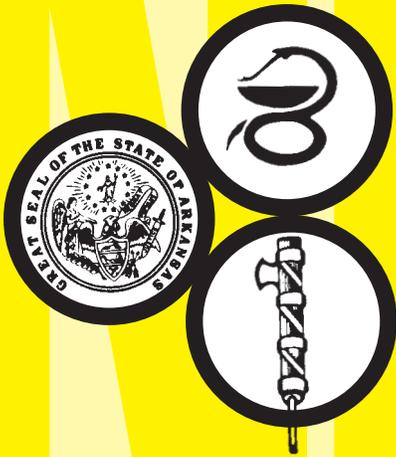


February 2004



Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy

Published to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law.

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2004.01 – Rx Depot Closed

On November 6, 2003, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) won a major victory in its campaign to halt the facilitation of drug importation from Canada and also issued a second warning to CanaRx Services, Inc, that its crossborder deliveries of prescription drugs to American patients violate United States law.

A federal district court judge in Oklahoma granted FDA's request for a preliminary injunction against Rx Depot, the largest US facilitator of illegal importation of prescription drugs. The judge's order forced Tulsa-based Rx Depot to immediately shutter its 80-plus storefront operations throughout the country, including two in Arkansas, and to take all the content off its Web sites.

The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy supported the action in Oklahoma, rather than separate filings in Federal Court in Northwest Arkansas, because Rx Depot's headquarters is in Oklahoma and a Federal Court decision in Oklahoma would affect all Rx Depot storefronts throughout the US.

Rx Depot plans to appeal the decision. We will keep you informed as more information becomes available. Please contact the Board Office if you know of other facilitators of illegal importation in your area.

2004.02 – Technician Certification and Education Programs

Several technician education programs have been established around the state. Individuals who have completed these programs or have become Pharmacy Technician Certification Board certified have attempted to get a job in a pharmacy without knowing that they need to obtain a technician permit from the Board of Pharmacy. It is the responsibility of the pharmacist-in-charge to make sure that all pharmacy employees are appropriately licensed or registered. Please make sure that all of your technicians are registered with the Board. Technician certification and education programs are not required by the Board of Pharmacy and do not replace the requirement of registration.

In a related matter, if your pharmacy is contacted by a technician education program about participating in a shadowing program, there are a few things you need to consider. Only persons with a technician permit may perform technician duties. This includes access to the controlled substance inventory and patient information. Please make sure that the individuals are appropriately registered before they perform any duties in the pharmacy.

2004.03 – New Board of Pharmacy Web Site

Our new Web site can be found at: www.arkansas.gov/asbp. We have redesigned the State Board of Pharmacy Web site to make it easier for you to find things like forms, regulations, statutes, telephone numbers, and many other items that may be of great interest to you as a pharmacist. When you open our Web site, you will see a new look and some won-

derful new features. One of the best features is found in the upper-left corner of the page: the "Search" feature. If you type in any word, a search engine will scan the entire Board of Pharmacy Web site and pull up every reference for that word. For example, if you want to find out what the regulation is for taking inventory, you can enter "inventory" in the search box, click on "Go," and it will find all of the regulations, statutes, and other references for inventory on the Web site.

Along the left column you will find a number of headings, which remain in plain view as you move around the Web site. This should make navigation easy since you can always see where the home page is located. Selecting:

