](http://www.standntgap.org)

On the right column click on "petition to support SB-1791"

Sign and have your family members sign

Drug Companies are spending tons of money making Tennesseans afraid to ask the state to make Sudafed Prescription only. Some have reported that Rural Health State Convention staff receive great influence from pharmaceutical companies in opposition to this bill to influence our doctors, hospitals and health institutions. WHY?

#### Drug Facts and The Truth About the Bill

\*It only takes one use of Meth to create a life-long addiction

\*the average life-span of a meth user is 5-7years from commencement of use.

\*Without Sudafed, it is impossible to make Meth.

\*Sudafed can be manufactured in a form which prohibits the production of Meth. Sudafed's manufactures would rather spend millions to keep it available "AS IS" and make you think otherwise, to give you false information, and to keep meth cooking in Tennessee.

\*No other medications on the counter for allergies will be affected. Only Sudafed..

\*No other form of Sudafed currently on the counter will be affected, just those currently behind the counter that you have to sign for.

\*The "sign in" system doesn't work. "Meth" makers just make the circuit. Ask your local law enforcers how it works.

\*There are new drugs (Nexafed and Zephrex-D) equally effective for allergies from which Meth cannot be made.

\*Scott County- Through a campaign by District Attorney, Lori Phillips-Jones, there has been a voluntary effort of local drug stores to take Sudafed out of stores and replace them with Nexafed and Zephrex-D. The results in just months, Meth production has been cut 75%. If all surrounding counties would participate likewise, we would see Meth driven out of Tennessee.

\*But you say, addicts will only go to other drugs. Through organized efforts, we can get them one by one. You have to start somewhere and this is place to begin. Volunteer with SIGCO today! Please call or email and say, "Where may I help?"

#### CONTACT INFORMATION.

To the future, we hope to be able to contact all parties within SIGCO by "Blast Mail" or similar technique to pass time sensitive or Urgent information..... Much like an "Amber Alert" for children.

However, to make this happen with confidence, we need the correct contact information for our SIGCO individuals and associates (churches, etc). We have had thousands of folks make our prayer marches and meetings, but we have less than 1,000 contacts by email or cell phone which is necessary for "Blast Mail".

Please contact our office or website and update or provide your contact info so that we can put this most useful tool into effect. There are many times where URGENT INFO is learned from Law Enforcement and similar agencies that we can share "Immediately" throughout the Coalition.

#### SIGCO.... WHY THE COALITION?

Again, there is strength in numbers! Our eleven counties (11) comprise a significant number of constituents for our elected officials. Many of our counties are doing great things in their respective counties. Individually, there may be minimal recognition for these efforts outside their counties. Collectively, SIGCO counties will create more influence with our elected officials and private/public organizations. We have it on good information that "Stand in the Gap Coalition" is well known in certain state governments. We can make it more widely known in all three states (Ky,Tn,Va) by working together, passing knowledge and coordinating our efforts. So, make sure you

"Stay Tuned" to SIGCO Communications, via website, Facebook, email or telephone!

#### NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING

Our next quarterly meeting is 22 February 2014 at 10AM, SIGCO office (church building), Cumberland Gap, Tn. We plan for a 2hr. meeting period where pertinent Coalition presentations and business will be covered. Please make sure this meeting gets announced throughout your counties, churches and local organization. Everyone must know that "Everyone" is welcome! Additional agenda information will be forwarded prior to the meeting.

#### CLOSING THOUGHTS

SIGCO name branding. It is very important that everyone that you may talk to or correspond with become very conversant with the "Stand in the Gap" mission statement. Point them to our website where they can learn of our intent and purpose as well as watch the 17 minute trailer from "Appalachian Dawn", review our SIGCO "Power Point" presentation or find a "Drug Rehabilitation Center".

Our individual counties collectively create the "coalition" by realizing that we must have "Name Recognition" in our Tri-State areas to raise awareness for fighting the scourge of Drug Abuse, Alcohol Abuse and Family Violence".

The acronym for the "Stand in the Gap" Coalition is "SIGCO" and we hope it becomes as well know nationwide as "Bayer" Aspirin. This is a branding process that is vital to better and be more influential in Private, Public or Governmental organizations.

