

**U.S. Department of Justice** 

Drug Enforcement Administration 8701 Morrissette Drive Springfield, Virginia 22152

www.dea.gov

AUG 1 2 2016

Dear Registrant:

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) recognizes the growing problem of pharmaceutical controlled substance diversion throughout the United States. This diversion stems from various sources. In addition to pharmacy robberies and thefts, pharmaceutical controlled substances are often diverted by way of forged prescriptions, doctor shoppers, and illegitimate prescriptions from rogue practitioners.

The DEA cannot effectively combat this diversion alone. We rely on the diligence of DEA registrants in complying with the Controlled Substances Act and its implementing regulations, as well as their vigilance in identifying and preventing diversion. As dispensers of controlled substances, pharmacists and pharmacy employees are uniquely positioned to prevent diversion activity. In an effort to assist pharmacy personnel in identifying and preventing diversion, the DEA will be hosting a Pharmacy Diversion Awareness Conference which is designed for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and loss prevention personnel. Upon completion, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians will be eligible to earn continuing pharmacy education credits. Please visit our website at www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov for more information.

The one-day conference is scheduled for Sunday, October 2, 2016, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The conference will be located at the Holiday Inn Fargo, 3803 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Fargo, North Dakota 58103. There will not be a registration fee for this conference; however, all attendees will be responsible for their own transportation, lodging, and meal expenses.

Conference registration must be completed through www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov. Click on "Meetings & Events" and then click on "Pharmacy Diversion Awareness Conferences." Look for the North Dakota conference under "Upcoming Conferences." You will need to have the DEA registration number of the pharmacy you are representing to complete the registration process. Should you have any questions regarding the conference, please e-mail ODLL@usdoj.gov, or you may contact the Liaison Unit at (202) 307-7297.

Sincerely,

Louis J. Milione

Deputy Assistant Administrator Office of Diversion Control