

For Dkt #01-D-0064 AND Dkt #01-N-0067

From Consumers for Dental Choice, Inc.:

Request that submissions to Dkt 01-N-0067 be applied to Dkt 01-D 0064

When it issued a press release lauding mercury fillings as being safe, the FDA then announced it would undertake rule making. That the agency has apparently made up its mind appears, on the face of it, to be clear.

Nonetheless, a grassroots movement of consumer, scientific, and environmental, organizations, along with hundreds of consumers, victims of mercury amalgam poisoning, dentists who oppose mercury use, scientists, state legislators, etc., submitted testimony, trying to persuade the agency to change its pre-announced support for mercury.

Only organized dentistry and its economic allies support this rule. Essentially, the rule pits an allied FDA and American Dental Association against the emerging science and scientists, mercury-free dentists, and a broad range of the American public.

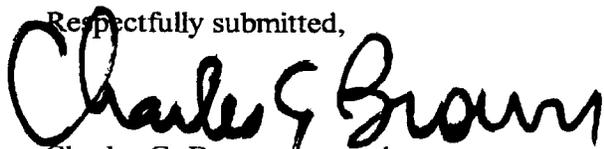
The FDA chose to announce its rule under two dockets. It need not have done so; the two are part of the same topic. The separation into two dockets adds another layer of difficulty to public submissions, ones that already include listing a web site instead of an e-mail address; omitting this regulation from the web site; listing a false zip code in the federal register announcement; refusing to hold public hearings; and setting a deadline in advance of hearings by the Government Reform Committee.

The public comments were generally made only to Docket 01-N-0067. Yet many of them apply to both the labeling and classification. That a less sophisticated public sent in their remarks to one docket should not be grounds for the FDA to maintain an unnecessary wall of separation and not consider them for both.

Thus, we ask the FDA to consider all submissions to one Dkt. 01-N-0067 be considered as comments to Dkt. 01-D-0064 as well as to the docket to which it was sent, and vice versa (Dkt. 01-D-0064 comments considered applicable to Dkt. 01-N-0067).

In the alternative, we ask the FDA to consider all comments made to one docket, but also relevant to the other docket, to be considered in the second one as well.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles G. Brown, Counsel  
Consumers for Dental Choice, Inc.  
1616 H St., N.W., Suite 810  
Washington, DC 20006  
Phone 202.347-9112. Fax 202.347-9114  
E: brownchas@erols.com

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# **FAX**

**LINDELL TINSLEY  
1616 H Street N.W.  
Eighth Floor  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20006  
Telephone (202) 347-9112  
Fax (202) 347-9114**

**TO: Food and Drug Administration (Docket No 01N-0067)**

**Fax #: (301) 827-6870 and (301) 594-4795**

**Telephone#: (301) 827 2974**

**From: Lindell Tinsley**

**Fax #: (202) 347-9114 \_\_\_\_\_**

**Telephone#: (202) 347- 9112 \_\_\_\_\_**

**Number  
of Pages: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Comments: Science Re: Dental Amalgam (Silver Dental Filling)**  
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