

## PRESS REMARKS

## Thomas Prevoznik Assistant Administrator DEA Diversion Control Division

## 2025 National Health Care Fraud Takedown

Good morning and thank you for being here.

Today's announcement represents a landmark victory in the fight against health care fraud and the illegal diversion of controlled substances.

The Drug Enforcement Administration, alongside our partners at the Department of Justice, FBI, HHS-OIG, CMS, and state and local law enforcement agencies, took part in this unprecedented national takedown that uncovered more than \$14.6 billion in intended health care fraud, as well as over 15 million controlled substance pills being diverted—a staggering abuse of public trust and public funds.

Similar to DEA's core mission of protecting the health and safety of American communities, Americans also put their trust and their lives into the hands of our medical and health care professionals. And what we saw in these cases was the very opposite of that mission: pills ended up on our streets, pharmacists, doctors, and distributors fueled addiction, endangered lives, and illegally profited off the backs of Americans.

DEA's investigations covered doctors, pharmacists, and pharmacy owners responsible for the diversion of thousands of controlled substance pills, like oxycodone and hydrocodone. These pills ended up on our streets, in the hands of dealers, and in the path of addiction.

In other cases, DEA helped investigate providers who stole opioids intended for their own patients, diverted fentanyl from hospitals, and exploited vulnerable individuals seeking treatment.

And we didn't stop there.

In the last six months, DEA charged 93 administrative cases seeking the revocation of pharmacies, medical practitioners, and companies' authority to handle and/or prescribe controlled substances.

This sends a clear message: If you use your license to harm the public, you will lose it.

This takedown also shows how closely drug trafficking and health care fraud are intertwined. Whether it's criminal enterprises billing for medically unnecessary opioids, or laundering the proceeds from sham clinics and pill mills, DEA is targeting the financial, pharmaceutical, and criminal infrastructure behind the epidemic.

As we move forward, DEA will continue to collaborate across government agencies. Together, we are building a smarter, data? driven enforcement model, harnessing the power of artificial intelligence and forensic analytics to stay ahead of criminal actors.

To those who think they can hide behind white coats or offshore bank accounts-- think again.

DEA remains relentless in our pursuit of those who poison our communities and 5 exploit our health care system, all to line their own pockets with the profit from other's pain.

I also want to take a moment to recognize the remarkable work, commitment to health care and safety, and dedication of our DEA investigators and all partners across the nation. Today's takedown is a milestone, but it's not the end. It's the foundation for what comes next.

Thank you.