

### Other Criminal Actions Can Be Seen As Drug Crimes

(KAIR)--The war on drugs has been waged for over three decades now, with no apparent end in sight. There are some crimes that can be easily associated with drugs, but not many people do so. Atchison Police Chief Mike Wilson says there are at least several other criminal violations that can be traced back to drugs. The Atchison Police Department works about one hundred drug cases a year, but that is what they label drug cases. Crimes such as theft, burglary, forgery, and even violent crimes can be connected to drug usage.

Wilson also says that there has been one change in drug culture in particular that has had an effect on other types of crime. Crack cocaine used to be sold in an eight ball for \$300, and now it's a rock of crack that sells for \$20. Small theft such as shoplifting has become more popular since users will take the stolen item to a dealer to trade for this cheaper drug.

Wilson further states that his department has worked about 275 theft cases this year which is comparable to previous years. Criminal activity is down 18 percent from what it was last year, but that is not the case with theft. Wilson says that has not changed much over the years.

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