Our counties are the foundation and very backbone of SIGCO. As a coalition we will continually work to mutually support each other for the good of the whole.

Please raise the "SIGCO" awareness wherever you can for it benefits all of us!

God Bless You and Keep You!

22 February 2014 Saturday 10AM, SIGCO Quarterly meeting, 502 Pennlyn Ave., Cumberland Gap, Tn.  
COME and meet with us. Let us meet you! BRING A FRIEND!

Volunteer your time, or donate resources to help our Tri-State area! Contact our SIGCO office, telephone 423-300-1302 or mail to SIGCO, PO Box 539, Cumberland Gap, Tn. 37724

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## **VOLUNTEER TO STAND IN THE GAP**

Stand in the Gap Coalition is looking for volunteers.

Let us know what you would like to do as a volunteer.

Contact SIGCO office 423-300-1302 or click "contact use" on the SIGCO website

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## **PRESS RELEASE Still Standing in the Gap**



We are not just about marching. Whenever "Stand in the Gap" is mentioned, that's what most people think about and they are proud that they marched, especially the first march of 2011 with 8,000 other people. I would like to tell you what we are really about and why Stand in the Gap Coalition (SIGCO) is "Still Standing in the Gap".

Our children are surrounded with wickedness and they shouldn't have to live with their grandparents or foster homes because the parents are addicted to drugs or alcohol and are incapable of being a real parent.

When drugs or alcohol take over a person, that person loses the life experiences that helps them to grow into a responsible person and leads them into a miserable world of their own. We want to help them get their life back.

We are now a coalition with eleven (11) counties involved in TN, KY and VA. It started with Claiborne County TN, Lee County VA and Bell County KY. Union, Hawkins, Hancock, Campbell, Scott, Anderson, Fentress, and Grainger TN counties are now with us. The Tennessee State and Washington D C legislators know who we are. A pharmaceutical company in Missouri recently contacted us, so we are getting well known. Law enforcement knows who we are and embraces our efforts.

We are also a 501(c)3 non profit faith based organization. God has opened doors that we could not open. We request your prayers and support to open more doors and do what God has for us to do. We are Christians and volunteers of all faiths. By prayer and repentance, SIGCO (Stand in the Gap Coalition) seeks the eradication of Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Family Violence in our tri-state area through God's help and guidance.

Our goal is to "Stand in the Gap" and to seek with prayer, healing, through family assistance, Christian counseling, education, rehabilitation facilities. We seek to renew Christian based laws in our legislative and judicial systems in order to once again be called a Christian Nation.

We do research; we have gone to educational meetings and seminars; we have investigated alternative pseudoephedrine nasal congestion products, talked to legislators, pharmacist, judges, law enforcement and doctors, to learn more about the drug and alcohol abuse that can cause family violence.

We need you to pray for us. We need you to join us (to volunteer and attend our meetings). We need you to support us with your prayers, your ideas, and your charitable donations. Don't wait, but, Stand in the Gap for all our communities. Please call 423-300-1302, or email [standntgap@gmail.com](mailto:standntgap@gmail.com) or view our website [www.standntgap.org](http://www.standntgap.org). for details on getting involved.

The work is plentiful but the workers are few.

Luke 10:12

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## SIGCO Quarterly Report Oct 26 2013

Stand in the Gap Coalition Making Progress in War on Drugs 10/27/2013



The Stand in the Gap Coalition (SIGCO), an eleven county (11) regional effort against illegal drug and alcohol abuse and family violence, met in Cumberland Gap Saturday with county leaders, law enforcement, District Attorney offices, doctors, and other concerned citizens of the region

Most regional residents only attach the name "Stand in the Gap" as a group leading prayer marches in 7 cities last November, but SIGCO meets regularly and is putting together some of the best heads in the region to fight the epidemic of drug abuse in East Tennessee, SE Kentucky and SW Virginia.

Dan Spurlock, a commercial pilot and former Marine, facilitated the meeting Saturday and likens, the East Tennessee region's war on drugs to his time and training in the military.

