



Wisconsin Medical Society  
Your Doctor. Your Health.



October 30, 2008

Raymond Taffora, Deputy Attorney General  
Wisconsin Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 7857  
Madison, WI 53707-7857  
Fax: 608-267-2779

Dear Deputy Taffora:

The Wisconsin Medical Society (Society) and the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin (PSW) have recently learned that Wisconsin physicians' Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration numbers are accessible to the public via the Web site, [www.dealookup.com](http://www.dealookup.com). A person can obtain the DEA numbers of physicians whose names begin with the letter "A" as a demonstration of the available information, simply by registering and providing an e-mail address. The information on the Web site touts the availability of more than one million DEA numbers for a fee.

The Society and PSW urge the Department of Justice to take action to stop the sale of DEA numbers in Wisconsin, particularly in view of Wis. Stat. § 146.87(2)(b), which prohibits the disclosure of a practitioner's DEA number without the practitioner's consent for any purpose other than complying with or enforcing federal or state law related to controlled substances. According to information that the Society and PSW have received, officers from the Madison Police Department have arrested at least one person for attempting to acquire controlled substances by forging prescriptions using a physician's DEA number obtained from [www.dealookup.com](http://www.dealookup.com).

Members of the medical community and pharmacy professions are on the alert for signs of prescription fraud as a result of the availability of physicians' DEA numbers via the Internet. Despite the vigilance of the health care community, we need the assistance of law enforcement to protect physicians' DEA numbers, thereby reducing the potential for prescription fraud and abuse.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Turney".

Susan Turney, MD, MS, FACP, FACMPE  
Chief Executive Officer, Wisconsin Medical Society

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Decker".

Christopher Decker, RPh  
Executive Vice President & CEO, Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin