

# When the DEA calls....

LIFE IS ABOUT TO GET VERY INTERESTING

## History of an impaired physician

- Physician burnout practice, family stressors
- Self medication for pain management
- Recreational use
- Avoiding the withdrawal symptoms
- Physician access
- Conspiracy of Silence

## SIGNS OF AN IMPAIRED PHYSICIAN

Withdrawal from social settings  
Decreased work performance  
Frequent absences  
Disruptive behavior  
Excessive sweating  
Patient complaints  
Mood swings

## STATISTICS

2009 Mayo clinic study physicians in  
a recovery program

one in ten physicians  
50% misused alcohol  
36% abused opioids

## Treatment for the impaired physician

1. 12 step programs
2. Residential treatment centers
3. Health professionals programs

## Health professional program

1. Mandatory meetings
2. Random drug screening
3. One on one counseling
4. Meeting with the board of examiners

## Prognosis

75-90 % abstinence

much higher than general population  
need to keep licensed

**IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE THE END  
OF THE WORLD**