The group last year invited each county's DEA agents to their meeting along with TBI and other interstate task force officers to strategize on closing down traffic areas across counties and state lines and interrupting the flow of drugs whether they are manufactured or prescription. The group also has brought together county sheriffs. SIGCO envisions a regional "Joint Drug Task Force" for the future.

Claiborne County Sheriff David Ray addressed the group Saturday. Trained initially by the FBI, Sheriff Ray has worked many years with TBI as an undercover agent, then as Sessions Court Judge. He understands the process of drug abuse as well as anyone in the region. In his tenure, he said, his office had made 1,400 arrests with a 100% conviction rate. They have never lost a drug case. Ray gave up several "secrets" that he felt led to successful drug busts and prosecution.

Dan Smoot, the CEO of Operation UNITE of Kentucky, which has brought together a 30 county coalition in Eastern Kentucky to fight drugs, talked about their support of SIGCO efforts to make headway into seeing the scourge of illegal drugs significantly crippled. Smoot took the position after a successful 20 year law and drug enforcement career with Kentucky State Police.

Tennessee 8th District Attorney, Lorri-Philips Jones, has taken it on herself to study states who battle the decongestant Sudafed without which, it is impossible to make Meth. Manufacturers could alter a key ingredient but they won't she said. New alternatives are, however, now coming on the market, like Nexafed and Zephrex-D that cannot be used in making Meth but provide the same decongestant relief to individuals.

Jones, said she had led a campaign in her home Scott County to discontinue the sale of Sudafed. Most pharmacies and drug stores, including national chains like Walgreens, had taken Sudafed out of their stores and replaced them with the alternatives. Meth production has already been cut 75%. Law enforcement officials are monitoring Scott residents who cross county lines to purchase Sudafed which leads them back to Meth labs and more successful arrests.

Spurlock fielded discussion on taxpayer cost of illegal drugs and recovery programs are notably cheaper. Currently, it cost an average of \$250,000 to clean up a meth lab. The 247 babies born addicted this year spend undetermined days or weeks in intensive care going many times over that cost and the cost of operating jails are very expensive, keeping people convicted of drug use/sales. Spurlock felt East Tennessee should be seeing more long term recovery facilities coming.

The epidemic in East Tennessee has reached the point one in two families are affected in some way by addiction. Each speaker Saturday pointed to a common thread in this process and that is prayer. Each acknowledged, there is hope through ever increasing community involvement. Stand in the Gap Coalition is a faith based 501(c)(3) organization who continue to seek God's leadership as groups pray and leaders continue to come together by communities, counties and regions to develop strategies addressing the drug issues. II Chronicles 7:14 is the foundation and guiding principle of SIGCO.

Submitted by Sheldon Livesay

423-921-8044 office

423-923-0864 cell

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## SIGCO Quarterly Report July 14 2013

A quarterly meeting for the Stand in the Gap Coalition was held Sunday 3pm, 14 July 2013 at their new headquarters office in Cumberland Gap, Tn. Their new office facility is co-located with the Church of the Living God, 502 Penlyn Avenue, Cumberland Gap, TN, 37870

Some really good information was shared with SIGCO volunteers through various speakers and presentations.

Mr. Wayne Carpenter preceded the meeting with several gospel songs and some songs that he had personally written.

The "Heal Our Land" video singing by "The Gibsons" from Sneedville, TN, kicked off the meeting. It was created as a direct result of SIGCO marches. This is a most inspirational song and video of God's people calling out for help to our troubled land.

Dr. Edwin Robertson opened the meeting people with a hearty "Welcome" and prayer for the SIGCO efforts.

Mr. Dan Spurlock made announcements and covered future event dates. Especially noted was the change of time and future SIGCO quarterly meetings of Saturdays at 10am. This adjustment was made to facilitate Pastors and church leaders in making meetings and not conflict with their normal Sunday church and associated events. The next SIGCO quarterly meeting will be 26 October 2013, 10AM at the Cumberland Gap headquarters. Everyone is invited to attend and participate in this meeting. Stand in the Gap seeks to eradicate Alcohol, Drug and Family violence in our local Tri-State area.

