



# LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION PARTNERSHIP

ADVANCING JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SOLUTIONS

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**Officer Richard Newton (Ret.)**  
**U.S. Customs and Border Patrol**  
**El Paso, TX**

Richard Newton spent 32 years working in federal drug enforcement. While serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, he piloted helicopters and operated from amphibious aircraft carriers. After leaving the Marines as a Major, Newton piloted aircraft for U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

As a customs pilot, Newton and his colleagues interdicted thousands of kilos of cocaine coming into the U.S. through Florida. However, despite the massive seizures, the street price of cocaine never dropped, illustrating for him the futility of supply-oriented drug reduction efforts.

Newton earned a B.A. in Biology from Indiana University and an M.B.A. from Boston University. He spent two years on aircraft carriers in the Western Pacific and is a veteran of the Multi-National Peace Keeping Force that was stationed in Beirut, Lebanon, during the Lebanese Civil War in 1983.

Newton flew anti-terrorist airspace security missions in Washington, D.C., during the early 2000s and flew helicopters for the Department of Homeland Security's humanitarian efforts in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

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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)

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Formerly known as Law Enforcement Against Prohibition