

The marketing consultant further explained that this information support's DEA's conclusion that pseudoephedrine products distributed to this nontraditional market greatly exceeded the normal demand for such products at such retail outlets. He agreed that such excessive sales could be purchases of listed chemical products that were diverted to illicit uses. With respect to Oklahoma wholesale pseudoephedrine sales of several distributors and over 300 of their retail customers, all of which were convenience stores, a July 2002 analysis by the marketing consultant led to the conclusion "that without evidence of the existence of immense numbers of legitimate customers, it was likely that the massive inventories of pseudoephedrine products purchased by these Oklahoma stores were being turned to illegal uses." *Express Wholesale, supra*.

With respect to the instant matter, Mr. Osmani and OLV have similarly amassed large quantities of pseudoephedrine and ephedrine products. The frequency and quantity of listed chemicals purchased by OLV from 1998 to 2003 defined all available and conventional marketing data for the expected sale of these products. Given the demonstrated lack of legitimate demand for these products when sold from convenience stores, the Deputy Administrator is left with the conclusion that Mr. Osmani and OLV purchased pseudoephedrine and ephedrine products for sale to individuals involved in the illicit manufacture of methamphetamine.

As noted above, effective April 6, 2004, Oklahoma enacted House Bill 2176, titled the "Oklahoma Methamphetamine Reduction Act of 2004." This provision includes the requirement that the sale of pseudoephedrine tablets are now restricted to licensed pharmacies. As in a prior DEA final order, the Deputy Administrator finds in the instant matter that OLV's proposed distribution of listed chemicals through its convenience stores is no longer legally viable in Oklahoma. See, *Express Wholesale, supra* at 62089.

A review of early data for 2004 reveals that the newly enacted laws have resulted in an apparent reduction in the number of seizures involving clandestine methamphetamine labs in Oklahoma. These developments in Oklahoma are encouraging and represent another important step in the ongoing battle to curb methamphetamine abuse in the United States. In keeping with this positive trend, DEA must also act in an

appropriate fashion to ensure that listed chemicals are not diverted. The Deputy Administrator notes that while Mr. Osmani and OLV seek DEA registration in the State of Texas, the company also seeks to distribute listed chemicals from convenience stores located in Oklahoma. Based solely on the population statistics of Cartwright and Durant, Oklahoma, it would appear at first glance that the market for over-the-counter drug products in these cities is relatively insignificant. However, as the record before the Deputy Administrator clearly demonstrates, the relatively small size of the Oklahoma markets serviced by OLV is not a significant factor since Mr. Osmani appears intent on purchasing extraordinarily large quantities of listed chemical products without regard to market size. These purchasing practices indicate that OLV would willingly accommodate persons involved in the illicit methamphetamine trade. Based on the foregoing, the Deputy Administrator concludes that granting the pending application of OLV would be inconsistent with the public interest.

Accordingly, the Deputy Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, pursuant to the authority vested in her by 21 U.S.C. 823 and 28 CFR 0.100(b) and 0.104, hereby orders that the pending application for DEA Certificate of Registration, previously submitted by Tysa Management, d.b.a. Osmani Lucky Wholesale be, and it hereby is, denied. This order is effective April 14, 2005.

Dated: February 24, 2005.

Michele M. Leonhart,

Deputy Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

James S. Bischoff, M.D.; Revocation of Registration

On June 28, 2004, the Deputy Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), issued an Order to Show Cause/Immediate Suspension of Registration to James S. Bischoff, M.D. (Dr. Bischoff) who was notified of an opportunity to show cause as to why DEA should not revoke his DEA Certificate of Registration BB0377247 under 21 U.S.C. 824(a)(4) and deny any pending applications for renewal or modification of that registration under 21 U.S.C. 823(f). Dr. Bischoff was further notified that his registration was being immediately suspended under 21

U.S.C. 824(d) as an imminent danger to the public health and safety.

The Order to Show Cause alleged in relevant part, that Dr. Bischoff diverted controlled substances through larceny and fraudulent prescriptions, failed to maintain required records, could not account for 32,000 dosage units of controlled substances and dispensed controlled substances to individuals without a bona fide doctor-patient relationship or legitimate medical purpose. The Order to Show Cause also notified Dr. Bischoff that should no request for a hearing be filed within 30 days, his hearing right would be deemed waived.

