



## JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

---

### Area Law Enforcement Partners offer showing of the Documentary: “*Chasing the Dragon*” on July 11, 2016 at the Ashland Theater

In an effort to educate our community on the growing epidemic of prescription drug and heroin abuse, the Ashland Police Department, Hanover County Sheriff's Office and the local offices of the FBI and DEA are offering a showing of the documentary “*Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict*,” on **July 11, 2016 at 6:30 pm. at the Ashland Theater** (205 England Street, Ashland, VA 23005)

This 45-minute documentary profiles the stories of several people who either abused opiates or had family members become addicts. The documentary also features interviews with medical and law enforcement professionals discussing the effects of the addiction, and how this epidemic is unlike any this country has seen before. “It is my hope that this event will raise awareness and provide those suffering with addiction, and their family and friends, with additional resources to combat drug use and get the help that these individuals so desperately need,” said Colonel David R. Hines, Sheriff of Hanover County.

“This epidemic does not discriminate; All across this country, it is taking good people from good homes and leading them down a trail that often ends in pain and sadness,” said FBI Director James Comey. “This film may be difficult to watch, but we hope it educates our students and young adults about the tragic consequences that come with abusing these drugs and that it will cause people to think twice before becoming its next victim.”

“In addition to the toll on human life and devastation on families, we know that most of our property crime in the Town of Ashland has a direct nexus to opioid abuse,” said Chief Doug Goodman of the Ashland Police Department.

Although this documentary is targeted at educating high school and above students and young adults, we are inviting all concerned members of our community to attend this showing to further the dialogue on this issue. In addition to this viewing, we encourage community groups to work with law enforcement to share this video with their neighborhood watch groups, civic organizations, faith circles, etc. The film is also available for free at [www.fbi.gov/ChasingTheDragon](http://www.fbi.gov/ChasingTheDragon).

Doors to the theater will open at 6:00 p.m. on **July 11, 2016** with the documentary starting at **6:30 p.m.** Law Enforcement representatives will be available before and after the film to answer any questions and discuss ways we can continue this dialogue in our community. The Ashland Theater is located at 205 England Street. Parking is limited so please plan accordingly.