



National Association of State  
Controlled Substances Authorities



## NASCSA NEWS

May 13, 2014

### Contact Us

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### Don't Forget to Apply for Travel Scholarship to Attend This Year's Conference!

The Executive Committee has authorized the awarding of up to six (6) travel scholarships to attend the 30th Annual Conference at the Hilton Savannah Desoto Hotel in Savannah, Georgia from October 21-24, 2014. This is a reminder that the deadline for applying for travel scholarships to attend this year's annual conference is **June 27, 2014**. Travel scholarship criteria as well as the application form and instructions are located [here](#).

### Presidents Message

Each year the member states of NASCSA elect officers and members of the Executive Board, who along with our Executive Director work tirelessly to improve the organization and to provide as many services as possible given the current resources of the organization. As a largely volunteer organization, the board relies heavily on the expertise and input from the active participation of its members and associate members.

This year is no different, with a number of very active committees hard at work behind the scenes working on your behalf. These committees include the following: Program; Special Projects; Survey/Data; Resolutions/Bylaws and Membership. If you have an interest in a specific committee, your participation is welcome. Serving on a committee is a great way to learn more about the organization and provides NASCSA the benefit of diverse expertise and experience when considering programs, resolutions, and services that benefit all our members. Additionally, many of NASCSA's Board members and Officers began their service to the organization as committee members.

The Board is in the midst of updating its strategic plan. In 2009, the Board developed the organization's first strategic plan which led to the addition of services such as the state profiles, the Forum, and the White Paper on Impact of Pseudoephedrine laws and regulations. If you have suggestions or comments on activities/services that should be considered please contact me.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our latest associate members: **Smith Drug Company, KeySourceMedical, Inc., Mary Thompson-Holder and Angela Dawn Guinn.**

Sincerely, Ralph Orr, President

## Membership is Strength of NASCSA

Dues notices for the upcoming fiscal year (July 1-June 30th) will be mailed in the next week to all members and non-members. In order to be eligible to vote at the annual conference, and be eligible for travel scholarships as well as any grants awarded to states for special projects, membership dues must be paid in full.

### NASCSA Participates in National RX Drug Abuse Conference

Secretary/Treasurer Brian Howes and Board member Margaret "Peg" Clifford attended the 3rd National RX Drug Abuse Summit in Atlanta, Georgia last month where NASCSA was one of more than 30 exhibitors to participate at the widely attended event.

NASCSA's Executive Committee identified the need to spread the word about the organization to a broader range of individuals and organizations. This was the second year that NASCSA sent a delegation to the meeting because of the importance of

## NASCSA's Executive Committee Meets for Midyear Meeting



*Pictured are members of NASCSA's Executive Committee at their recent midyear meeting that took place in Boston April 12-13, 2014.*

While NASCSA's Executive Committee holds frequent conference calls throughout the year to continue the work of the organization, over the past several years, the group has held a midyear meeting to have continued focused discussions in-person. Among the items discussed during the meeting included the following:

- Nominations for honorary memberships;
- Planning for the annual meeting;
- Brainstorming session on potential resolutions for consideration;
- Detailed review of NASCSA's finances and recommendations for investments;
- Revisions to written policies of the Executive Committee; and
- Review/discussion of NASCSA's strategic plan.

A complete recap of these and other items will be provided at the annual conference at the first business session.

**Save the Date for 30th Annual NASCSA  
Conference Oct. 21-24, 2014**

Even though spring has just arrived, it's not too early

being a presence at the meeting that was attended by well over 1000 participants.

## Industry News

*Purdue Pharma L.P. Files NDA for Once-Daily Hydrocodone Bitartrate Extended-Release Tablets Formulated to Incorporate Abuse-Deterrent Properties*

Purdue Pharma L.P. recently announced that it has filed a New Drug Application (NDA) with the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) seeking authorization to market a once-daily, single-entity hydrocodone bitartrate tablet (HYD). This investigational pain medication was formulated to incorporate abuse-deterrent properties designed to make the product more difficult to manipulate for the purpose of misuse or abuse by various routes of administration (e.g., chewing, snorting and intravenous injection). The formulation has not exhibited alcohol-induced dose dumping in laboratory studies. Data from clinical trials assessing the safety, efficacy, and abuse liability of this investigational medication were presented today at the

to mark your calendars for the 30th Annual Conference of the National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities (NASCSA) to take place at the Hilton Savannah Desoto Hotel in Savannah, Georgia **Oct. 21-24, 2014**. Please note that the NASCSA conference will kick off at 1 p.m. on October 21, 2014. The hotel is located in the heart of beautiful Savannah, within walking distance of numerous restaurants and shopping. We have a link to the hotel's website if you wish to reserve your hotel room now. The room rate is \$140 per night single/double occupancy. The Alliance of States with Prescription Monitoring Programs will meet the morning October 21, 2014. The Alliance agenda will be posted when it is finalized.

Among the topics already confirmed include an update by officials from the US Drug Enforcement Administration as well as the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration. Also confirmed are presentations on Naloxone, pain management, medical marijuana and drug take-back programs. This year we will also be holding three smaller workshops to allow more of an opportunity for discussions/dialogue among attendees on current issues.

Check NASCSA's website at <http://www.nascsa.org/conference2014.htm> for important updates on the conference. The conference program will be available this summer and we look forward to seeing you in beautiful Savannah!

