South Carolina Registrants

>16,000 Practitioners
>3,000 Mid-Level (NP & PA)
>1,100 Pharmacies
>450 Hospitals/Clinics
17 Narcotic Treatment Programs
3 Teaching Institutions
3 Collectors

What is a Registrant?

- Registrant – any person or entity that is given a DEA certificate of registration, which authorizes the person or entity to handle controlled substances in a particular activity (i.e. manufacturer, distributor, dispensing, prescribing, administer, etc.).
- Every person or entity that handles controlled substances must be registered with DEA or be exempt by regulation from registration.
- Renewal fee - $731 for a 3 year period.
Practitioner’s Responsibilities

- To know the role in protecting one’s DEA registration and business; become familiar with the regulations that guide the accountability of controlled substances; and recognize the various methods of diversion used to illegally obtain controlled substances and understand the reasons people seek prescriptions drugs.

Top Drugs of Abuse

- Oxycodone products – (OxyContin®, Roxicodone®, Percocet®)
- Hydrocodone products – (Lorcet®, Lortab®, Vicodin®)
- Methadone
- Fentanyl
- Alprazolam (Xanax®)
- Valium®

Florence AOR

- Pee Dee
Methods of Diversion

- Practitioners / Pharmacists
- Illegal distribution
- Self abuse
- Trading drugs for sex
- Employee pilferage
- Hospitals
- Practitioners' offices
- Nursing homes
- Retail pharmacies
- Manufacturing / distribution facilities
- Pharmacy / Other Theft
- Armed robbery
- Burglary (Night Break-ins)
- In Transit Loss (Hijacking)
- Smurfing
- Patients
- Drug rings
- Doctor shopping
- Forged / fraudulent / altered prescriptions
- Internet availability
- The Medicine Cabinet / obituaries
- Pain Clinics

Prescription Fraud

- **Fraudulent prescriptions**
  - Highly organized
  - Use real physician name and DEA Reg. Number
  - Contact information false or "fake office"
  - (change locations often to avoid detection)

- **Prescription printing services utilized**
  - Not required to ask questions or verify info printed

- **Stolen Prescriptions**
  - Forged
  - "Smurfed" to a large number of different pharmacies

Know Your Employees/Co-workers

Registrants should not employ an employee who has access to controlled substances:

1. Any person who has been convicted of a felony offense related to controlled substance;
2. Any person who has been denied a DEA registration;
3. Any person who has had a DEA registration revoked;
4. Any person who has surrendered a DEA registration for cause.

*Code of Federal Regulations 1301.76(a)*
Civil Fine Issues

- DATA Waived physician exceeded authorized patient limit; **authorized for 30 or 100**;
- Failure to maintain complete and accurate records; or maintain CS records for two years;
- Failure to conduct biennial inventory;
- Registrant improperly used DEA registration to obtain and dispense controlled substances.

Administrative & Civil Actions

- 63 Investigations Completed
- 18 Letters of Admonition
- 11 Memorandums of Agreement
- 11 Voluntary Surrenders
- $800,000 in Civil Fines

Fiscal Year 2015

DEA Alerts

- **Fentanyl** – the abuse of fentanyl is surging throughout the US.
- Reported overdose deaths