Noteworthy to this meeting was the introduction of a new medical treatment device for different addictions. Mr. Ted Adams of Letcher County, Ky spoke of the great success of the NeuroElectro Therapy (NET) and its "Trial" use at the "Isaiah House" rehabilitation facility in Willisburg, Ky. NET incorporates a physical technique that causes different chemical processes in the human brain which counteracts the effect of drug abuse. FDA approval is forthcoming on the NET process which has been in use in Europe medical communities since 2006.

Mr. Aaron Russell of Union County, Tn updated the coalition on the SIGCO web site. He introduced the new possibilities of posting the quarterly meetings on this site. At this time, you may visit [www.standintgap.org](http://www.standintgap.org) and review informative power points introducing the full scope of SIGCO efforts, review photos of recent marches and activities or find contact information for Celebrate Recovery and the eleven (11) county coalition leaders. In the future, a PAYPAL link will be posted to allow donations to further this worthy cause in the Tri-State area. SIGCO is a faith based, non profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Dr. David Stanley, Oak Ridge, Tn. spoke to the coalition about the different "Self Help" organizations he has worked with for many years in the fight against Alcohol And Drug abuse. He specifically mentioned the nurses in Anderson County who bring to his attention the ever increasing number of "New Borns" that are Drug Addicted. Additionally, Dr. Stanley pointed to a "Change of Thinking" in medical doctors toward the prescribing and issuance of drugs in American society. He envisions an ever increasing decision by doctors to be much more critical in the medical drug dispensing process of doctors and pharmacies.

The meeting was concluded in prayer by Mr. J.T. Russell of Union County.

Anyone may contact -IGCO at P.O. Box 529, Cumberland Gap, TN. 37724. The Drug Tip Hotline is 866-424-4382. This number is discreet and totally anonymous.

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## Meeting With Representatives

Stand in the Gap Coalition (SIGCO) Meets With Representatives Looking for Direction to Curtail Meth Production

The "Stand in the Gap Coalition" (SIGCO), met Sunday at their new headquarters building in Cumberland Gap, Tn., with elected state representatives to understand the devastation Methamphetamine is playing in the lives of Tennessee families. SIGCO representatives from 10 Tennessee Counties from Hawkins to Fentress including Bell County Ky and Lee County Va met with Tennessee Representative David Hawk, Kentucky Representative Rick Nelson, and District Attorney Lori Phillips-Jones voicing horror stories of the epidemic of drug use in Tennessee and the rising cost to taxpayers as a result.

Sunday's meeting was the initial SIGCO meeting in their new headquarters building. They now reside and work from a former Methodist church erected in 1890. This church is the oldest standing church in the area and very fitting for the base of SIGCO efforts. A local family, now in ownership of this building, has made it available to the SIGCO efforts. Future training and meetings will be conducted from this site.

The primary focus during the meeting was that Meth is virtually impossible to make without a key ingredient called Sudafed. This allergy medication can be changed to a gel type capsule which makes it very difficult to convert to Meth production, but it's manufacturer is not interested in changing it's product. A recent attempt in January to submit a bill in congress requiring that any form of Pseudoephedrine capable of being used in Meth production must be obtained through prescription, was met with sharp resistance of drug manufacturers. Rep. Hawk estimated between one and two million dollars was spent by drug companies on advertising alone.

The new proposed bill would simply require that Pseudoephedrine not produced in a "Gel" form, which hinders "Meth" manufacturing, be "prescription only" for distribution. Lori-Phillips-Jones produced statistics about the epidemic of drug abuse in the state of Tennessee and the associated costs, for clean up and disposal, and medical care in many other states across our nation. She directed those attending to a new generation allergy medication called Nexafed. On their website, [www.nexafed.com](http://www.nexafed.com), they make a bold claim, "Are you treating a cold or a criminal?" "This new medication is reported to be as effective as Sudafed without supporting those that will make and sell Methamphetamine, one of the most dangerous drugs in the nations history," she continued.

