

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE * DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION DIVERSION CONTROL DIVISION

Diversion News: July 2025

DEA's Operation Profit Over Patients Dismantles Health Care Fraud Networks to Keep Communities Safe



As part of the Department of Justice's <u>National Health</u> <u>Care Fraud Takedown</u>, DEA last month announced its role in the interagency effort to combat health care fraud.

DEA's Operation Profit Over Patients aimed to protect patients from the harms of reckless doctors, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, and others who seek to profit off of vulnerable Americans.

The operation, which targeted the illegal distribution and

personal use of controlled substances by medical professionals, resulted in approximately 45 arrests and 122 criminal charges. DEA also charged 93 administrative cases seeking the revocation of pharmacies', medical practitioners', and companies' authority to handle and/or prescribe controlled substances.

"This sends a clear message – If you use your license to harm the public, you will lose it," said Assistant Administrator Thomas Prevoznik. "DEA remains relentless in our pursuit of those who poison our communities and exploit our health care system, all to line their own pockets with the profit from other's pain."

Read Assistant Administrator Prevoznik's full <u>remarks</u>, learn more about <u>Operation Profit</u> <u>over Patients</u>, the <u>National Health Care Fraud Takedown</u>, and <u>related cases</u>.

New Scam Letters and Calls Target Medical Practitioners

The Drug Enforcement Administration is warning DEA-registered medical practitioners of new fraud schemes in which scammers impersonate DEA personnel and notify registrants that they are under investigation, presumably in an attempt to obtain personal information.

DEA has recently received reports of false letters and phone calls being used to contact both DEA



registrants and non-registrants. It is not the DEA's practice to call registrants regarding investigative matters.

Learn more about this recent scam and where to report it.

Prescription Monitoring Program Administrators Learn About Telemedicine Rules



Last month, Deputy Assistant Administrator Matthew Strait addressed telemedicine rules at the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) PMP Interconnect conference. The convening facilitated data-sharing amongst state administrators of prescription monitoring programs used to track controlled substance prescriptions.

Participants gathered to discuss an NABP program that allows physicians and pharmacists to more easily identify patients with prescription drug abuse and misuse problems, especially if those patients cross state lines to obtain drugs.



Virginia Doctor Sentenced to 13 Years in Prison for Running Urgent Care Center as Opioid Pill Mill

The owner of and sole medically licensed practitioner at an urgent care center allegedly represented himself as an addiction medicine family doctor with special training and skill in preventing, diagnosing, and treating patients with addiction.

Multiple patients died of drug overdoses written by the doctor within hours, days, or weeks of receiving an oxycodone prescription.

Between at least April 2019 and January 2024, he wrote prescriptions for opioids and amphetamines for numerous patients without properly assessing the individual needs of those patients. During that time, Virginia pharmacies filled more than 7,000 prescriptions for oxycodone prescribed by Allingham, totaling approximately more than 405,000 pills.

He was charged with conspiring to distribute oxycodone and amphetamines, maintaining drug premises, and false statements relating to health care matters. <u>Read more</u> about the case.



Help Make Every Day Take Back Day

Missed Take Back Day? Help DEA prevent drug misuse before it starts and rid medicine cabinets of unused, unwanted medications year-round at one of the nearly 17,000 collection sites around the country.

Find a <u>collection site</u> near you and learn more about the <u>Every Day is Take Back Day campaign</u>.

DEA Hosts Virtual Chemical Industry Conference

Chemical handlers are the first line of defense in preventing and detecting chemical diversion.

Chemical handlers, along with distributors, manufacturers, importers and exporters are invited to join DEA experts, and federal and international law enforcement, to learn more

about chemical control information, precursor chemical trends, and other topics at the Chemical Industry Virtual Conference on July 22, 2025. <u>Learn more</u> about the conference and how to register.

DEA Seminar Provides the Latest Procedures on the Import and Export of Controlled Substances



On July 24, 2025, DEA will present a virtual seminar about import and export procedures. Import/export permits for controlled substances and reporting mechanisms for regulated machines, such as pill presses and encapsulating machines, will be just a few of the areas discussed. Learn more about the <u>seminar</u> and how to register.

DEA Educates Nurse Practitioners at Annual Conference

DEA Diversion Control Division staff fielded questions on treatment for opioid use disorder training, telemedicine, and DEA registration requirements at the 2025 American Association of Nurse Practitioners Conference. The conference attracted 5,000 nurse practitioners.



Diversion Control Division Enforcement

DEA's Diversion Control Division strives to prevent, detect, and investigate the diversion of controlled pharmaceuticals and listed chemicals from legitimate sources.

When the safety and health of the American people is in jeopardy, DEA takes action against those who violate the law.

Four Pensacola Women Charged with Illegal Drug Diversion June 30, 2025



Physician Sentenced to 18 Years in Prison for Operating a Pill Mill from His Northwest D.C. Medical Practice June 26, 2025

DEA Revokes Registration for Seattle Nurse Who Wrote Prescriptions for Controlled Substances After His State License Was Suspended June 24, 2025

Sacramento Doctor Agrees to Pay \$125,000 for Controlled Substances Act Violations at Sutter Imaging Capitol Pavilion June 4, 2025

New Haven Pharmacy Pays \$192K to Resolve Controlled Substances Act Allegations June 1, 2025



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