On July 14, 2004, a DEA investigator personally served the Order to Show Cause/Immediate Suspension of Registration on Dr. Bischoff at the offices of the Ennis, Montana Police Department. Since that date, DEA has not received a request for a hearing or any other reply from Dr. Bischoff or anyone purporting to represent him in this matter.

Therefore, the Deputy Administrator of DEA, finding that (1) thirty days having passed since personal delivery of the Order to Show Cause/Immediate Suspension of Registration to the registrant and (2) no request for hearing having been received, concludes that Dr. Bischoff is deemed to have waived his hearing right. See David W. Linder, 67 FR 12579 (2002). After considering material from the investigative file in this matter, the Deputy Administrator now enters her final order without a hearing pursuant to 21 CFR 1301.43(d) and (e) and 1301.46.

The Deputy Administrator finds that Dr. Bischoff is registered with DEA as a practitioner under Certificate of Registration BB0377247. Dr. Bischoff's registered location is also his residence, which is located in Ennis, Montana.

In April 2003, Dr. Bischoff took "Patient B," a 16-year-old high school student, to an out of town physician specialist for emergency treatment after the boy's had was cut in an accident. Dr. Bischoff was a friend of the boy's father and step-mother and would come to their home for social visits/dinners. They were both out of town at the time of the accident and Dr. Bischoff volunteered to take the boy to the specialist. While the specialist did not recommend any treatment with controlled substances, Dr. Bischoff wrote the boy a prescription for 100 tablets of Oxycontin, a Schedule II narcotic controlled substance, which he personally picked up a local pharmacy. However, he delivered only 20 tablets to the boy, unlawfully diverting the

remaining 80 tablets to his own use or that of someone else.

Around the same time Dr. Bischoff wrote a second prescription in the name of Patient B, for 120 tablets of the Schedule II controlled substance Adderall. He also picked that prescription up at a local pharmacy, supposedly on behalf of the boy, but never delivered it to the boy or his parents, diverting the controlled substance to his personal use or for that of another.

In September 2003, Dr. Bischoff wrote the boy another prescription for 120 tablets of Adderall, which was picked up by the boy's sister. However, the father and step-mother were unaware Dr. Bischoff had prescribed the medication, which the boy began taking, thinking he was supposed to. When his step-mother discovered the bottle a couple of weeks later, she found out for the first time that Dr. Bischoff was prescribing Adderall to the boy. After checking with the regular family physician, she was advised the dosage instructions and strength of the medication were excessive. Fortunately, the boy only took 12 of the tablets and stopped using them because of their effect.

She then checked with the pharmacy where the prescription was filled and discovered Dr. Bischoff had issued multiple fraudulent prescriptions for controlled substances in the names of family members, which he personally picked up, telling pharmacists he was a close friend and the purported patients were too busy to get to the pharmacy. She also discovered Dr. Bischoff had falsely told the pharmacy her stepson, then 16 years old, was 18, thus avoiding a requirement for a parent to sign when prescriptions were picked up.

Investigators subsequently determined Dr. Bischoff had written and filled seven prescriptions for controlled substances in the name of Patient B, along with multiple prescriptions in the names of other family members who were not his patients, all without their knowledge.

During the period January 2001 through January 2003, Dr. Bischoff ordered approximately 46,000 doses of Schedule III and IV controlled substances from a supplier, including various anti-depressants, anti-anxiety, sleep medications, amphetamines and narcotics. After Dr. Bischoff was served with a Notice of Inspection at his registered premises, he declined to permit an inspection or provide investigators with any of the records he was required to keep.

On March 10, 2004, Dr. Bischoff was served with an Administrative

Inspection Warrant. Controlled substances were found in the basement of his home/registered location, but he had very few actual patient records and no records of receipt, inventory, dispensation or accountability for controlled substances, violating 21 U.S.C. 827(a) and 842(a)(5). Dr. Bischoff was unable to account for 32,000 dosage units of controlled substances and refused to provide any records or otherwise account for their distribution or whereabouts.

