



# CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

POLICE DEPARTMENT



William M. Breault  
Chief of Police

## **Media Release** **October 4, 2018**

The Dover Police Department and the Office of The Chief Medical Examiner are investigating the death of James Downs, 60, which occurred in Dover on Monday, October 1, 2018.

At approximately 9:02 AM on October 1<sup>st</sup>, the Dover Police and Dover Fire and Rescue responded to a residence on Cottonwood Drive after a friend reported finding Downs unresponsive. Downs, a Dover resident who was visiting the residence on Cottonwood Drive, was found to be deceased on-scene.

While the cause and manner of Downs' death will ultimately be determined by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, based on the investigation to date it appears to be drug related.

If in fact Downs' death is due to a drug overdose, it will be the seventh confirmed in Dover in 2018, which had thirteen suspected drug related deaths in 2017. The Dover Police Department has responded to twenty-eight non-fatal drug overdoses in 2018.

If you or someone you know is experiencing an addiction-related crisis or looking for support, we encourage you to visit SOS Recovery Community Organization at 4 Broadway in Dover. The center is open Monday from 12-8pm, Tuesday through Friday from 9am-8pm and Saturday from 12-8pm. They can also be reached at (603) 841-2350. The NH Statewide Addiction Crisis Line is available 24/7 at 1.844.711.4357 (HELP).

This case is being investigated by the Dover Police Department's Special Investigations Unit. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the Dover Police Department at 603-742-4646. Anonymous tips may be called into the Dover Crimeline at 603-749-6000. The Dover Crimeline can also be contacted via [www.dovernhcrimeline.org](http://www.dovernhcrimeline.org).

Media inquiries concerning this case can be directed to Lt. Brant Dolleman of the Dover Police Department at 603-742-4646 or [b.dolleman@dover.nh.gov](mailto:b.dolleman@dover.nh.gov).



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