

Subject: [TEST] COA Report - December 1, 2017
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To: Kate Hessong

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TOP NEWS

California Board of Pharmacy cracking down on prescription forms — controlled substances



California Board of Pharmacy

IMPORTANT NOTICE — DRUG PRESCRIPTION FORMS

COA members are reporting problems with pharmacies filling prescriptions for controlled substances — Schedule II-V drugs — when their prescription form contains a refill (or no refill "NF") number printed on the pad and that option is circled by the prescriber rather than a box where the prescriber fills in the number of refills. Note — Schedule II drugs cannot be refilled. Technically, circling the number that has been preprinted on the form does not meet the security requirements required by the California Board of Pharmacy. In light of the opioid epidemic, the Pharmacy Board is now enforcing every element of these prescription requirements and fining pharmacies that fill prescriptions from "i

compliant" forms.

If your prescription forms do not include a box where the prescriber enters the number refills, you will need to order new prescription forms that are in compliance. Here is a link to the Pharmacy Board and DOJ approved prescription form printers:

<https://oag.ca.gov/security-printers/approved-list>. An interim solution may be to orally call in the prescription or e-prescribe Schedule II-V drug orders. **READ MORE**



Attorney General Sessions and Acting DEA Administrator Patterson announce new tools to address opioid crisis f u

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

The Attorney General's memo to United States Attorneys can be viewed [here](#).

Continuing to follow President Trump's strong leadership on combatting the deadly opioid crisis, Attorney General Sessions today announced new resources and stepped up efforts to address the drug and crisis.

Joined by Acting DEA Administrator Robert Patterson, Attorney General Sessions announced the following efforts during a press conference at the Department of Justice: over \$12 million in grant funding to support law enforcement in combating illegal manufacturing and distribution of methamphetamine, heroin, and prescription opioids; the establishment of a new DEA Field Division in Louisville, Kentucky, which will cover Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia, a move meant to better align DEA enforcement efforts with the Appalachian mountain region; and a directive to all U.S. Attorneys to designate an Opioid Coordinator to work closely with prosecutors, and with other federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement to coordinate and optimize federal opioid prosecutions in every district. **READ MORE**

What is a breach under the HITECH Breach Notification Regulations? f u

ABA Health

Since the Interim Breach Notification Regulations under the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health ("HITECH") Act (the "Breach Notification Rule") became effective on September 8, 2009, there have been thousands of breach notifications sent by covered entities and reported to the Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS") Office of Civil Rights ("OCR").

[Guidance Regarding Methods for De-identification of Protected Health Information in Accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act \(HIPAA\) Privacy Rule](#)

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