

Julie Karjala

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August 27, 2001

Kimberly Topper
Food and Drug Administration, CDER
Advisors and Consultants Staff, HFD-21
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MA 20857

RE: Opiate Analgesics/Anesthetic and Life Support Drugs Advisory Committee Meeting September 13 & 14, 2001

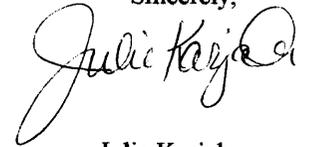
Dear Kimberly,

I am writing to inform you that I take a prescribed opiate analgesics for chronic pain on a daily basis, and by doing so, my life has changed significantly for the better.

In 3/93 I had a serious work-related injury to my neck and back. I suffered with significant chronic pain for years until my doctor prescribed opiate analgesics for me. Prior to taking the medication I could not hold a job because the day-to-day pain was excruciating. I am now happy to confess that I hold a permanent position and am able to much better function. Also, prior to taking the medication, I was extremely depressed and felt very anti-social.

I want to add that I do not abuse the medication; that I take it exactly as prescribed, and I suffer no ill side-effects. The medication has truly been a blessing for me!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Karjala". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Julie Karjala