



National Wholesale Druggists' Association

Government Affairs Office:
1275 K Street, N.W., Suite 1212, Washington, D.C. 20005-4006
703/787-0000 - Fax 202/312-5005 - www.nwda.org
NWDA Headquarters:
1821 Michael Faraday Drive, Suite 400, Reston, VA 20190-5348

Ken Couch, R.Ph., Chairman of the Board
Ronald J. Streck, President & CEO

October 13, 2000

Dr. Janet Woodcock, Director
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

RE: Invitation to Participate in the October 27, 2000, Public Hearing on the Prescription Drug Marketing Act of 1987

Dear Dr. Woodcock:

I am writing on behalf of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association (NWDA) to inform your office that a representative will not be available from NWDA to participate in the October 27 public hearing on PDMA issues. Unfortunately, key staff and member company personnel will be in California, attending our industry's October 25-28 annual meeting, and will, therefore, be unable to attend the hearing.

Although not able to be there in person, NWDA plans to participate fully in the agency's information gathering process on the wholesale distribution issues. We will be submitting extensive comments for inclusion in the hearing record. These comments will address the six specific questions asked in the *Federal Register* notice, and other issues we believe should be considered. We will also follow up during the post-hearing comment period, to answer any additional questions that come up at the hearing. And we invite you to contact us if we can help in any other way.

NWDA appreciates being invited to participate in this hearing and FDA's ongoing efforts to find workable solutions to the concerns and challenges that the drug distribution system would face if the PDMA final rule were implemented as currently written.

If I may be of further assistance or if you have any questions during this process, I can be contacted at (703) 787-0000.

Sincerely,

92N-0297

Diane Goyette

Diane P. Goyette, Esq.
Director, Regulatory Affairs

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| Co./Dept. | HFA-305 | Co. | HFD-6 | | |
| Phone # | | Phone # | 301-594-6779 | | |
| Fax # | 301-827-6870 | Fax # | | | |