## From the States

**Michigan** - The Board of Pharmacy adopted emergency regulations regarding the unused prescription drug repository and distribution program. The rule sets forth standards for the transfer of unused or donated prescription drugs, other than controlled substances, from health facilities and manufacturers to pharmacies or charitable clinics, to be dispensed to eligible participants who lack health insurance or reasonable means to pay for prescriptions. The rule also addresses fees, eligibility, and the establishment of a registry of participating pharmacies and clinics on the department's website. In addition, the rule provides that participating pharmacies and clinics may collect unwanted prescription drugs for destruction and disposal. The rule is effective April 7, 2014. Contact: DLRA, Bureau of Health Care Services; (517-335-1980).

**Louisiana** - The Department of Public Health issued emergency regulations to add eight drugs or

33rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Pain Society (APS) in Tampa, Fla. To read the full press release click [here](#).

## Career Transitions

**Mike Wissel**, PDMP Administrator in Michigan recently retired from his position. A replacement has not yet been named.

**Wendy Anderson**, Program Director for the Colorado Board of Pharmacy recently left her position. Chris Gasson has assumed the position of Program Director.

**Catherine Cordy**, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Board of Pharmacy recently retired. A replacement has not yet been named.

## State Pain Policy Advocacy Network Resource

The State Pain Policy Advocacy Network (SPAN) offers a great resource to NASCSA members on legislation related to Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs, Pain Clinic regulations, medical marijuana (among other issues of

substances to the Schedule I list of controlled dangerous substances. The rule is effective March 20, 2014. Contact: DHH, Office of Public Health; (225-342-8093)

**New Hampshire** - The Department of Health has scheduled a public hearing on May 29, 2014 in Concord regarding the Therapeutic Use of Cannabis Program, adopts regulations under He-C 401 to establish requirements of the Therapeutic Cannabis Program Registry. The rule addresses application procedures for qualifying patients and designated caregivers to obtain a registry identification card, additional requirements for minor patients, health care provider requirements, requirements for the health care provider's written certification of a patient's qualifying condition, and the petition process for conditions not listed as a qualifying medical condition. Comments are due June 5, 2014. Contact: Michael Holt; DHHS; (603-271-9234).

**Ohio** - The Board of Pharmacy has issued proposed regulations to add tramadol to the list of Schedule IV controlled substances. A hearing is scheduled for May 6, 2014, in Columbus. Contact: Cameron McNamee; SBP; (614-466-7322)

**Florida** - The Board of Pharmacy, issued final rules to update and clarify the requirements for destruction of controlled substances, excluding institutional Class I nursing homes. The rule requires one of the two signatures to be either the prescription department manager or the consultant pharmacist of record. The rule also clarifies that a copy of the destruction documents be mailed to the Drug Enforcement Administration within one business day after destruction. The rule was effective April 20, 2014. Contact: Tammy Collins; DOH, Board of Pharmacy; (850-245-4292).

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## FDA to Hold Public Meeting on Extended Release Long Acting Opioid Analgesics

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing a public meeting to obtain stakeholder input on the design and conduct of the postmarketing requirements (PMRs) for the class-wide extended-release/long-acting (ER/LA) opioid analgesic drug products to further assess the serious risks of misuse, abuse, hyperalgesia, addiction, overdose, and death associated with their long-term use. The public meeting will be held on May 19 and 20, 2014, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For further information and how to

interest). For more information visit their link [here](#).

### Updating Your Newsletter Contact Information?

If your contact information changes, please login [[Here](#)] using the email address you originally used to subscribe and update any information including your new email address and changes in contact information.

### Did You Know NASCSA is on Twitter?

If you have a Twitter account, please make sure to follow us @NASCSA. Our followers are growing by leaps and bounds so spread the word and stay connected!

### State Regulatory Developments

Did you know that NASCSA publishes a monthly compilation of state regulatory actions related to pharmacy and controlled substances. State Regulatory Developments is located on the website [here](#).

register click [here](#). Written or electronic comments to the Division of Dockets Management, by June 19, 2014 <http://www.regulations.gov> [Docket No. FDA-2014-N-0374].

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## SAMHSA To Hold Listening Session on Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records Regulations

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced today that it will hold a public listening session on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, to solicit information concerning the [Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records Regulations, 42 CFR Part 2](#). This session will be held in Rockville, MD, to obtain direct input from stakeholders on updating the regulations. The scheduled listening session provides an opportunity for SAMHSA to seek public input on potential changes to the regulations.

**Note that Prescription Monitoring Programs specifically will be discussed from 2:45 - 3:30 p.m. so we encourage all interested members to listen in.**

The federal alcohol and drug confidentiality law was enacted in the 1970s to encourage individuals with substance use disorders to seek treatment. There continues to be a need for confidentiality protections that encourage patients to seek treatment without fear of compromising their privacy. However, over the last 25 years, significant changes have occurred within the U. S. health care system that were not envisioned by these regulations, including new models of integrated care, the development of an electronic infrastructure for managing and exchanging patient data, the development of prescription drug monitoring programs and a new focus on performance measurement within the health care system.

SAMHSA has heard from stakeholders that some of the current requirements make it difficult for these new health care models to support integrated care for patients with substance use disorders. We hope to clarify the requirements associated with information exchange in these new models and reduce burdens associated with specific consent requirements that do not serve to protect patient privacy. SAMHSA will conduct a public listening session to provide all interested parties the opportunity to share their views

on the subject prior to the initiation of rulemaking. Members of the public are invited to attend or view the proceedings, with space available on a first-come, first-served basis (based on registration). Written comments may also be submitted.

For additional details please click [here](#).

To register click [here](#).

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We hope you enjoyed this latest edition of NASCSA News. We strongly encourage members and others to share information from their respective agencies for consideration for our newsletter. Please email [KathyKeough@nascsa.org](mailto:KathyKeough@nascsa.org) with your articles and ideas.

Sincerely,

*Kathy Keough*  
Executive Director

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