



# LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION PARTNERSHIP

ADVANCING JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SOLUTIONS

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## **Officer Patrick Heintz (Ret.)**

**Hampden County Sheriff's Department, Massachusetts  
Agawam, MA**

With experience in both corrections and substance abuse counseling, Patrick Heintz has worked with incarcerated populations for over 20 years. Beginning as a child care worker in a maximum security Department of Youth Services facility, Heintz spent the majority of his career at the Hampden County Sheriff's Department as a counselor and corrections officer.

As a human service worker in corrections, it was apparent to Heintz that substance abuse and addictive personality disorders were more mental health issues than law enforcement problems. Heintz eventually came to the realization that despite 50 years of effort, the War on Drugs had failed to decrease drug use in any significant way. He contends that, "Sociologically, there will always be deviations from the norm including substance abuse, but they cannot be legislated or enforced away."

Heintz currently resides in Agawam, Massachusetts. He joined LEAP in 2011 and is an avid golfer in his free time.

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The Law Enforcement Action Partnership is a nonprofit organization composed of police, prosecutors, judges, and other criminal justice professionals who use their expertise to advance drug policy and criminal justice solutions that improve public safety. With 150 speakers across the United States, LEAP representatives reach millions of Americans each year through educational programs and media interviews..

For event bookings, contact [Speakers@LawEnforcementAction.org](mailto:Speakers@LawEnforcementAction.org)

For media, contact [Media@LawEnforcementAction.org](mailto:Media@LawEnforcementAction.org)

[www.LawEnforcementActionPartnership.org](http://www.LawEnforcementActionPartnership.org)

Formerly known as Law Enforcement Against Prohibition