- ◆ **Board News & Events** – provides you with the date, time, and location of the next Board meeting and a record of the actions taken at the last Board meeting.
- ◆ **Pharmacist Information** – provides you with a copy of our last *Newsletter*, which you can either read online or print, and other related information.
- ◆ **Pharmacy Lawbook** – brings you to a page containing the Pharmacy Practice Act and various other statutes that are related to the practice of pharmacy in Arkansas. Here you will also find all of the Board regulations. Six regulations were revised at the October 2003 Board meeting, so you may want to review them, save them to your computer for easy reference, or print them. **Regulation 7: General Regulations Regarding Drugs/Prescriptions** has been significantly changed to address new standards for compounding. **Regulation 11: Criminal Background Checks** is new and will go into effect March 1, 2004. This regulation will require criminal background checks for new applicants for pharmacist or intern licenses and pharmacy technician registrations. Pharmacy regulations change fairly often to adjust to national and state changes in the practice of pharmacy. When a regulation changes, it will be posted as "new" until the next board meeting.
- ◆ **Forms and Instructions** – will enable you to select applications, change of information forms, pharmacy inspection forms, order forms, the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) Form 106, and other forms.
- ◆ **FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)** – provides the answers to many common questions such as, "How do I report a change of employment?", "How do I get an immunization certification?", "How do I contact DEA?", and "How do I report a theft?" We have tried to provide you with an extensive list of common questions, contacts, forms, instructions, and information on this tab, so we hope that you will take a moment or two to look it over.
- ◆ **Links** – will provide you with hot links to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy®, the Arkansas Pharmacists Association, the

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University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Pharmacy, and other organizations.

◆ **About the Board** – provides information about the purpose and mission of the State Board of Pharmacy. Pictures and biographical information of the board members can be found here when you select the “Board Members” link. You can also select the “Staff Members” link to find pictures and hot links to the e-mail accounts of staff members.

Most of the forms and documents found on the site are pdf files. If you do not have Adobe® Acrobat® (the free software program that opens these files) you will be able to select a link on the Web site that will take you to Adobe’s Web site, which contains instructions for downloading the program.

We have tried to provide information of general interest to the public on our Web site, including statistical information, a list of our databases, and a way for consumers to file a complaint.

We will continue to update our Web site to provide you with timely information and helpful forms and instructions. We welcome your comments and suggestions for improving our Web site. If you would like to see a new feature or if you think of something we have missed, please do not hesitate to contact us.

2004.04 – Renewal Reminder for 2004-2005

Renewals for the 2004-2005 biennium have been sent to all pharmacy, pharmacist, out-of-state pharmacy, and specialty pharmacy license holders. The 2002-2003 licenses expired on December 31, 2003. There will be a twenty-dollar (\$20) late fee assessed if the renewal has not been received by January 31, 2004, and an additional twenty-dollar (\$20) late fee assessed if the renewal is not received by February 29, 2004. If the renewal is not received by March 31, 2004, the license will be void on April 1, 2004. If you have not received your renewal, please contact the Board Office immediately at 501/682-0190. Pharmacist licenses can be renewed online.

2004.05 – New Reciprocating Pharmacists

The following is a list of pharmacists who were approved to receive an Arkansas pharmacist license by reciprocity by the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy at its October 2003 meeting:

Nita Allison	Jarrett Amsden
Tracy Atherton	Katheryn Balasco
Samuel Brock	Timothy Fancher
Cynthia Godfrey	Beth Hagedorn
Nhan Hoang	James Horde
Jaymie Landreth	Stephen Madden

Lori Meyer
Cheryl Mink
Larry Neiderkohl
Tommy Phillips
Mary Anne Shilkitus
Maria Torres
Kristi Van Etten
David Wixted
Catherine Zimmerman

Craig Miklasiewicz
Joseph Muha
Luke Nigliazzo
Chad Register
Michael Sieg
David Tucker
Robert Wamble
Jennifer Woodard

The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy would like to welcome all of these pharmacists to Arkansas.

Arkansas Pharmacy Support Group Helpline – 870/636-0923

Special Notice About This Newsletter

The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy has designated this *Newsletter* as an official method to notify pharmacists licensed by the Board about information and legal developments. Please read this *Newsletter* and keep it for future reference because this *Newsletter* will be used in hearings as proof of notification of the *Newsletter*'s contents. Please contact the Board Office (501/682-0190) if you have questions about any of the articles in this *Newsletter*.

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