Drug Manufacturers who opposed the bill directed people's attention to a law already on the books stating pharmacies can only sell a limited number of packs per individual, but Hawks reported, "it simply doesn't work. If it did, Meth use would have gone down and Tennessee wouldn't be number two state in Meth manufacturing in the nation."

Dan Spurlock, one of SIG's founders explained, "A primary purpose of the Stand in the Gap Coalition is to bring support to the Tri-State area of Tn-Va-Ky. SIGCO seeks to eradicate drug and alcohol abuse and family violence to our local families and rescue those hopelessly addicted". Dr. Edwin Robertson, from Harrogate stepped up at the leader for SIGCO in the fall of 2010 and began by leading prayer efforts in Cumberland Gap which drew 8,000 people and a coalition effort in November of 2012 which brought over 20,000 combined in prayer efforts targeting 7 cities with the support of 10 counties last November.

Robertson, says "This movement is growing. We have to do something! We're losing our children and grandchildren to drugs!" He further stated, "Only a few of the thousands now involved in SIGCO aren't affected in some way by drug and alcohol abuse, either directly or indirectly."

David Hawk, State Representative from Greeneville's District 5 shed light on how he has worked to fight drugs during the last four years that he has served in Nashville. He pointed out that to begin to determine the costs of this "Drug and Alcohol" abuse to taxpayers, we have to look at all the agencies that are required to address this abuse and the associated taxpayer funded required to support the agencies. Those include extra law enforcement and a prison cost to the state of \$600 million, up \$300 million in four years. It is estimated that 90% of the current crime being addressed in Tennessee by law enforcement and our courts systems is due to drug and alcohol abuse. Then there is the added cost in agencies like the Department of Children Services and prenatal trauma centers for children born in addiction, and added costs in our schools to serve these children as they grow older. One example in Tennessee was when a "Meth" lab exploded burning a man involved which resulted in costing the state over 1 million dollars in burn center treatment and within 6 days of his being released, he was back in business. This example was not given to condemn the user, but Jones said she needed attendees to know how powerful the addiction is that drives these victims.

While Meth is only one culprit, the Stand in the Gap Coalition (SIGCO) is pledging to address issues as they are presented as well as

working to develop programs to rescue it's victims. Recovery Programs are cropping up, now across the 10 county SIGCO area, some faith-based while others are traditional AA/NA programs. In-house treatment centers are on the way. Drug Courts are being formed and Drug Coalitions are being created, explained Robertson.

Attendees left this meeting feeling that progress is being made, yet they are being called upon to relay information to their respective family members, elected local/state representatives, and local churches to promote drug/alcohol abuse and family violence education in their communities and solicit greater support to step up awareness and enforcement efforts now that momentum is being formed to assist our local areas.

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## **SIGCO Quarterly Report May 19th 2013**

Stand in the Gap Coalition (SIGCO) Meeting May 19th

Topic– Passage of Pseudoephedrine Rx Only Bill

Sunday's Stand in the Gap Meeting was held in it's new headquarters in Cumberland Gap. If you attended, you might like this as a refresher of what was said and statistics given. If you didn't get to attend, this will help you catch up on the vital information needed to address the issues concerning the use of Sudafed (Pseudoephedrine) to make Methamphetamine. Below the outline is given as people spoke or presented.

Dan Spurlock - recap of SIGCO's history

Dan Spurlock gave the history of both the new headquarters building and SIGCO before leading in prayer.

The new headquarters building located at 502 Pennlyn Avenue was built as a Methodist Church in 1890 and operated as such until the last 60's when the church moved to Harrogate and the building was sold to a private family who used it as a glassware warehouse.

In 1971, the Combs family purchased it and recently have decided to rent it as the SIGCO headquarters. It has a sanctuary seating 150, an office, counseling room, kitchen and apartment upstairs.

Dan shared also in capsule, the history of the Stand in the Gap movement. In the summer of 2010, he and his wife, Hazle, saw the documentary called Appalachia Dawn at Manchester, Ky. and in the fall of 2010 approached Dr. Edwin Robinson about viewing the documentary and helping develop an organization to bring both a prayer effort and fight against drugs to Claiborne County.

First Meeting

This small group met the first time on the Pinnacle claiming the land they saw in Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee for God's kingdom according to II Chronicles 7:14. They wanted to take back their communities from drug abuse, alcohol abuse and family violence. It was a cool rainy Sunday and Dan recounted it was lightning and he felt electrical currents run through the umbrella he brought.

First Prayer March

That meeting birthed prayer efforts that led to organizing a prayer march on November 6th, 2011. On that Sunday, people met at LMU, in Virginia and in Middlesboro Ky to march into Cumberland Gap for a Prayer Rally. The Middlesboro Ky group marched in through the original wilderness trail, early settlers found their way into Tennessee. The result was that 8,000 people marched into Cumberland Gap to stand for God and let their prayers be heard. That day, God gave a blue sky but a cloud formation in the shape of a cross, organizers believe, was God's approval

Coalition Formed

In the beginning of 2012, SIGCO began reaching out to develop a regional effort forming a Coalition of other counties with regular monthly meetings. Union County had already had a march with some 4,000 people marching. Through the year, Cocke County had a prayer march with about 1,500 and Lee County had a prayer march with about 1,500 people. In November 7 more marches were organized with 10 counties joining and supporting the effort.

Dr. Robertson changed the key scripture from II Chron 7:14 to Ezek 22:7 which is God's call for people to make up the hedge and stand in the gap for their nation. It is estimated 20,000 attended those 7 prayer marches on November 4th, 2012.

David Hawk, State Representative- Rep, District 5– State Finance Committee

David Hawk proposed a bill in January to make Pseudoephedrine (Sudafed) a prescription-only medication unless it was altered to prevent it's being used to manufacture Methamphetamine. While the bill did not make it out of committee, this was an important step in letting Nashville become aware of the danger of Pseudoephedrines available to the general public.

Rep Hawk said few people understand the true cost of drugs to the taxpayer in Tennessee. The state is burdened in most every area included the Department of Education Department of Children Services, Prenatal Care units for babies born addicted, Department of Health Care and the Department of Correction. It was cited one man was burned in a barn meth explosion. It cost a million dollars to treat this man and within 6 days of being released was back in business.

Rep. Hawk said he believes upwards to 90% of all those in jail and prisons are there on what stems from drug charges. The Department was operating on \$600 million 4 years ago, but that has grown to \$900 million today, a 50% increase in 4 years.

In 2005, he quickly learned Tennessee was the highest state in Meth production in the nation and is possibly the most dangerous of all drugs. When a person uses meth one time they become addicted. Hawk has worked since that time with groups submitting bills to stiffen penalties for those manufacturing Meth for sale to others.

He also helped promote the last bill requiring the key ingredient in meth, Sudafed, to be put behind the counter whereby purchasers have to sign for it. Users load up cars having different riders go in an purchase their limit but a trip to several drug stores result in enough to make a batch of meth. Tennessee has dropped from number one state in the nation in production to the number two state, which Rep. Hawk said is simply unacceptable.

Since Meth cannot be produced without Sudafed and previous laws are not working, Rep. Hawk introduced a new bill this year requiring any Pseudoephedrine (Sudafed or any generic brand equivalents) to be sold as prescription only. The bill brought sharp resistance from drug companies, who Rep Hawk estimated spent up to \$2 million dollars in advertising campaigns to defeat the bill which never made it out of committee.

Rep. Hawk did say he has increased the budget for drug courts across the state to 1.4 million to provide help and treatment for those who want to try to break their addiction and get out of drugs.

Rick Nelson - Kentucky State Representative Bell County Ky

Mr. Nelson expected to answer questions and had not prepared a presentation. He complimented what is called the Kasper System. The Kentucky All Schedule Prescription Electronic Reporting System (KASPER) tracks controlled substance prescriptions dispensed within the state. A KASPER report shows all scheduled prescriptions for an individual over a specified time period, the prescriber and the dispenser. Enhanced KASPER (eKASPER) provides Web-based access to KASPER data.

Mr. Nelson also indicated the highest prescription abuse rate is among medicaid recipients that receive free pain medicine and sells them so they will have money for things like food, utilities, and rent.