Additional investigation determined Dr. Bischoff had written fraudulent prescriptions for controlled substances to several other area pharmacies during 2003. Interviews with professionals at some of his previous clinic and hospital affiliations also indicated he was known to be involved in inappropriate dispensation and prescribing of controlled substances.

On February 29, 2004, Dr. Bischoff gave a Schedule II controlled substance to a woman he was having dinner with. She was on probation at the time for a controlled substance offense. This distribution was done without a legitimate medical purpose and was outside the usual course of professional practice.

Under Federal and Montana law, for a doctor to be acting in the usual course of professional practice, there must be a *bona fide* doctor/patient relationship. Investigative review of Dr. Bischoff's computer records indicated he was not maintaining patient records, yet was prescribing controlled substances for individuals, both inside and outside Montana. He prescribed drugs directly to individuals without the benefit of examination or clinical determination of a valid medical purpose and in many cases, there was no evidence Dr. Bischoff had established any actual doctor-patient relationship with these individuals. These controlled substances were dispensed either directly or by prescription, in violation of 21 CFR 1306.04.

Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 823(f) and 824(a)(4), the Deputy Administrator may revoke a DEA Certificate of Registration and deny any pending applications for renewal of such registration, if she determines that the continued registration would be inconsistent with the public interest. Section 823(f) requires that the following factors be considered in determining the public interest:

(1) The recommendation of the appropriate state licensing board or professional disciplinary authority.

(2) The applicant's experience in dispensing, or conducting research with respect to controlled substances.

(3) The applicant's conviction record under Federal or State laws relating to the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of controlled substances.

(4) Compliance with applicable State, Federal, or local laws relating to controlled substances.

(5) Such other conduct which may threaten the public health or safety.

These factors are considered in the disjunctive; the Deputy Administrator may rely on any one or a combination of factors and may give each factor the weight she deems appropriate in determining whether a registration should be revoked or an application for registration denied. *See* Henry J. Schwartz, Jr., M.D., 54 FR 16,422 (1989).

As to factor one, the recommendation of the appropriate state licensing board or professional disciplinary authority, there is no evidence in the investigative file that the State of Montana has yet taken adverse action against Respondent's medical license. However, "inasmuch as State licensure is a necessary but not sufficient condition for a DEA registration * * * this factor is not dispositive." *See* Edson W. Redard, M.D., 65 FR 30,616, 30,619 (2000).

With regard to factors two and four, Respondent's experience in handling controlled substances and his compliance with applicable controlled substance laws, the investigative file contains ample evidence Dr. Bischoff unlawfully distributed, prescribed and diverted controlled substances over an extensive period. He grossly failed to comply with accountability record keeping requirements or maintain minimally acceptable patient files documenting medical necessity for controlled substance prescriptions. He could not account for 32,000 dosage units of controlled substances delivered to his residence/office and wrote fraudulent prescriptions for controlled substances for non-patients, which he personally picked up and never delivered to their purported recipients. He also prescribed controlled substances to individuals without *bona fide* doctor-patient relationships and dispensed medically unnecessary or inappropriate drugs to a minor without his parents' knowledge.

While the evidence does not reveal whether Dr. Bischoff diverted controlled substances for personal use or for others, it is clear he failed abysmally to meet the rudimentary responsibilities of a physician and registrant. Thus, factors two and four weigh in favor of a finding that continued registration would be inconsistent with the public interest.

Factor three, the applicant's conviction record under Federal or State

laws relating to the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of controlled substances, is not relevant for consideration, as there is no evidence Dr. Bischoff has yet been convicted of any crime related to controlled substances. However, it is noted the investigation has been provided to local authorities for possible initiation of criminal charges.

With respect to factor five, other conduct that many threaten the public health and safety, Respondent's actions discussed above are also relevant under this factor. The Deputy Administrator is particularly troubled by Dr. Bischoff's abuse of the trust placed in him as a family friend and physician, both by the minor and his parents and by Dr. Bischoff's calculated efforts to obtain controlled substances through fraud and misrepresentation.

In sum, Dr. Bischoff's cavalier disregard for the law and regulations governing controlled substances and the abandonment of his responsibilities as a physician and registrant cannot be tolerated. They weigh heavily in favor of a finding that his continued registration would not be in the public interest.

