CHAPTER 261. DRUG ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

§ 261.1. Statement of policy.

The Commonwealth is deeply committed to dealing with the problem of drug abuse through intensive and coordinated law enforcement approaches which shall be aimed primarily at the major manufacturers, distributors and sellers of controlled substances see Appendix F of this part.

§ 261.2. Office of Drug Law Enforcement.

(a) There shall be established within the Department of Justice, the Office of Drug Law Enforcement. The chief of that office shall be the Special Deputy Attorney General for Drug Control and Enforcement. He shall report directly to the Attorney General and the Governor.

(b) The Chief of the Office of Drug Law Enforcement shall have line responsibility for the Bureau of Drug Control and shall coordinate the efforts of the State Police drug agents.

(c) The Director of the Bureau of Drug Control shall report directly to the Chief. The commanding officer of the State Police drug unit shall report to the Chief and the Commissioner of the State Police.

§ 261.3. Strike forces.

(a) There shall be established eight mobile strike forces to operate within the 67 counties of this Commonwealth.

(b) These strike forces shall be composed of agents from the Bureau of Drug Control and the State Police. Each team shall be headed by two group leaders; one from the Bureau of Drug Control and one from the State Police.

(c) All strike force operations shall require the direct approval of the Chief of the Office of Drug Law Enforcement.

(d) Each strike force shall have an intelligence officer responsible for coordinating informant debriefings and keeping the group leaders knowledgeable as to intelligence from the fields. Each strike force shall have a covert operations squad involved in purchase of evidence, surveillance, and strike force operations. Each strike force shall have an overt operations squad involving such things as background reports, records searches, as well as open tax, gun, liquor and motor vehicle investigations.
§ 261.4. Local law enforcement programs.
The strike forces shall make an effort to recruit from local government, officers who shall serve on the strike forces and be provided special narcotics training.

§ 261.5. Criminal compliance.
The Office of Drug Law Enforcement, through the Bureau of Drug Control, shall have a Division of Criminal Compliance which shall supervise compliance with appropriate State and Federal regulations of dispensers of controlled substances, other drugs and devices.

§ 261.6. Financial investigations.
There shall be established within the Office of Drug Law Enforcement a Financial Investigations Unit. Its function shall be to identify and investigate the finances of those high-level, illicit drug dealer profiteers operating within this Commonwealth, for the purposes of criminal and civil prosecutions. The head of this Unit shall report directly to the Special Deputy Attorney General.