Lori Phillips-Jones District Attorney for the 8th Judicial District of Tennessee

Dist. Attorney Phillips-Jones started her presentation with a power-point. Following are some of the points she made:

\*\*Tennessee is #2 in Meth production, between Missouri and Indiana.

\*\*There have been 768 Meth Lab Seizures through the 1st four months of 2013.

\*\*Meth labs are being found on construction sites, in graveyards, in hotel and motel rooms, rental houses and apartments, in parks and playgrounds and in vehicles.

\*\*Clean Up of these Meth lab sites can run taxpayers from \$5,000-\$25,000 per bust. Meth cleanup costs Tennessee taxpayers more than \$1 billion dollars a year

\*\*1/3 of patients in burn units are there because of meth; most are uninsured and

\*\*The average treatment of burn victims is \$6,000 per day.

\*\*The average hospital stay for meth users costs \$130,000 which is 60% more than that of other burn victims.

\*\*Nexafed is a "next generation" nasal decongestant and allergy medication. It has been available since December of 2012.

\*\*Without Sudafed products Meth cannot be manufactured. Nexafed is reported to work just as well for the same allergy symptoms. Nexafed products (see their claims at ( [www.nexafed.com](http://www.nexafed.com) ) have a gel base and the Meth producers are unable now to make it work for Meth manufacturing.

\*\*The label on the box states: Battle congestion. And meth abuse too. Join the fight.

The issue with Sudafed is that manufacturers can make it a gel based product as well but they won't.

To eliminate Meth in Tennessee, the coalition can take a positive approach to the problem by educating pharmacies to only carry Nexafed claimed to work just as well on allergies, but without the danger of it being used for Meth production.

There are already pharmacies who are making the switch, but to be effective, every coalition county would need to address their pharmacies and get as many on board as possible.

Question and Answer Session

Rep. Hawk, Rep Nelson, and Dist. Attorney Phillips-Jones were asked questions or allowed to make follow-up statements.

Rep. Hawk has an allergy problem. He reminded those attending that even Sudafed comes with restrictions and warnings. It has side effects which speed up the heart-rate and elevates the blood pressure. It is only supposed to be used for 7 days at a time. He feels it is safer suffering the consequences of allergies without this medication.

Rep. Nelson stated that prayer is the greatest deterrent. If we want more change, get more people to pray.

Rep. Hawk said one way to make this work is to educate our representatives and get them to talk to their colleagues. Now is the time for Stand in the Gap to plan, but we need to wait until close to January (when they are back in session) before contacting them. He indicated personal contact is best. He also said it's good to have your statistics and numbers, but personal stories are best.

Rep. Hawk tried to discourage emails and letter writing, but if you do always put who you are and where you live in the heading or early context of your letter or email. There are 99 Representatives in the House in Tennessee. Rep. Hawk said one of the reasons the bill never came out of the committee this year was because Rep. Tony Shipley (Kingsport) didn't feel they could get enough votes. Hawk applauded the work of Shipley but felt a grass roots move across Tennessee could make a difference before next January.

Rep. Nelson indicated states might could work together and introduce the same bills at the same time to be even more effective. Introducing a bills has no guarantees, however.

Rep. Hawk reminded those attending Mississippi and Oregon both have passed a bill requiring Pseudoephedrine products to be prescription only. 13 more states are working on legislation towards doing the same.

Hawkins County, Alice Snodgrass

Alice Snodgrass gave the history of Hawkins County's following of Stand in the Gap. From the active prayer movement last year with a couple of prayer rallies seeing over 1,000 people attend, prayer walks at the Justice Center, before the July 4th celebration and at Schools just before Back To School time, then with 5,000 joining in the prayer march on Nov. 4th, it seems many gates of heaven have opened in Hawkins County.

Since January 2012, 16 Recovery programs have been started, primarily at churches, a Recovery Court was started in January of 2013, a Drug Coalition is meeting regularly and forming and other new ministries are forming. She was pointing out the necessity to continue keeping folks on their knees praying because it works.

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