Accordingly, the Deputy Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, pursuant to the authority vested in her by 21 U.S.C. 823 and 28 CFR 0.100(b), and 0.104, hereby orders that DEA Certificate of Registration BB0377247, issued to James S. Bischoff, M.D., be, and it hereby is, revoked. The Deputy Administrator further orders that any pending applications for renewal or modification of such registration be, and they hereby are, denied. This order is effective April 14, 2005.

Dated: February 24, 2005.

Michele M. Leonhart,
Deputy Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

All Items Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers—United States City Average

Pursuant to section 33105(c) of Title 49, United States Code, and the delegation of the Secretary of Transportation's responsibilities under that Act to the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration (49 CFR 501.2(a)(9)), the Secretary of Labor has certified to the Administrator and published this notice in the **Federal Register** that the United States City

Average All Items Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (1967–100) increased 81.9 percent from its 1984 base period annual average of 311.1 to its 2004 annual average of 565.8.

Signed in Washington, DC, on the 3rd day of March, 2005.

Elaine L. Chao,
Secretary of Labor.

[FR Doc. 05-4989 Filed 3-14-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Child Labor Education Initiative

AGENCY: Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor.

Announcement Type: Notice of intent to solicit cooperative agreement applications.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB), intends to award approximately U.S. \$17 million to organizations to develop and implement formal, non-formal, and vocational education programs as a means to combat exploitive child labor in the following countries: Mozambique, Angola, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Guyana. ILAB intends to solicit cooperative agreement applications from qualified organizations (*i.e.*, any commercial, international, educational, or non-profit organization capable of successfully developing and implementing education programs) to implement programs that promote school attendance and provide educational opportunities for working children or children at risk of starting to work. The programs should focus on innovative ways to provide educational services to children engaged, or at risk of engaging, in exploitive labor and should address the many gaps and challenges to basic education found in the countries mentioned above. Please refer to <http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/grants/main.htm> for examples of previous notices of availability of funds and solicitations for cooperative agreement applications.

Information on the specific sectors, geographical regions, and funding levels on the potential projects in the countries listed above will be addressed in solicitations for cooperative agreement applications to be published prior to September 30, 2005. Thus, we request that inquiries to USDOL for such information be limited until publication of the solicitations. For a list of frequently asked questions on Child Labor Education Initiative Solicitations

for Cooperative Agreement Applications, please visit <http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/faq/faq36.htm>.

USDOL will hold a bidder's meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2005 to answer any questions potential applicants may have on Child Labor Education Initiative Solicitations for Cooperative Agreement Applications. Please see below for more information on the bidder's meeting.

DATES: Specific solicitations for cooperative agreement applications will be published in the **Federal Register** and remain open for at least 30 days from the date of publication. All cooperative agreement awards will be made on or before September 30, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Once solicitations are published in the **Federal Register**, applications must be delivered to: U.S. Department of Labor, Procurement Services Center, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room N-5416, Attention: Lisa Harvey, Washington, DC 20210.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Lisa Harvey. E-mail address: harvey.lisa@dol.gov. All inquiries should make reference to the USDOL Child Labor Education Initiative—Solicitations for Cooperative Agreement Applications.

Bidder's Meeting: A bidder's meeting will be held in Washington, DC, on Tuesday, April 12, 2005. The purpose of this meeting is to provide potential applicants the opportunity to ask questions concerning the Child Labor Education Initiative Solicitation for Cooperative Agreement process. Specific details on the time and location of the meeting will be sent to interested parties in early April 2005. To register for the meeting please call or e-mail Ms. Alexa Gunter (Phone: 202-693-4829; e-mail: gunter-alexa@dol.gov) by Thursday, March 31, 2005. Please provide Ms. Gunter with the name, organization, address, phone number, and e-mail address of the attendees.

Background Information: Since 1995, USDOL has supported a worldwide technical assistance program implemented by the International Labor Organization's International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor (ILO-IPEC). ILAB has provided over U.S. \$400 million to ILO-IPEC and other organizations for international technical assistance to combat abusive child labor around the world.

In its FY 2005 appropriations, in addition to funds earmarked for ILO-IPEC, USDOL received U.S. \$34 million to provide bilateral assistance to improve access to basic education in international areas with a high rate of abusive and exploitive child labor. All