

TEXARKANA, Ark. -- A patrol officer has been treated and released after inhaling a substance found during a Sunday night traffic stop.

The Texarkana Arkansas Police Department officer made a traffic stop late Sunday on Prospect Street and received permission to search the vehicle. When he opened a container found in the vehicle, he inhaled a powdered substance that made him feel "different," said Officer Rick Cockrell, a spokesman for TAPD.

The officer gave himself a dose of Narcan, a drug used to combat effects of opioids, and used his radio to call for further medical assistance, Cockrell said.

"It's protocol to have the officers checked out if something like this happens. But he is going to be fine," Cockrell said. "It's just another danger we have to be aware of when we do our jobs."

The substance in the container has been sent to the Arkansas state crime laboratory for identification.

Officers are trained now on things they can use when doing searches of unknown containers and substances, Cockrell said.

Because of the potency of fentanyl and other narcotics, it's not just addicts who are increasingly at risk. Police departments and other agencies across the country are outfitting officers and first responders with the opioid antidote Narcan.